

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MARIN CHAPTER



Mt. Tamalpais from Bothin Marsh

Photo by Ann Elliott

August 2025 Newsletter

Marin Chapter Meeting

The Geology of Marin

Guest Speaker: **Nicole Myers**, Appreciating Earth

Monday, **August 11 at 7:30 pm**

Nicole's talk will focus on broad geologic history of our coastal area and how that impacts soil diversity in the region.

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



Coastal Bluffs at McClures Beach, Point Reyes National Seashore Photo by Woody Elliott

Marin Chapter Field Trips

- Sign up for most field trips using [Meetup.com](#) or the [Meetup app](#). Signups usually begin the first of each month at 8 am.
- Sign the [Waiver for Marin Chapter 2025](#), if you have not done so already. Tambien [Renuncia del participante](#) en Espanol.
- Practice clean trail etiquette. [Pocket Guide – Every Step Counts](#) and [Cleanliness Tips for Hikers](#).
- Contact the leader(s) with any questions.



Eastwoodiella californica - marsh harebell
by Vernon Smith (formerly *Campanula californica*)

Tomales Bay State Park Summer Delights

Wednesday, August 27, 10 am to 2 pm

Leader: Ann Elliott

During late summer, the Jepson & Johnstone Trails come alive with the fruits of fall. We will eat huckleberries, marvel at the fruit on the California honeysuckle, enjoy a variety of ferns, search for the CNPS Listed 1B *Eastwoodiella californica* (marsh harebell), and have lunch at beautiful secluded Pebble Beach. If the weather is nice consider a swim in Tomales Bay at our lunch spot.



Vaccinium ovatum - huckleberry berries early August
Ripe soon? Photo by Ann Elliott

Our planned route is about 3 miles with about 500-foot elevation gain hiking through mixed sun and shaded forest.

[Read more...](#) [Meetup Registration Link](#)

Stewardship Opportunities

Point Blue Novato Baylands Nursery Workday

Leader: Stacey Pogorzelski

Tuesday, August 12, 9 to 11:30 am

Please join Point Blue Conservation Science staff and CNPS members at the Novato Baylands for our second nursery workday of the summer! The Novato Baylands is a 2,600-acre restoration site consisting of a mosaic of tidal marsh, seasonal wetlands, and upland habitat. This is an amazing project, transforming/restoring a military airfield to a thriving wetland. Activities include potting up native plant seedlings and weeding within plant containers. Attendees will learn how their efforts will increase biodiversity on the site and enjoy good plant conversation. Point Blue staff will also give a short overview of the history of the restoration.



Volunteers at Novato Baylands Nursery
Photo by Stacey Pogorzelski

Volunteers should wear sturdy, closed-toed shoes and clothing layers that they don't mind getting dirty. Please bring a hat and a water bottle. Gloves, tools, and snacks will be provided. No prior nursery experience required.

[Read more including directions...](#) [Meetup Registration Link](#)

Volunteer Workday at Marin County Parks & Open Space District Native Plant Nursery

Leader: **Caroline Christman**

Tuesday, **August 19, 10 am - noon**

Join us for a fun morning of sowing seeds and transplanting native plants at the Marin County Parks and Open Space District Nursery. Set in a lovely, shaded garden, the Nursery grows native plants to be used in habitat restoration projects in parks and natural preserves throughout Marin. Aja will provide a tour of the nursery, demonstrate nursery methods, and describe how the plants being grown will be used in restoration projects. Volunteer activities may include seed cleaning, potting up seedlings, transplanting plants into larger pots, pot washing, or working in the native plant garden.

Volunteers should wear sturdy, closed-toed shoes and clothing layers they don't mind getting dirty. Please bring sun protection and a water bottle. Gloves and tools will be provided. No prior nursery experience is required.

[Read more including directions. . .](#) [Meetup Registration Link](#)



Transplanting seedlings at Marin County Parks native plant nursery Photo by Caroline Christman

Save the Date! 2025 Fall Native Plant Sale

- Online sale: **October 9 - 13** at shop.cnpsmarin.org
- In-person sale and online order pick-up:
Saturday, **October 18**
- Location: Bon Air Shopping Center, Greenbrae



native plant orders ready for pickup
by Laura Lovett

Rewilding: A Native Habitat Garden in the Making

Caroline Christman

Starting a garden renovation can be overwhelming; it is hard to look past what exists now towards the native habitat garden that could be. In some situations, it makes sense to develop a garden design and implement all the changes at once. For others, working gradually to transform a garden may be the best path: adding native species each winter, removing invasive species, and seeing how the garden adapts over time. Nita Winter and Rob Badger took this gradual approach to transform their Marin City yard into a delightful habitat garden.



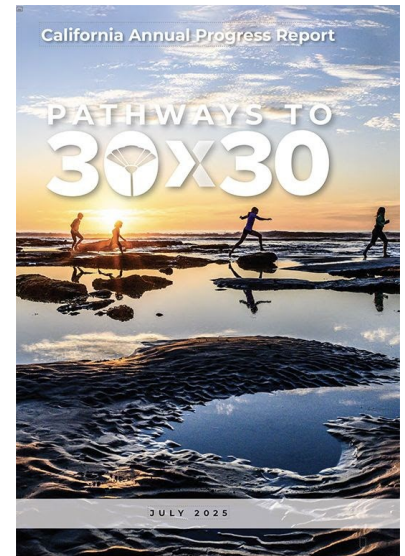
Heteromeles arbutifolia - toyon enjoyed by Western bluebird Photo by Nita Winter or Rob Badger

[Read more and enjoy more photos of this garden. . .](#)

Pathways to 30x30

In 2020, California committed to conserve 30% of the state's lands and coastal waters by 2030. Being at the halfway point from 2020 to 2030 provides a moment to reflect on the solid foundation built in the last five years, share lessons learned, and look ahead to ways to accelerate efforts over the next five years. California is well on our way to reaching 30x30!

[Read more about the progress that has been made and future pathways to 30x30.](#)



Save the Date!

February 5-7, 2026

Workshops & Field Trips:
February 4, 2026

Riverside Convention Center
Registration Opens Fall 2025

Call for Presenters

Share your knowledge, discoveries, and experience with the native plant community. Present at the 2026 Conference!

Submission Deadline: **August 15, 2025**

[Read more. . .](#)



Field Trip, Outing, & Events Reports - June 2025

Bull Point - July 6, 2025

Delynne Cullen led her inaugural field trip for CNPS Marin. A wonderful photographer and active poster to the Marin Native Plants Facebook group, she knows her plants and where to find them.

We explored the damp meadows flowing into Creamery Bay of Drakes Estero in Point Reyes National Seashore. The candy flower (*Claytonia sibirica*) and rare marsh or swamp harebells (*Eastwoodiella californica*) thrived, climbing and draping over the other tall plants in these ungrazed fields.

[Read more about the other treasures we found here.](#)



Claytonia sibirica - candy flower
Delynne Cullen

Chicken Ranch Beach Wetland - July 13, 2025

The Chicken Ranch Beach Wetland Restoration Project will restore natural processes to this small Marin County Park in Inverness so water flowing into Tomales Bay will be cleaner. Invasive acacia trees and other non-native plants will be removed. After exploring the associated saltmarsh with abundant Pt. Reyes bird's beak just coming into bloom, we took advantage of a minus tide to wander up to Shell Beach in Tomales Bay State Park. The cliffs host a wonderful collection of West Marin trees and shrubs, some in full flower.

[Read more about the restoration project, the saltmarsh, intertidal plants, and cliff habitats.](#)



Jaumea carnosa - marsh jaumea
Photo by Ann Elliott

Mt. Burdell Work Party - July 23, 2025

We attacked those thistles, pennyroyal, and Himalayan blackberry. Such a feeling of accomplishment! More workdays are planned, so keep your eyes on our events page.

Redwood Forest Summer Stroll in Samuel P. Taylor State Park - July 25, 2025

Trail closure and quick thinking redirected the group to an exploration of the newly renovated trails at Roy's Redwoods.

[Read an expanded version of each trip with photographs.](#)

Broom Service

Broom Service volunteer Will Anton is in the midst of a rather typical French broom patch. The density makes it difficult for other species to emerge and survive. With a small weed wrench, Will can clear this in about an hour.

[Contact Mel Wright](#) for more information about Broom Service and to join their Thursday morning work parties.



Broom Service volunteer Will Anton
Photo by Melvyn Wright

Join a Bee Survey for the CA Bee Atlas

One Tam's [Tamalpais Bee Lab](#) is offering opportunities on upcoming Saturday's to participate in their research for the California Bee Atlas. Participants will get outside with other curious volunteers, learn insect identification and science skills, and contribute to this important pollinator study. Dates are **Saturday August 2, 9, at 11 am**. Join One Tam as they embark on a new phase of the Tamalpais Bee Lab!

[Register here.](#)



Bombus vosnesenskii - yellow-faced bumblebee on
Cirsium quercetorum - brownie thistle Ann Elliott

Become a California Naturalist This Fall at Point Reyes.



This California Naturalist Program field-based lecture series is a partnership of the [University of California Environmental Stewards](#) programs and the [Point Reyes National Seashore Association](#) and takes place over the course of five separate Saturdays between Sept 27- Nov 1. The mission of the program is to foster a diverse community of naturalists and promote stewardship of California's natural resources through education and service.

[Read more...](#)

Upcoming Marin Chapter Events

- **8/11 7:30 pm** Chapter Meeting: The Geology of Marin Speaker: Nicole Myers [Register here.](#)
- **8/12 9 - 11:30 am** [Point Blue Novato Baylands Nursery Work Day](#) Leader: Stacey Pogorzelski
- **8/19 10 am - noon** [Volunteer Workday at Marin County Native Nursery](#) Leader: Caroline Christman
- **8/27 10 am - 2 pm** Field Trip: [Tomales Bay State Park Summer Delights](#) Leader: Ann Elliott



Holodiscus discolor - ocean spray
Photo by Ann Elliott

Other Native Plant Activities in Marin, Nearby, or Virtual

- **8/7 & 8/21 10 am to 2 pm** [Thursday Weeders at Abbots Lagoon](#)
- **8/7 7 PM** [Transgenerational Justice for Native Plants, Animals and People](#) Speaker: Christopher Telomen, Santa Clara Valley Chapter via YouTube & Zoom

Also checkout:

- [CNPS.org/events](#) for interesting talks and field trips sponsored by CNPS Chapters and staff throughout the state.
- [Events Calendar for Marin County Parks.](#) They host a variety of local hikes, service projects, and presentations.
- [Regional Parks Botanic Garden](#) hosts talks (some online), workshops, tours and plant sales.
- [SPAWN Turtle Island Restoration Network volunteer opportunities.](#)
- [Point Reyes Nature](#) has great ideas for exploring the Point Reyes National Seashore.
- [The Soul of the Earth](#), exploring the world flower by flower, Betsey Crawford's monthly essay series.



Triteleia peduncularis - long rayed brodiaea Photo by Ann Elliott

Giving and Receiving

We hope you can enjoy some of the summer bounties from native plants (berries, nuts, and flowers). Consider how you can give back a gift of care or just appreciation. Thank you for sharing your stories and time with us and following CNPS Marin.

- Post your activities and discoveries on our Facebook group [Marin Native Plants](#)
- Check out news and events at our Facebook group [California Native Plant Society - Marin Chapter](#)
- Follow us on Instagram [marincnps](#)
- Post anywhere with the hashtag #marinnativeplants.



Sidalcea calycosa ssp. *rhizomata* - Point Reyes checkerbloom Photo by Paul Barnett

[Ann Elliott](#), Newsletter Editor & Field Trip Committee



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