

| Scientific name | Common name | Plant Categories | Light Preference | | | Size (feet) | | Watering | | | | | Tolerances | | | | | High Performers | | | Notes |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------|-------|-------------|-------|----------|---|---|--------|------|------------|------|--------|--------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|---|-------|
| | | | Sun | Part | Shade | Ht. | Width | L | M | H | Summer | Heat | Coast | Wind | Zone 1 | Zone 2 | Best for irrigated sites | Best for non-irrigated sites | CA Native | | |
| <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i> | pacific ninebark | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | | 8 | 8 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Part shade and summer water required in hot locations | |
| <i>Rhamnus californica</i> | California coffeeberry | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | | 12 | 8 | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 'Eve Case' is compact with broad foliage. Syn. <i>Frangula californica</i> | |
| <i>Rhamnus crocea</i> | redberry | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 5 | 5 | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Pea sized fruits attract birds, stain concrete | |
| <i>Rhododendron occidentale</i> | western azalea | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | | 8 | 8 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Summer deciduous | |
| <i>Ribes aureum gracillimum</i> | golden currant | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | | 4 | 3 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Easy, fall color, deciduous | |
| <i>Ribes divericatum</i> | coast black gooseberry | Shrubs | | ✓ | ✓ | 5 | 5 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Thorny, good for discouraging entry, deciduous | |
| <i>Ribes sanguineum</i> | red flowering currant | Shrubs | | ✓ | ✓ | 5 | 5 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Needs good air movement to avoid white fly, more drought tolerant at coast | |
| <i>Ribes speciosum</i> | fuchsia-flowered gooseberry | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 4 | 4 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Prefers only light summer water after 2nd year, stress deciduous | |
| <i>Rosa californica</i> | California wild rose | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | | 3 | 6 | | ✓ | ✓ | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Hooked thorns, good for discouraging entry. Shade in interior, sun at coast | |
| <i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i> | wood rose | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 2 | 3 | | ✓ | ✓ | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Easy to grow, thorny | |
| <i>Rubus parviflorus</i> | thimbleberry | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | | 8 | 5 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Spreads readily in wet areas, prefers regular water | |
| <i>Rubus spectabilis</i> | salmonberry | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 8 | 5 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | deciduous, soft spiny stems | |
| <i>Rubus ursinus</i> | California blackberry | Shrubs | | ✓ | ✓ | 3 | 5 | | ✓ | ✓ | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Thorny, good for discouraging entry. Harbors beneficial insects | |
| <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i> | common snowberry | Shrubs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 4 | 4 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Adaptable to many conditions, try <i>Symphoricarpos mollis</i> at coast | |
| <i>Whipplea modesta</i> | whipplevine | Shrubs | | ✓ | ✓ | 0.5 | 3 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Best for moist shady spots near coast | |
| <i>Acer circinatum</i> | vine maple | Small Trees | | ✓ | ✓ | 20 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | In wide riparian areas; top of slope. Avoid hot inland climates and coastal conditions/salt spray | |
| <i>Baccharis viminea</i> | seep-willow | Small Trees | ✓ | | | 8 | 5 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Important plant for butterflies and beneficial insects. | |
| <i>Chilopsis linearis</i> | desert-willow | Small Trees | ✓ | | | 15 | 15 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Does best inland | |
| <i>Corylus cornuta v. californica</i> | California hazel | Small Trees | | ✓ | ✓ | 10 | 10 | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Deciduous, edible nut | |
| <i>Fraxinus dipelata</i> | California ash | Small Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 20 | 20 | | | | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | drought tolerant, slow to establish, then fast | |
| <i>Garrya elliptica</i> | coast silktassel | Small Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 12 | 12 | ✓ | ✓ | | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Winter blooms. 'Evie' is compact variety. Best at coast. Afternoon shade inland, deer resistant | |
| <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> | toyon | Small Trees | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 8 | 5 | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Doesn't respond well to pruning low branches, no summer water at coast | |
| <i>Laurus nobilis 'Saratoga'</i> | Grecian bay | Small Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 20 | 20 | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Specify 'standard' and prune for tree form, easy | |
| <i>Myrica californica</i> | Pacific wax myrtle | Small Trees | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 25 | 12 | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Best at coast | |
| <i>Sambucus mexicana</i> | elderberry | Small Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 20 | 15 | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Deciduous, edible fruit, attracts bees and birds, unripe fruits are poisonous but useful and common landscape plant | |
| <i>Acer negundo</i> | box elder | Trees | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 35 | 35 | ✓ | ✓ | | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Tough shade tree, deciduous | |
| <i>Fraxinus latifolia</i> | Oregon ash | Trees | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 70 | 40 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Plant in moist areas with rich soil. | |
| <i>Fraxinus velutina</i> | velvet ash | Trees | ✓ | | | 30 | 45 | ✓ | ✓ | | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Withstands poor drainage and drought | |
| <i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i> | tarata | Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 40 | 15 | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Shear to control height | |
| <i>Platanus acerifolia</i> | London plane tree | Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 80 | 30 | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Large tree, aggressive roots will lift pavement | |
| <i>Platanus racemosa</i> | California sycamore | Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 80 | 30 | | ✓ | ✓ | ok | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Asymmetrical shape and wide trunk when mature. Give lots of room. | |
| <i>Populus fremontii</i> | cottonwood | Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 80 | 30 | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Riparian species with limited drought tolerance. Aggressive roots will lift pavement. Give lots of room. | |
| <i>Quercus agrifolia</i> | coast live oak | Trees | ✓ | ✓ | | 60 | 60 | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Large evergreen tree, tolerant and widespread, important for wildlife, no summer water | |
| <i>Vitis californica</i> | California grape | Vine | ✓ | ✓ | | 10 | 1-3 | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Climbing vine. Best in full sun. Can be aggressive in moist area. | |

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| Plant Categories | |
| Grasses and Grass-like Plants | Grass refer to those species that are monocotyledonous plants with slender-leaved herbage. |
| Herbaceous Perennials and Groundcovers | Herbaceous refers to those species with soft upper growth rather than woody growth. Some species will die back to the roots at the end of the growing season and grow again at the start of the next season. This list only includes those that are perennial, i.e. live for several years. |
| Shrubs | Shrub is a horticultural distinction that refers to those species of woody plants which are distinguished from trees by their multiple stems and lower height. A large number of plants can be either shrubs or trees, depending on the growing conditions they experience. |
| Small Tree | Small trees refers to those species of woody plants with one main trunk and a distinct and elevated head with a maximum size of 25' tall and wide. |
| Tree | Tree refers to those species of woody plants with one main trunk and a rather distinct and elevated head with a size greater than 25' tall or wide. |
| Water Preference | |
| Water Preference-Low/Moderate/High | We have provided recommendations for irrigation. All plants should be watered with more frequency during the first two years after planting. After this establishment period, Low water use plants will only need supplemental irrigation at the hottest and driest sites. Plants with Moderate irrigation needs will be best with occasional supplemental water (once per week to once per month) and plants with High irrigation needs will be best with more frequent watering especially during periods of drought in the cooler seasons. |
| Water Preference-Summer Irrigation | Plants with a check in this column will not withstand a long period of summer drought without irrigation. Plants with an 'ok' in this column are tolerant of, but do not require, frequent summer irrigation. Plants with nothing in this column may not tolerate summer irrigation after establishment. |
| Stress Tolerance | |
| Tolerates Heat | A check in the heat column indicates that the plant will tolerate hot sites. It should not be confused with a plants preference for sun. Absence of the check indicates it should only be used in areas close to the Bay or other cool sites. |
| Tolerates Coast | The coast column indicates plants that perform well within 1,000 feet of the ocean or bay. Most of these plants tolerate some amount of salt air, fog, and wind. |
| Tolerates Wind | A check in the wind column means that the plant will tolerate winds of ten miles per hour or more. |
| Zone 1 | Plants that tolerate Zone 1 are common riparian, wetland and bog plants capable of surviving in saturated soils for long durations throughout the year. Most of these plants are not drought tolerant and require some water throughout the growing season. |
| Zone 2 | Plants that tolerate Zone 2 are common in riparian/upland transition areas, moist woodlands, and seasonal wetlands. They are capable of surviving in saturated soils for shorter durations especially in the winter or spring. Many of these plants tolerate summer drought but could benefit from some year-round moisture. |
| High Performers | |
| Best for irrigated sites | These plants have been used successfully in irrigated bioretention areas in the Bay Area. |
| Best for non-irrigated sites | These plants have been used successfully in non-irrigated bioretention areas in the Bay Area. Temporary irrigation for establishment is highly recommended. |
| Origin | |
| CA Native | Indicates native or cultivar of California native. Cultivars offer habitat benefits to native wildlife and are adapted to the local climate but have reduced genetic diversity. |

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|------------------|------|-------|-------------|-------|----------|---|---|--------|------|------------|--------|--------|------|-----------|---|
| | | | Sun | Part | Shade | Ht. | Width | L | M | H | Summer | Heat | Coast | Zone 2 | Zone 1 | Wind | | |
| <i>Achillea filipendulina</i> | fernleaf yarrow | <i>Herbaceous Perennials and Groundcovers</i> | ✓ | | | 3 | 3 | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Achillea tomentosa</i> | woolly yarrow | <i>Herbaceous Perennials and Groundcovers</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | 1 | 1.5 | ✓ | ✓ | | | ok | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| <i>Aloe striata</i> | coral aloe | <i>Herbaceous Perennials and Groundcovers</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | 2 | 2 | ✓ | | | | ok | | | | | | |
| <i>Arctostaphylos hookeri</i> | Monterey manzanita | <i>Herbaceous Perennials and Groundcovers</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | 1 | 4 | ✓ | ✓ | | | ok | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Arctostaphylos ssp. Montant</i> | Mt. Tamalpais Manzanita | <i>Herbaceous Perennials and Groundcovers</i> | ✓ | | | 6' | 4' | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Arctostaphylos ssp. Virgata</i> | Bolinas Manzanita | <i>Herbaceous Perennials and Groundcovers</i> | ✓ | | | 4+ | 4+ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> | kinnick-kinnick | <i>Herbaceous Perennials and Groundcovers</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | 1 | 15 | ✓ | ✓ | | | ok | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Artemisia californica</i> | California sagebrush | <i>Shrubs</i> | ✓ | | | 3 | 2 | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Berberis darwinii</i> | Darwin's barberry | <i>Shrubs</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | 6 | 6 | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| <i>Achillea filipendulina</i> | femleaf yarrow | NOT GOOD IN MOIST SOILS |
| <i>Achillea tomentosa</i> | woolly yarrow | NOT GOOD IN MOIST SOILS |
| <i>Aloe striata</i> | coral aloe | Sun along coast, afternoon, NOT GOOD IN MOIST SOILS |
| <i>Arctostaphylos hookeri</i> | Monterey manzanita | Better in part shade in hot sites, NOT GOOD IN MOIST SOILS |
| <i>Arctostaphylos ssp. Montant</i> | Mt. Tamalpais Manzanita | Native to Mt. Tamalpais and north of Golden Gate Bridge, NOT GOOD IN MOIST SOILS |
| <i>Arctostaphylos ssp. Virgata</i> | Bolinas Manzanita | endemic species luckily quite common on Pt. Reyes, NOT GOOD IN MOIST SOILS |
| <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> | kinnick-kinnick | Full sun at coast, part shade inland. Cultivars to try include 'emerald carpet,' 'Point Reyes,' 'San Bruno Mountain' depending on site, NOT GOOD IN MOIST SOILS |
| <i>Artemisia californica</i> | California sagebrush | Will not tolerate sprinklers, NOT GOOD FOR MOIST SITES |
| <i>Berberis darwinii</i> | Darwin's barberry | Sprinklers will kill foliage, DOES NOT DO WELL IN MOIST SITES |