

# NATIVE SPECIES

by,

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# California poppy

( *Eschscholzia californica* )

- The long, thin seed capsules explode when they dry, making a popping sound and scattering seeds away from the plant.
- The brightly colored petals cup to form tulip-shaped, orange or yellow flowers pollinated by bees.
- California poppy has finely divided, alternate leaves that rise out of stout orange taproots and basal clusters.
- Honored as a state flower, these plants are common throughout California from coastal dunes to interior grasslands.



# RED BUD

*(Cercis canadensis)*



- The floral buds of red bud are not red during the winter dormancy but rather they are dark brown. However they are lavender pink in early spring.
- Leaves of red bud are easily identified and make this the only member of the bean family in USA with simple leaves.
- The twigs of red bud are zig-zags and hold either small vegetative buds near their tips rounded, knobby floral buds further back.
- Red bud grows rapidly and often lives about twenty years before it begins to decline or die: especially in urban situations with poorly drained, heavy clay soils.

# Wild Grape

*(Vitis genus)*

- Wild grape are woody vines which can climb over thirty feet tall. They have large, three-lobed leaves with teeth on the edges.
- Wild grape can be found on stream banks, pond edges, roadsides, and in open woods.
- Wild Grape uses tendrils to grab onto branches or bark of larger plant.
- Wild Grape flowers are green and small. They bloom from may to July.
- Wild Grape grows large purplish-black berries in clusters of up to twenty. Fruits become ripe from August to October. Wild Grape fruit is very important for wildlife.



# Yarrow

*(Achillea millefolium)*



- Yarrow grows from 6 to 24 inches tall.
- It flowers from April to July, and reproduces from seeds and rhizomes.
- Flowers are white to pink or pinkish-white colored, all with yellow centers.
- Yarrow leaves are fern-like and aromatic.

# LIVE OAK

(*Quercus agrifolia*)

- This California oak tree has dark green Holly-like leaves and is native to the coast ranges of California. This, like most of the other oaks is a climax species and needs a little protection and loving care for the first few years of life.
- They have a rather closed limb structure that allows the snow to build up.
- live oak can get to 275 years old.



# Alder

( *Alnus rubra* )



- The leaves are oval shaped, pointed tips, toothed edges, bright green with a greenish underside, edges often rolled under.
- In the forest, the tree develops a slightly tapered trunk with a narrow, rounded crown, in the open it has a broad cone shape with the crown starting near the trunk.
- Alder puts nitrogen back into the soil, And it fast growing and lives 40 to 60 years.
- The flowers of alder are drooping, reddish catkins.

# Big leaf maple

(*Acer macrophyllum*)

- Well named as its leaves are enormous with stems often as long as the leaf.
- Big leaf maple flowers are small, greenish-yellow purple when young.
- Seeds are food for small mammals and birds, twigs are food for elk and deer, often draped in mosses.
- Grows up to 36 meters.
- Big leaf maple are found in near river, lake and stream edges.

