



California Native Plant Society

MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)

Marin Chapter established 1973

MEMBERS POTLUCK SLIDE SHOW AND DINNER

Saturday, September 13, 6-9:30 p.m.

Bring a dish to share and/or beverages; a \$5 door donation will help us cover facility rental and expenses. Please also bring up to 15 slides from your year-to-date outings, photo albums, and anything else you would like to share (or have identified!) You can bring a laptop with digital images to share using the chapter's digital projector.

We will conduct a raffle of plant books, prints, and other appropriate items, so consider bringing something for that as well. You will in turn enjoy a delicious meal, great company, and beautiful pictures! Help will be needed for setup from 5:30 p.m. and for cleanup afterwards.

Location: Lucas Valley Community Center, 1201 Idylberry Rd., San Rafael

Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to Lucas Valley Rd. exit, north of San Rafael; drive west on Lucas Valley Rd. about two miles and turn right onto Mt. Shasta Dr. Take the second left onto Idylberry, then immediately left into the Community Center parking lot.

Questions? Contact Kristin Jakob at (415) 388-1844 or kristinjakob@pacbell.net.



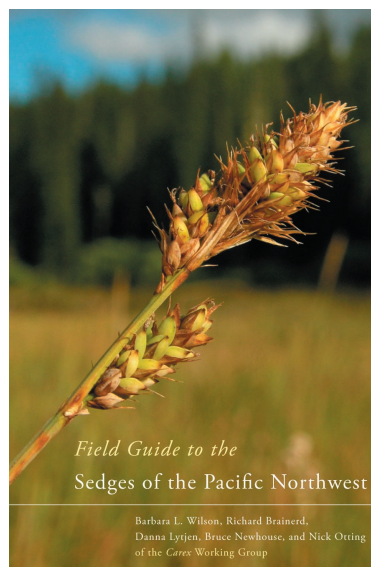
BOOK NEWS

New Field Guide to Sedges Available

The Carex Working Group is pleased to announce the publication of the *Field Guide to the Sedges of the Pacific Northwest*. The book is an illustrated guide to all 164 species, subspecies, and varieties of *Carex* that occur in Washington and Oregon. Botanists will find it useful throughout much of California, particularly in northern California and in the mountains throughout the state. It contains identification keys, descriptions, color photographs, and distribution maps for each

species, along with information about sedge ecology, habitat, and management.

The field guide is available by calling (800) 426-3797 or by going to <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/press/e-f/FieldGuideSedges.html> and then clicking "Secure online ordering form". The cost is \$35.



Wildflowers Author Receives Silver Medal

Reny Parker, past president of CNPS Milo Baker Chapter, received a Silver medal for her *Wildflowers of Northern California's Wine Country and North Coast Ranges* from the Independent Publisher Book Awards. The IPBA annually honors the year's best independently published titles. The medal was awarded in the West-Pacific—Best Regional Non-Fiction category.

Wildflowers features 542 full-color images of 358 plants native to Marin, Mendocino, Napa, and Sonoma counties. The guide groups plants by color. Nontechnical descriptions accompany each entry with additional information about bloom time, natural and human history, and garden-worthiness.

For more information about the book, see <http://www.renyswildflowers.com/guide.html>.

RARE PLANT OF THE MONTH

Text and photos by Doreen Smith

Is it or isn't it water hemlock, *Cicuta maculata* var. *bolanderi*?

Efforts are being made to determine whether California's most deadly poisonous parsley relative is rare or not. The CNPS rare plant botanist, Nicholas Jensen, is asking for information from the Chapters about any known populations of the plants.



Above: Salt marsh water hemlock (rare) (*Cicuta maculata* var. *bolanderi*)

Below: Western water hemlock (*Cicuta douglasii*)



Large plants from the Pt. Reyes wetlands bordering the salt marshes of bays and estuaries may be this taxon and are noted as such in the new (and old) *Marin Flora*. The key distinction between the two species of *Cicuta* in Marin requires one to examine the fruit for cryptic oil gland characters. Another distinction is the chromosome number of *Cicuta douglasii*, which is reported to be $2n=44$, while that of *C. maculata* var. *bolanderi* is $2n=22$, but that is even more difficult for the amateur to discover. Both the *Cicuta* species are deadly if even a small part is ingested, but just touching them doesn't affect most people.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ✿ **Tuesday 9/2, 7:30 p.m.**
Marin Chapter Board Meeting at Marin Recycling
- ✿ **Thursday 9/4, 6:30–9:30 p.m.**
MMWD Public Meeting: Chemical Weed Control, Part 2
- ✿ **Sunday 9/7, 10 a.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Abbott's Lagoon, Pt. Reyes
- ✿ **Saturday 9/13, 6 p.m.**
Marin Chapter Annual Potluck Dinner and Slide Show, Lucas Valley Homeowners Association community center
- ✿ **Sunday 9/14, 10 a.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Pierce Pt. Ranch, Pt. Reyes
- ✿ **Saturday 9/27, 10 a.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Devil's Gulch, Samuel Taylor State Park
- ✿ **Wednesday 9/24, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**
MCOSD Field Trip: Nicasio Reservoir
- ✿ **Saturday 10/4, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.**
MAGC Event: Celebrating California Gardens: Gardening with Our Local Ecology
- ✿ **Monday 10/13**
The October chapter meeting has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict
- ✿ **Saturday 10/18**
San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge Native Plant Revegetation
- ✿ **Monday 11/3, 7:30 p.m.**
Marin Chapter Board Meeting at Marin Recycling
- ✿ **Monday 11/10, 7:30–9:30 p.m.**
Marin Chapter Meeting: Ralph and Lisa Shanks on "California Indian Basketry" (Copies of their new book on that subject will be available for sale.)
- ✿ **Fridays 10 a.m.**
SPAWN Nursery and Creekside Revegetation

MAGC EVENTS

Celebrating California Gardens: Gardening with Our Local Ecology

Saturday, October 4, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

The Marin Art & Garden Center (MAGC) presents a special all-day event for Marin gardeners to encourage sustainable gardening. Takeaway messages for this event include:

- Garden in tune with our local ecology and watershed
- Integrate edibles into a natural landscape
- Explore alternatives to lawns
- Manage your soil and plantings organically
- “Go Native” for beauty, food, and habitat
- Plant to protect creeks and fish

Confirmed speakers include:

- Wilma Follette of CNPS, who will speak on “Wildflower Season in California”
- Alrie Middlebrook of the CA Native Garden Foundation, who will speak on “Gardening in Tune with Our Local Ecology”
- Kate Frey, award-winning garden designer, who will talk on “Creating a Healthy, Life-Filled Garden: Success Is in the Details”

Lectures will be held in the morning. Doors open at 9 a.m., and guest speakers begin at 9:30. Afternoon activities will include tours, gardening and cooking demonstrations, seed collecting walks, hands-on gardening activities such as “creating a habitat garden in a bowl,” and children’s activities. Sales of native plants, books, and posters will be open all day long. Our chapter will have a table at the event.

A highlight of the day will be the sit-down lunch in our café, “Eating California,” (pre-registration required). This café will be catered by the California Native Garden Foundation (CNGF) and John Farais, a Marin County chef who specializes in the history, taste, and promotion of The Americas’ indigenous cuisine. The price is \$30.

This special event is a collaboration between MAGC, CNGF, and the Marin Chapter of CNPS. In addition, it has sponsorship support from MMWD, North Marin Municipal Water District, MCSTOPPP, and the EcoMom Alliance.

Please pre-register for this event! Tickets (available with pre-registration) are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. To register, contact education@magc.org.

Location: MAGC, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Ross

For more Information, contact: Janet Stephens at (415) 455-5263 or visit <http://www.magc.org>.

Other MAGC Events

For information on how to register for these classes, contact education@magc.org.

Adult Classes

Saturday, October 11, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Bay-Friendly Gardening: Gardening from the Ground Up

Monday, October 13, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Gardening for Butterflies

Saturday, October 18, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

Bay-Friendly Gardening: Go Native, Planting for Pollinators

Monday, October 20, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

The Magic of the Monarchs

**Thursday, November 6, 1–3 p.m. or
Thursday, November 13, 6:30–8:30 p.m.**

Flower Arranging for Your Holiday Entertaining
(choose only one session)

Children and Family Programs

Mondays, October 13–November 24, 3:30–5 p.m.

After-school Gardening Camp (no class November 10)

Saturdays, October 25–November 8, 1–3 p.m.

Family Gardening Series



IN MEMORIAM: IDA B. GEARY

Ida B. Geary of Mill Valley, a long-time CNPS member, passed away at home on July 1st, at the age of 96 after a short illness. Ida moved to Mill Valley in 1958 and her passion for birds quickly led to a fascination with native plants; “When you go into nature, everything is attached to everything else,” she was quoted in the IJ in 1981.

An artist, writer, naturalist and teacher, Ida shared her passions with her countless friends and students. Ida had many solo shows of her artwork and also exhibited with the Marin Society of Artists and Fibermania. Her nature prints and collages can be found in both public and private collections, as well as in her four books on natural history, including *Marin Trails*, *The Leaf Book*, *Plant Prints and Collages*, and *Plant Printing*. She was a teacher at the Fort Point Promenade classroom for SF Community College for many years, leading classes on plant identification and botanical printing. Ida wrote a parting thought for us all: “Be of good cheer. I had a good long life and you helped make it so”.

FIELD TRIPS SEPTEMBER 2008

Marin Chapter Field Trip News and Policies

Bring lunch and liquids on all trips, and binoculars and a hand lens, if you have them. Bring sun block, insect repellent, comfortable walking shoes, layers of clothes, and a hat. For further information, call Joe Kohn (415) 459-0231.

Field Trip Plant Lists

Plant lists compiled by Marin CNPS for many Marin localities are available on the Marin Chapter CNPS website at <http://www.marin.edu/cnps>.

Abbott's Lagoon, Pt. Reyes

Sunday, September 7, 10 a.m.

The gentle and flat two-mile long trail that leads out to Abbott's Lagoon is a year-round CNPS favorite. By September, we should have the fall-blooming shrubs in full flower, and Doreen Smith will surely lead us to the incredibly fragrant *Baccharis pilularis* and the colorful *Ericameria ericoides* along the trail. In the marshes, we'll encounter a few remaining *Campanula californica* and *Stachys chamissonis*, and perhaps *Sidalcea*, *Ludwigia*, *Oenanthe*, *Mentha*, *Hydrocotyle*, *Sparganium*, *Lilaeopsis*, and *Mimulus*, all still flowering.

About the brackish lagoon, the receding water level should expose the swirling patterns made by the pink-leaved goosefoot, *Chenopodium macrospermum* var. *halophilum*.

To get to Abbott's Lagoon from Central Marin (or from further afield), take Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west through Marin County. Go past Fairfax, the San Geronimo Valley, Olema, and several miles past Inverness (on the west side of Tomales Bay). At the fork in the road, take the road that's marked Pierce Point Rd., and follow that another few miles to the clearly marked parking lot at Abbott's Lagoon.

Pierce Point Ranch, Pt. Reyes

Sunday, September 14, 10 a.m.

One of Marin County's natural treasures is the herd of Tule Elk that live at Pierce Point Ranch in outer Pt. Reyes. Seeing them at the start of their rutting season and listening to their high-pitched bugle-like mating calls is a yearly activity that always produces more than a few smiles.

After lunch, we'll switch from fauna to flora, and visit the sandy canyon that leads down to McClure's Beach, where Doreen Smith will show us the seep-spring plants along the cliffs such as *Sagina crassicaulis* and

the abundant *Grindelia* along the trail down to the beach, and maybe even a few remaining *Calystegia purpurata* ssp. *saxicola*.

To get to Abbott's Lagoon from Central Marin (or from further afield), take Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west through Marin County. Go past Fairfax, the San Geronimo Valley, Olema, and several miles past Inverness (on the west side of Tomales Bay). At the fork in the road, take the road that's marked Pierce Point Rd., and follow that another 10 miles to the parking lot at Pierce Point Ranch.

Devil's Gulch, Samuel P. Taylor State Park

Saturday, September 27, 10 a.m.

There's nothing quite like spending a fall day in the woods above Devil's Gulch, located on the western flanks of Mt. Barnabe. The wooded countryside will be sure to provide us with Marin County's version of the change of seasons, complete with the fall colors of some of our deciduous shrubs and perhaps with some red fruits and berries. If everyone is up for a long but easy hike, we'll ascend to the top of Mt. Barnabe for some awesome and fog-free views of West Marin.

To get to Devil's Gulch, follow Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west, past the San Geronimo Valley. The parking area for Devil's Gulch is located a few miles west of the Samuel P. Taylor State Park entrance kiosk.

MCOSD TRIP

Botanizing the Nicasio Reservoir Shoreline

Wednesday, September 24, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Marin County's favorite naturalist and hike leader, David Herlocker, will be leading a walk along the shoreline of Nicasio Reservoir to see what plants are exposed as the waters recede.

To get there from Central Marin, take Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west to Woodacre, and just west of the golf course, make a right on Nicasio Valley Rd. Go past the town of Nicasio, make a left on the Pt. Reyes-Petaluma Rd., and meet David at the trailhead, about 0.7 miles west of there.



DID YOU KNOW...

...that you can renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card? As an option, you can set it up to renew automatically year after year. It is quick, easy, convenient, and reduces the cost of mailing renewal notices.

Click the JOIN button on the CNPS website.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SPAWN's Native Nursery

Fridays at 10 a.m.

The Coho Salmon of the Lagunitas Creek watershed depend on near-pristine conditions to survive, and SPAWN is doing all it can to repopulate the riparian corridors along the creek with native vegetation. To that end, they have started a native plant nursery and started to raise 25 different species of native plants, everything from redwoods to creek-side sedges and bee plants, alders, willows and live oaks.

Each week on Friday mornings, they need volunteers to help them collect seed, propagate those seeds, transplant the seedlings, and to eventually replant the maturing plants along the stream bank.

On a personal note, I (Joe Kohn) have volunteered at the SPAWN Nursery and it is a rewarding activity and I urge all of you to get involved. In addition to helping SPAWN, you can also learn from them what treatment it takes to successfully germinate native seeds.

To sign up, or to get additional information, contact Jenny Ursini at (415) 663-8592 or by email at jenny@spawnusa.org.

Native Plant Revegetation at San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, October 18

Audubon California and the US Fish & Wildlife Service seek volunteers to assist with ecological restoration at the Tubbs Island Enhancement Project in the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).

The Refuge will provide most supplies; however, volunteers should bring rubber knee boots, sunscreen and sun-protective clothing, water, and snacks.

To RSVP, please contact Mike Perlmutter, Bay Area Conservation Coordinator, Audubon California at (510) 601-1866 ext. 231 or MPerlmutter@audubon.org. Please indicate your experience level. Meet at the San Pablo Bay NWR Refuge office at 2100 Highway 37 (approximately 1/4 mile east of the Lakeville Hwy (116) intersection).

Project background

Tubbs Island and Tolay Creek are located at the west end of the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge. These tidal wetlands were enclosed by levees in the late 1800s and converted to agricultural use. Subsequently they were managed as a duck club. In the 1970s Tubbs Island and Tolay Creek were purchased by The Nature Conservancy and transferred to the US Fish & Wildlife Service for inclusion in the San Pablo Bay NWR.

Audubon California and the San Pablo Bay NWR have partnered to enhance and restore 757 acres of tidal marsh, sub-tidal, and marsh-upland transition environments at Tubbs Island and Tolay Creek. Internal levees and sills, which form barriers to tidal flow and circulation, will be breached or removed and new channels that re-connect marsh areas to existing drainages will be excavated. These actions will return tidal circulation to the site, resulting in development of a functioning tidal marsh/tidal slough complex, enlarged area of shallow channel habitat, and increased tidal prism and deep channels. Improved hydrologic conditions will enhance the re-establishment of native vegetation, improve estuarine-dependent wildlife habitats, and reduce or eliminate future mosquito population management issues.

To measure the effectiveness of project actions, surveys will be conducted before and after construction. Control sites will also be surveyed to allow for comparisons among similar landscape types (e.g., tidal marsh plain, muted tidal marsh, interior marsh ponds) before and after construction.



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

MMWD Vegetation Management Plan for Mt. Tamalpais and Other Watershed Lands: Chemical Weed Control Tools, Part 2

Thursday, September 4, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

Topics

1. Purpose of vegetation Management Plan
2. Updates re: Herbicidal Risk Assessment
3. Ask the Experts and Public Comment, part 1
4. What is Risk?
5. Actions To Minimize Potential Risks
6. Ask the Experts and Public Comment, part 2

The experts panel includes an environmental toxicologist, a licensed herbicide applicator, a wildlife expert, MMWD staff, and others.

This is the fourth of five public meetings on MMWD's vegetation management plan development. The vegetation management plan will:

- Direct wildfire risk reduction and biodiversity preservation actions for the next 10 years.
- Evaluate various weed management tools including mowing, prescribed burning, grazing, and least toxic herbicides.

Location: Student Center, Sir Francis Drake High School, 1327 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., San Anselmo

BOARD NEWS

Robert Feist is stepping down as a member at large, but will continue providing our chapter with the transportation of books to and from meetings. Thank you, Robert! Dabney Smith, a longtime chapter member who has recently returned to Marin, has offered to join the board to complete Robert's term. Thank you, Dabney!

Book Sales Chair Needed!

We are seeking one or two people to fill this position. Books are stored privately in Mill Valley, and transported to and from the meetings by Robert Feist, so we only need people to maintain the inventory, purchase books as needed, and sell at all our membership meetings and at occasional other events, such as plant sales. Please call Kristin Jakob at (415) 388-1844 if you would like more details on the position.

GARDENING WITH NATIVES GROUP?

Are you interested in gardening with California native plants? Perhaps you'd like to learn more about how to propagate and care for horticulturally appropriate natives. Would you enjoy getting together with others to exchange seeds and cuttings, learn more about different genera, share your experiences, and visit native gardens? If so, join our chapter's nascent Gardening with Natives group and email Renee Fittinghoff at: reneef94941@gmail.com or call (415) 388-6850 with your name, contact information, and particular interests.



CHAPTER DONATION

The Marin Chapter gratefully acknowledges a donation of \$250 from Katharine Cook of Landscape Vision Design and Garden Coaching in honor of Walter Earle.

Board of Directors

Position	Name
President	Open—Volunteer Needed
VP, Programs & Acting Pres.	Kristin Jakob
Chapter Council Delegate	Carolyn Longstreth
Alternate Chapter Council Delegate	Open—Volunteer Needed
Programs Co-Chair	Open—Volunteer Needed
Secretary	Paula Dawson
Treasurer	Daniel Kushner
Book Sales	Open—Volunteer Needed
Conservation Co-Chair	Eva Buxton
Conservation Co-Chair	Open—Volunteer Needed
Education	Open—Volunteer Needed
Field Trips	Joe Kohn
Historian	Vivian Mazur
Hospitality Chair	Open—Volunteer Needed
Invasives	Tanya Baxter
Legislation	Phyllis Faber
Marin Flora Project	Wilma Follette
Marin-Sonoma Weed Management Area Liaison	Bob Soost
Membership	Ashley Ratcliffe
Newsletter Editor	Krista Fechner
Newsletter Folding/Mailing	Paul Kryloff & Irene Biagi
Plant Sale Co-Chair	Kristin Jakob
Plant Sale Co-Chair	Renee Fittinghoff
Poster Sales	Gerd Jakob
Publicity	Gary Thorp
Rare Plant Coordinator	Doreen Smith
Website	Mary Stevens
Member at Large	Carolyn Caldwell-White
Member at Large (interim)	Dabney J. Smith
Member at Large	Mischon Martin
Member at Large	Carol Weiske
Member at Large	Ken Howard
Member at Large	Paul da Silva

Board contact information has been removed from the online version of this newsletter.

Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The Society, working through its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding of California's native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. Membership is open to all.

Join CNPS Now!

Membership includes informative publications, field trips, monthly programs, and discounts on books and posters. Also included are *Fremontia* (a quarterly journal with articles on all aspects of native plants), the *Bulletin* (a quarterly statewide report of activities and schedules), and the chapter newsletter. Please call the membership chairperson for more information.

Yes! I wish to affiliate with the Marin Chapter.

Membership Category:

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mariposa Lily | \$1,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$600 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$300 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family, Group, or Library | \$75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$45 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student or Limited Income | \$25 |

New Member Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please mail application and check payable to **CNPS** to:

California Native Plant Society
2707 K St., Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

If you wish to receive only the newsletter, please make \$10 check payable to **CNPS Marin** and mail to:

Daniel Kushner
201 Ross St.
San Rafael, CA 94901

Newsletter Subscription only \$10

CNPS Contact Information

Phone (916) 447-2677 (state)

Fax (916) 447-2727 (state)

Email cnps@cnps.org (state)

Web <http://www.marin.edu/cnps> (chapter)

<http://www.cnps.org> (state) The state CNPS site is a resource for a wealth of materials, including promotional materials such as banners and posters.

Tax-Deductible Contributions

Tax-deductible contributions to the Marin Chapter are always welcome, either as memorial or honorarium donations or regular contributions. You may designate your contribution for a specific purpose of your choice. Unless otherwise designated, all contributions will be placed in a separate Special Projects Fund. The Special Projects Fund will enable the Chapter to extend our efforts to additional plant-related issues. Our regular, ongoing program and operating expenses are largely covered by our plant sales and book and poster sales.

A contribution of \$_____ is made in honor of:

Contribution designated for:

From:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Mail check payable to **CNPS** to:

Daniel Kushner
201 Ross St.
San Rafael, CA 94901

The IRS considers dues in excess of \$12.00 per year and all gifts to CNPS Tax Deductible.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
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GET YOUR COPY OF THE REVISED *MARIN FLORA!*

Now available: the long-awaited, revised edition of John Thomas Howell's classic *Marin Flora* (1949). Copies of the book will be available at chapter meetings and most field trips. You can also print out an order form at the chapter website (<http://www.marin.edu/cnps>).

Prices:	Hard cover	Soft cover
Retail	\$45 (plus \$3.49 tax)	\$35 (plus \$2.71 tax)
CNPS members (20% off)	\$36 (plus \$2.79 tax)	\$28 (plus \$2.17 tax)

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you would like to make a suggestion for a chapter meeting program, field trip, plant identification workshop, or anything else, please contact us. You can phone or email your ideas to any of the board members listed on page 6 of the newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE!

A Native Plant Symposium... Growing Natives: Celebrating California's Beauty in Dry Times

March 28, 2009

Lafayette Community Center, Lafayette

March 29, 2009

Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Berkeley

We are pleased to present a two-day program of talks and workshops exploring the possibilities for creating beautiful waterwise gardens with plants native to California.

Co-sponsored by Pacific Horticulture, the California Native Plant Society and the Friends of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden.

For more information, please visit:

- <http://www.nativeplants.org>
- <http://www.cnps.org>
- <http://www.pacifichorticulture.org>