

# CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MARIN CHAPTER



## October 2024 Newsletter

### Gardeners Get Ready - Plant Sale is Coming Soon

In this heat wave, it is hard to imagine that rains are on the way. Our fall plant sale is timed to obtain great inventory so gardeners are poised for planting time. A period of watering in the pot and after planting may give your plants the boost they need before winter cold sets in.

The Marin CNPS Plant Sale will be held in two ways this year, online and in person during online order pickup.

Online sales **open**:

Thursday, **October 10** at 6 pm

Online sales **close**:

Monday, **October 14** at 6 pm

**Prepaid online order pickup and In-Person Sale:**

Saturday, **October 19** from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm at Bon Air Shopping Center, on Sir Francis Drake Blvd just off 101 in Greenbrae.

Access to the online sale will be available on our [website](#) at the **Store** link at the bottom of each page. The plant sale will go live at 6 pm on October 10. Do not be surprised if there are no plants listed before then. We will send everyone an email closer to the date.



*Ceanothus 'Dark Star'*, photo by Josh Williams

# Fall Plant Sale Volunteers Needed!

Many hands make the work go quickly! We need people to help with plant transportation on Thursday, October 17; packing orders at Bon Air Center, Greenbrae on Friday, October 18th; and helping customers collect orders as well as running the in-person sale on Saturday, October 19th. Small to medium cardboard boxes are most welcome on Friday. If you are available to assist with packing and/or transportation of plant orders, please contact Kristin Jakob by text at 650-608-1274 or [email](#) for details.



native plant orders ready for pickup  
by Laura Lovett

## Marin Chapter Meeting

### "Climate Change, Latent Pathogens, and Large-Scale Tree Mortality in California"

Guest Speaker: **Matteo Garbelotto**, Director U.C. Berkeley Forest Pathology and Mycology Laboratory

Monday, **October 14 at 7:30 pm**

Matteo Garbelotto, forest pathology expert at UC Berkeley, will share the results of his lab's research that suggests a connection between climate change and latent pathogens causing recent large-scale tree and shrub mortality in Northern California. He will also provide an update on Sudden Oak Death.

Until a few years ago, plant disease caused by latent pathogens—organisms that alternate among an endophytic phase in which they live within a plant without causing apparent disease, a pathogenic phase in which they cause disease, and a saprobic phase in which they digest dead plant matter—had been thought to occur only in localized situations of acute stress. But since 2015, large-scale mortality of trees and shrubs, both native and exotic, has been occurring throughout Northern California. Pathogen isolation studies revealed that in each of eight tree/shrub species studied, disease was associated with the widespread presence of latent fungal pathogens. Further studies have shown that lack of water and increasing temperatures can lead to higher disease severity. These data suggest that physiological stress caused by changing climate is triggering outbreaks of latent pathogens, regarded now as an additional class of agents causing large-scale mortality in tree populations at the regional scale.

Dr. Matteo Garbelotto is Adjunct Professor in Environmental Sciences at UC Berkeley, UC Cooperative Extension Specialist in Forest Pathology, and editor-in-chief of the Journal of Plant Pathology. At UC Berkeley, he leads the Forest Pathology and Mycology Lab, which focuses on understanding the epidemiology of infectious plant diseases in natural ecosystems. He has been recognized for his efforts in public education, and he is well known for co-discovering the pathogen responsible for Sudden Oak Death.

Join us! [Register for this Zoom meeting here.](#)

Diebacks.

Blue oaks



Manzanita



California bay laurel



Leona Heights, Oakland, April 2021. Acacia dieback

## Marin Chapter Field Trips

- Sign up for most field trips using [Meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) or the [Meetup app](#).
- Electronically sign the CNPS waiver (once per year). [2024 Marin CNPS WaiverSign Link](#).
- Contact the leader(s) with any questions.

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## Oaks, Wetlands, and Views at Hamilton's Reservoir Hill

Monday, **October 14, 2024**, 9 am to 11 am

Leader: **Stacey Pogorzelski**

We will hike up Reservoir Hill in the Hamilton area of Novato, admire 3 species of oaks, madrone, and other shrubs and trees. We will then descend to the Bay Trail, and check out the ongoing wetlands restoration and native plants in the Hamilton Wetlands, continuing on and looping back to our starting point.

[Read more. . .](#)

[Meetup Registration Link](#)



*Quercus agrifolia* - coast live oak  
on Hamilton's Reservoir Hill  
Photo by Stacey Pogorzelski

## September 2024 Reports

### Field Trip: Oaks and Shrubs of Marin Highlands

*Stacey Pogorzelski*

Although this hike was billed as Trees and Shrubs of Novato's Marin Highlands, we also saw perennials and sub-shrubs, including Western poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) in fall color, hedgenettle (*Stachys* sp.) leafing out after being cut back, and dormant goldback fern (*Pentagramma triangularis*). Small patches of the annuals Hayfield Tarweed (*Hemizonia congesta*) and Turkey Mullein (*Croton setiger*) brightened our walk. We enjoyed fall-flowering coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis*), California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) setting fruit, acorns on both Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and Valley Oak (*Q. lobata*), and Pink Honeysuckle (*Lonicera hispidula*) fruit.



Jakub Coltun collecting trash  
during Marin Highlands trip  
Photo by Stacey Pogorzelski



*Lonicera hispidula* - pink  
honeysuckle berries in Marin  
Highlands by Julie Whittmann

One yard had an attractively pruned *Q. agrifolia* that sported acorns! This oak can be a happy landscaping plant and support wildlife too!

Our outing also became an impromptu open space clean up!

Do you have natives you admire in your neighborhood? You too can lead a fun low-key plant walk near where you live! Contact Field Trip Committee member Ann Elliott at [annonfire@gmail.com](mailto:annonfire@gmail.com) to find out how. Some ideas: Trees of Gerstle Park, Mill Valley Redwood Valleys, Panoramic Wonders near Mt. Tam, Sleepy Hollow Ridge Rambles, Fairfax Forays, Marinwood's Secret Trails, Bird Habitat of Santa Venetia Marsh/McInnis Park. Short walks are very popular with our members.

## First Gardening Group workday at the Marin County Native Nursery was a Fun Success!

Stacey Pogorzelski

A small but mighty group met with Aja Matthews, Nursery Specialist, at the [Marin County Native Plant Nursery](#) on Sept 23. We enjoyed a tour of the Nursery, the shadehouse, greenhouse, several amplification beds, and a small garden. Lots of monarchs were enjoying the milkweed patch!

We learned about the soil used for propagation (Soil Mix #5), irrigation regimes for the potted plants (short and frequent) and how to address aphids (squish them). We pruned Saltmarsh Baccharis (*Baccharis glutinosa*) and salvia awaiting outplanting to local Open Space preserves and parks, and then collected Woolly-Headed Lessingia (*Lessingia hololeuca*) seed from the amplification beds. The seed will be spread at [Roy's Redwoods](#) this fall/winter as part of a restoration effort there.

Interested to join future work parties and also to connect with other native plant gardeners? [Join the Marin Gardening Group here.](#)



Annette prunes *Baccharis glutinosa* at Marin County Native Nursery  
Photo by Stacey Pogorzelski

## Marin CNPS Celebrates 50 Years

It was wonderful to see those who attended our 50th Anniversary Dinner and helped us celebrate. We want to send a special thanks to all the attendees who made donations when they bought their tickets. The funds will be used for our educational programs. Your generosity is much appreciated by Marin CNPS!

[Enjoy a slideshow of the evening.](#)



CNPS Executive Director Jun Bando speaks at our 50th Anniversary Gala.

## Mt. Tamalpais State Park Science Quest Day 2024

On **Saturday, October 5**, Friends of Mt. Tam will host a multi-event day showcasing the unique sciences of Mt. Tamalpais State Park. Experts in Flora, Fauna, Geology, Ecology, and Astronomy will provide in-person experiences to highlight how science can deepen our understanding of our environment. Learn about California Native Plants with **Marin CNPS** at Pantoll Campground at 10 am.

[Sign up for free events throughout the day.](#)



*Eryngium* sp. - coyote thistle  
Photo by Paul G. Johnson

## Join the CNPS Marin Board!

Our December membership meetings are also official annual meetings during which our members vote on a slate of officers for the Marin Chapter Board of Directors. We have space on the board for more members.

If you are interested in serving, please contact Kristin at 650-608-1274 or [email](#) before October 25.

The tentative proposed slate for 2025 is as follows:

**Co-President:** David Long

**Co-President:** Kristin Jakob

**Treasurer:** Bonnie Gosliner

**Recording Secretary:** Woody Elliott

**Directors:**

Eva Buxton

Harriet Casserly

Paul da Silva

Ann Elliott

Carolyn Longstreth

Laura Lovett

Stacey Pogorzelski

Eddie Robertson

Kate Wing

The Board usually meets the first Monday of each month via Zoom. All members are welcome.

Contact [David Long](#) to attend.



Marin CNPS Board Members Bonnie Gosliner and Eva Buxton greet 50th Anniversary attendees.



Board members and other volunteers build the Bay Model Garden in 2018.

## The Beauty of Mt. Tamalpais on Display at College of Marin

The Mt. Tamalpais Florilegium will be presented by members of the Northern California Society of Botanical Artists at the College of Marin Fine Arts Gallery in Kentfield **through October 18**, Mondays thru Fridays 12 - 5 pm. The exhibition contains 74 botanical drawings and paintings created by 43 artists showcasing the flora of Mt. Tamalpais.

You are invited to an artists' reception on **Sunday, October 6 from 2 to 5 pm**. Parking at the college is free on Sundays!

[Read more. . .](#)



California Poppy  
by Mary Gilardi

Red Larkspur  
by Lee McCaffree

# Habitat Restoration at Point Reyes

## Thursday Weeders

**October 3 and 17** from 10 am to 2 pm, join the “Thursday Weeders” volunteer event to remove invasive plant species from coastal dune habitats in the Abbotts Lagoon area. We’ll meet in the parking lot at 10am and then walk the approximately 1.5 miles down to the beach where we’ll remove invasive plants, usually European sea rocket but also NZ spinach and others. Bring gloves, water, food. Wear layers and sun protection.

## Ice Plant Pulling

Point Reyes NS needs your help pulling invasive ice plant from the North Beach area on **Sunday, October 6** from 11 am to 1 pm. All tools will be provided. Please register in advance by emailing: Volunteer Manager [Cristobal Castañeda](mailto:Cristobal.Castañeda@ptreyes.org). However drop-ins are welcome too.

**Point Reyes National Seashore:**  
**Thursday Weeders at**  
**Abbotts Lagoon**

Help restore critical coastal dune habitat every other Thursday each month!

• Meet at Abbotts Lagoon Trailhead (Please note we will hike 1.5 miles to/from our work site).  
• Workdays go from 10:00am-2:00pm.  
• All experience levels are welcomed!

**Summer/Fall Dates**  
August 22nd  
September 5th and 19th  
October 3rd and 17th

Advance registration encouraged but not required. Scan the QR code or email us at the address below to sign up.



Questions? Email Volunteer Manager at [cristobalcs@ptreyes.org](mailto:cristobalcs@ptreyes.org)

# Seed and Plant Exchange: Learn about Seed Saving

To celebrate one amazing year of the Novato Seed Library join the Marin Master Gardeners and the Novato Library at a [seed and plant exchange](#). Bring plants and seeds to exchange with other patrons, talk to the Master Gardeners, ask seed saving questions.

The seed saving/swap will include native, edible, and ornamental seeds. This seed library and the other eight seed libraries in Marin distribute free seeds, both commercial seeds and those saved by the community. **Native seeds are very popular, and last year several CNPS members donated seeds.**

Join us Saturday, **October 26 from 10 am to 1 pm**. At 10 am there will be a hands-on seed saving workshop featuring native, edible, and ornamental seeds.

CNPS members are encouraged to save seeds and bring them to the seed swap. Location: Novato Library, 1720 Novato Blvd. Contact Marie Steckmest with questions at 310-418-5078



*Asclepias fascicularis* - narrowleaf milkweed seeds at Marin County OSD nursery by Stacey Pogorzelski

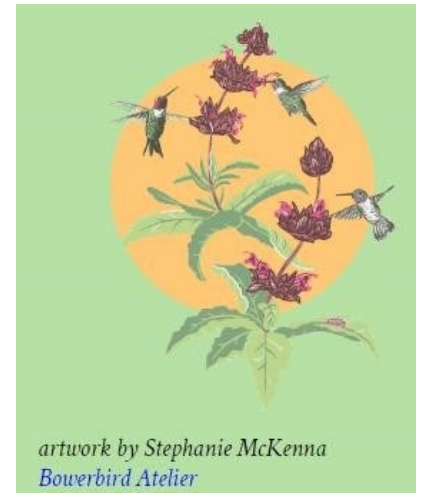
# Fall Celebration at Home Ground Habitats

[Home Ground Habitats](#) is celebrating fall with a plant sale and community building event on Saturday, October 26. Marin [Master Gardeners](#) will share information about creating [Fire-Smart Landscapes](#). Other organizations joining our event include [Our Water Our World](#), [Marin Monarchs Working Group](#), and [SPAWN](#). Home Ground Habitats will share pictures and information about their new and very successful Children's Garden Camps and our 'Bringing Nature to School' programs.



# Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour - 20th Anniversary Conferences

These conferences celebrate the 20th anniversary of the [Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour](#), and the great strides we have all made in the San Francisco Bay Area to promote habitat expansion in our gardens, public spaces, municipalities, and corporate landscapes. The keynote speaker on both days will be NY Times bestselling author of [Nature's Best Hope](#), [Doug Tallamy](#), a leader in the habitat restoration movement. In addition to Dr. Tallamy, there will be speakers who are changemakers throughout our region to inspire action.



## [Nature's Best Hope - Full Day Conference](#)

Saturday, **November 16** - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
at the Oakland Museum of California's James Moore Theater

## [Nature's Best Hope - Half Day Conference](#)

Sunday, **November 17** - 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
at Santa Clara University's Mayer Theater

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## Broom Service

Though the volunteers of Broom Service have been working on Rock Ridge in Woodacre since mid-July, they still have some work to do. They hope to move up the trail to the meadow where we first started work. It was originally heavily populated with French and Scotch broom. Now there are just a few patches that will not be too challenging; what they call maintenance.

Broom Service volunteers meet Thursday mornings to pull invasive broom (mostly French broom) from natural areas in San Geronimo valley and surrounding hills. Broom can develop dense stands and threaten western azalea, grassy meadows, and mixed evergreen forests in the area. Text Mel Wright to find out how to join their efforts. 415-999-4736



Broom piles that were cut and left several years ago are now almost completely broken down; returning to soil. What remains easily crumbles underfoot.

## Upcoming Marin Chapter Events

- 10/5 10 am [Learn about CA Native Plants](#) Mt. Tam Science Day
- 10/7 7 pm Marin Chapter Board Meets, contact [David Long](#) to attend
- 10/10 6 pm to 10/14 6 pm [Fall Online Plant Sale](#)
- 10/14 9 am to 11 am Field Trip: [Oaks, Wetlands, and Views at Hamilton's Reservoir Hill](#)
- 10/14 7:30 pm Chapter Meeting: "[Climate Change, Latent Pathogens, and Large-Scale Tree Mortality in California](#)" Speaker: Dr Matteo Garbelotto
- 10/19 10:30 am to 1:30 pm [Online Plant Sale Pickup and In-Person Plant Sale](#)



*Rhododendron occidentale* -  
Western azalea  
Photo by Laura Lovett

## Other Activities in Marin and Nearby

- 10/3 5:30 pm [CNPS Naturehood Webinar: Garden Guardians](#) preventing plant pathogens
- 10/3 & 10/17 10 am Habitat Restoration at Abbott's Lagoon, Point Reyes ([see above](#))
- 10/5 10 am - 2 pm [Jepson Chapter Fall Native Plant Sale](#), Benicia, CA
- 10/6 11 am - 1 pm Ice Plant Pulling at North Beach Point Reyes ([see above](#))
- 10/10 7:30 [Colorful Year Around Gardening with San Francisco Native Plants](#), Speaker: Susan Karasoff, Yerba Buena Chapter
- 10/12 10 am - 1 pm [Milo Baker's Annual Fall Native Plant Sale](#)
- 10/14 7:00 pm [Indigenous Peoples' Use of California Native Plants](#) North San Joaquin Chapter Speaker Series
- 10/17 7:10 pm [iNaturalist & Calflora Public Meeting](#), Orange Co. Chapter
- 10/15 7:30 pm [Plant Natives in Cool Autumn](#), Milo Baker Chapter
- 10/26 10 am - 1 pm [Novato Seed Library Exchange](#)
- 10/26 [Home Ground Habitats](#) Fall Celebration
- 11/3 9:00 am - 1:00 pm [CNPS Garden Ambassador Visits](#)

Be sure to periodically check [CNPS.org/events](https://www.cnps.org/events) for interesting talks and field trips sponsored by CNPS Chapters and staff throughout the state.

Also check the [Events Calendar for Marin County Parks](#). They host a variety of local hikes, service projects, and presentations.



Bonnie and Annette collect  
*Lessingia hololeuca* seed at Marin  
Co Native Nsy. Stacey Pogorzelski



*Croton setiger* - doveweed or  
turkey mullein  
Photo by Stacey Pogorzelski

## Collaboration

For 50 years, CNPS Marin Chapter and its members have cooperated with many partners on a variety of projects and issues concerning native plants and habitats. Check out our events and the others listed to expand your knowledge, share your talents, and just plain enjoy our beautiful natural world.

I appreciate receiving notification of interesting upcoming events, conservation issues, and native plant topics to include in the next edition.

Others might enjoy your photos and reports of natural experiences and challenges.

Contact me: [Ann Elliott](#), Newsletter Editor



*Aesculus californica* - CA buckeye  
drupe in Marin Highlands  
Photo by Julie Whittmann

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2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5130 | Tel: (916) 447-2677  
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