

ALAMEDA BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

ITALO'S GARDEN MASTER PLANT DESCRIPTIONS

Master Plant Descriptions for Sign Program

Oct. 2019

Revised 5-6-20

PA1

ARCTOSTAPHYLOS manzanita x densiflora 'Austin Griffiths'

Hybrid Manzanita

Region/Origin: California Native/Central Coast

Beautiful focal point for the coastal summer-dry garden

- 12 ft. x 12 ft., evergreen tree manzanita with pink flowers; blooms early spring.
- Full sun, drought tolerant; prefers sandy soil but tolerates clay with good drainage.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides copious nectar for bees and butterflies and flowers and berries for a variety of birds and other animals.

ARCTOSTAPHYLOS bakeri 'Louis Edmunds'

Hybrid Manzanita

Region/Origin: California Native/Sonoma County

Beautiful focal point for the summer-dry garden

- 8-10 ft. x 8-10 ft., upright, evergreen, large shrub manzanita with clear pink flowers; blooms mid-spring.
- Full sun, drought tolerant, stable, tolerates clay, sandy soils, serpentine and granite rock, interior heat with low water.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides copious nectar for bees and hummingbirds.

EPILOBIUM canum (syn. Zauschneria) 'Marin Pink'

Hybrid California Fuchsia

Region/Origin: California Native/wide distribution from Trinity County to Baja California

Excellent for rock walls and dry stream beds

- 2 ft. with indeterminate spread, partially evergreen groundcover with soft pink flowers; blooms July-October.
- Full sun near coast, interior heat with low water; prefers sandy or rocky soils.
- Stabilizes soil.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides copious nectar and is a favorite of hummingbirds.

IRIS douglasiana 'Canyon Snow'

Pacific Coast Hybrid (PCH) Iris

Region/Origin: California Native/Santa Barbara to Oregon

Iris means "rainbow" in Greek

- 2 ft. x 4 ft. evergreen coastal perennial with large, pure white flowers; blooms mid-spring; slowly spreads by rhizomes.
- Full sun or shade at coast; afternoon shade and some summer water inland.
- Tolerates clay and heavy winter water.
- Deer, rabbit and gopher resistant to immune.

PA2

ACHILLEA millefolium rosea 'Island Pink'

Hybrid Yarrow

Region/Origin: California Native/Santa Cruz Island/wide distribution except deserts

Good foundation for the meadow garden or as a turf substitute

- 2 ft. semi-evergreen perennial with rose pink flowers; blooms spring to summer.
- Full sun to part shade inland; average to low water, including seasonal flooding; tolerates alkaline to clay soils, foot traffic.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar in spring for bees and butterflies and winter forage for birds.
- Deer resistant to immune.

ACHILLEA 'Moonshine'

Hybrid Fernleaf Yarrow

Region/Origin: Europe

Good foundation for a cottage-style, summer-dry garden

- 1-2 ft. x 2-3 ft. evergreen perennial, tall and spreading, bright yellow flowers; blooms mid-spring to October.
- Full sun; average to low water; moderately good drainage; tolerates alkaline and clay soils.
- Excellent butterfly garden plant; cut flower.
- Deer resistant to immune.

CISTUS landanifer 'Blanche'

Hybrid White Rockrose

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Good for erosion control on dry banks, fire hazard plantings and big rock gardens

- 4-8 ft. x 4-5 ft., evergreen shrub with large white flowers, blooms late spring to summer.
- Full sun; very low water; needs good drainage, sandy soils; good for coastal and summer-dry gardens.
- Superior pollinator. Provides nectar for bees and butterflies.
- Deer resistant to immune.

CISTUS x purpureus

Orchid Rockrose

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Good for erosion control on dry banks, fire hazard plantings and big rock gardens

- 4-6 ft. x 4-6 ft., evergreen shrub with large magenta-purple flowers; blooms spring to summer.
- Full sun; very low water; needs good drainage, sandy soils; good for coastal and summer-dry gardens.
- Superior pollinator. Provides nectar for bees and butterflies.
- Deer resistant to immune.

ERIOGONUM grande var. rubescens

Red Buckwheat

Region/Origin: California Native/Central Coast/intermediate to interior valleys

- 1-3 ft. x 1-3 ft. short-lived, evergreen subshrub with variable pink-rose flowers aging to russet; blooms spring to summer.
- Full sun to part shade; very low water; needs good drainage, sandy soils.

ERIOGONUM giganteum

St. Catherine's Lace

Region/Origin: California Native/Central Coast/wide distribution except deserts and high mountains

Good as an easy-to-grow focal point or backdrop in large border; impressive cut flower

- 4-6 ft. x 4-6 ft. large, mounding evergreen shrub with huge white flower clusters aging to russet.
- Full sun; very low water; needs good drainage, sandy soils; good for coastal and summer-dry gardens.
- Superior pollinator, important butterfly plant, providing nectar and pollen for bees and seeds for birds.

ERIOGONUM fasciculatum ‘Warriner Lytle’

Hybrid California Buckwheat

Region/Origin: California Native/Alameda County to northern Baja California/coastal scrub, chaparral, desert woodland, desert scrub.

Native Americans boiled roots and dried flowers to treat illness

- 2 ft. x 4 ft. low, evergreen shrub with white flowers aging to russet; blooms spring to fall.
- Full sun to part shade; very low water; needs good drainage, sandy soils; good for coastal and summer-dry gardens.
- Considered most garden-tolerant of the buckwheats.
- Superior pollinator, important butterfly plant. Provides nectar and pollen for bees and seeds for birds.

HETEROMELES arbutifolia

Toyon/Christmas Berry

Region/Origin: California Native/ wide distribution in California from Trinity County to Baja California

The only California native plant still called by its native Ohlone name, Toyon. Heteromeles means “different apple” in Greek

- 12 ft. x 12 ft., evergreen large shrub/small tree with white flowers.
- Full sun to part shade; very low water; needs good drainage; tolerates many soil types.
- Superior wildlife plant. Mature berries provide forage for a variety of resident and migratory birds.

IRIS douglasiana ‘Canyon Snow’

Pacific Coast Hybrid (PCH) Iris

Region/Origin: California Native/Santa Barbara to Oregon

Iris means “rainbow” in Greek

- 2 ft. x 4 ft. evergreen coastal perennial with large, pure white flowers; blooms mid-spring; slowly spreads by rhizomes.
- Full sun or shade at coast; afternoon shade and some summer water inland.
- Tolerates clay and heavy winter water.
- Deer, rabbit and gopher resistant to immune.

LANTANA ‘Confetti’

Hybrid Lantana

Region/Origin: Southeastern US and tropical Americas

- 2-3 ft. x 6-8 ft. evergreen shrub with long-blooming flowers of yellow, orange, hot pink.
- Best at coast where it likes full sun; can freeze inland.
- Tolerates many soil types and is fairly drought tolerant; **berries are toxic to humans.**
- Superior pollinator. Provides nectar for bees and butterflies and berries for birds.

LAURUS nobilis

Grecian Laurel/Sweet Bay

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Traditional source of the bay leaf used in cooking and flower arranging

- 10 ft. – 30 ft. slow-growing evergreen coastal tree with dense habit.
- Cool coastal sun to light shade; tolerates many soil types; needs good drainage; fairly drought tolerant.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar, flowers and berries for a variety of insects and animals.

RHAMNUS californica ‘Mound San Bruno’

Hybrid California Coffeeberry

Region/Origin: California Native/wide distribution in coastal California

European settlers tried unsuccessfully to use fruit as a substitute for coffee

- 4 ft. x 6 ft. slow-growing evergreen shrub with spreading, dense habit.
- Sun to shade; prefers well-drained soil; drought tolerant.

- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar for insect pollinators and large berries for birds.
- Deer resistant to immune.

PA3

CEANOTHUS 'Frosty Blue'

Hybrid Island/Catalina Ceanothus/California Lilac

Region/Origin: California Native, Southern Coast islands

Root nodules contain nitrogen-fixing bacteria, good for soil and plant adaptation

- 12 ft. x 12 ft., evergreen coastal tree ceanothus with bright blue flowers; blooms mid spring.
- Full coastal sun, part shade inland; drought tolerant.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar for native and domesticated bees, butterfly larvae and mature insects as well as seeds for a variety of small animals.

CEANOTHUS arboreus 'Cliff Schmidt'

Hybrid Island/Catalina Ceanothus/California Lilac

Region/Origin: California Native, Southern Coast islands

Root nodules contain nitrogen-fixing bacteria, good for soil and plant adaptation

- 20 ft. x 20 ft., evergreen coastal tree ceanothus with powder blue flowers; blooms spring with light flower crop in fall.
- Drought tolerant; tolerates sandy and clay soils.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar for native and domesticated bees, butterfly larvae and mature insects as well as seeds for a variety of small animals.

CISTUS landanifer 'Blanche'

Hybrid White Rockrose

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Good for erosion control on dry banks, fire hazard plantings and big rock gardens

- 4-8 ft. x 4-5 ft., evergreen shrub with large white flowers, blooms late spring to summer.
- Full sun; very low water; needs good drainage, sandy soils; good for coastal and summer-dry gardens.
- Superior pollinator. Provides nectar for bees and butterflies.
- Deer resistant to immune.

CISTUS x purpureus

Orchid Rockrose

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Good for erosion control on dry banks, fire hazard plantings and big rock gardens

- 4-6 ft. x 4-6 ft., evergreen shrub with large magenta-purple flowers; blooms spring to summer.
- Full sun; very low water; needs good drainage, sandy soils.
- Superior pollinator. Provides nectar for bees; good for coastal and summer-dry gardens.
- Deer resistant to immune.

ERIGERON glaucus 'Cape Sebastian'

Hybrid Seaside Daisy

Region/Origin: California Native/ coastal bluffs, dune, beaches/wide distribution except for high mountains and deserts

Best in coastal gardens; good for meadows, mixed borders and containers

- 3-4 inches x 2 ft., evergreen perennial groundcover with lavender daisy flowers; blooms many months except during very hot summers.
- Cool coastal sun; low to moderate water.
- Superior pollinator. Provides nectar for bees.

LAURUS nobilis

Grecian Laurel/Sweet Bay

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Traditional source of the bay leaf used in cooking and flower arranging

- 10 ft. – 30 ft. slow-growing evergreen coastal tree with dense habit.
- Cool coastal sun to light shade; tolerates many soil types; needs good drainage; fairly drought tolerant.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar, flowers and berries for a variety of insects and animals.

LAVANDULA x intermedia 'Grosso'

Hybrid Purple Lavandin

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Traditional source of oil used in cosmetics, home products and cooking. Flower spikes and dried flowers used in flower arranging, sachets, traditional insecticide

- 2 ft. – 3 ft. evergreen shrub with dense habit with spires of fragrant, blue violet flowers, blooms summer to fall.
- Full sun; very low water; good drainage/sandy, rocky soils.
- Superior pollinator, providing nectar for bees and butterflies.
- Deer and rabbit resistant to immune.

ROSMARINUS officinalis 'Tuscan Blue'

Hybrid Rosemary

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Traditional source of rosemary leaf, oil and stalks used in cosmetics, cooking

- 4-6 ft. x 4 ft. evergreen shrub with spires of deep blue flowers, blooms winter to spring.
- Full sun; very low water; good drainage/sandy, rocky soils; good for coastal and summer-dry gardens.
- Deer and rabbit resistant to immune.

SALVIA 'Bee's Bliss'

Hybrid Creeping California Sage

Region/Origin: California Native

- 8 inches tall evergreen groundcover shrub with a dense, spreading habit and violet purple flowers; blooms late spring to summer.
- Full coastal sun, part shade inland; very low water; good drainage/sandy soils.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar and seeds for a variety of insects and birds.
- Deer resistant to immune.

SALVIA sonomensis 'Dara's Choice'

Hybrid Creeping Sonoma Sage

Region/Origin: California Native/Siskiyou to San Diego County

- 2 ft. – 5 ft. evergreen groundcover shrub with dense spreading habit and lavender flowers, blooms late spring to summer.
- Full to partial coastal sun, part shade inland; very low water; good drainage/sandy soils.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar and seeds for a variety of insects and birds.
- Deer resistant to immune.

PA4

PITTOSPORUM crassifolium 'Variegatum'

Region/Origin: New Zealand

- 8-12 ft. x 6-8 ft. evergreen variegated shrub with open habit.
- Full coastal sun; well-drained soil and moderately drought tolerant.
- Excellent tall hedge, screen, windbreak.
- Deer resistant to immune.

RHAMNUS alaternus 'John Edwards'

Hybrid Italian Buckthorn

Region/Origin: Europe/Mediterranean Basin

Rhamnus and Ceanothus belong to the same botanical family

- 12-15 ft. x 6-8 ft. fast growing evergreen shrub with dense habit.

- Full sun to part shade; tolerates heavy clay, wet soil; moderately drought tolerant.
- Superior wildlife plant. Provides nectar for pollinators and berries for birds.
- Deer resistant to immune.

Bioswale

CAREX pansa

California Meadow Sedge

Region/Origin: California Native

Durable, deer-resistant plant that can be used as a lawn substitute or un-mowed meadow

- 6 inch tall perennial grass; spreads by rhizomes to form dense colonies.
- Full coastal sun, part shade inland.
- Evergreen with some water, summer dormant under drought conditions.
- Tolerates winter flooding, sandy soils.

MUHLENBERGIA rigens

Deer Grass

Region/Origin: California Native, all areas of California except high mountains

Native Americans prize the flowering stems for fine basketry

- 5 ft. x 3 ft. warm-season, evergreen perennial grass.
- Full coastal sun, part shade inland; summer-dry to moderate water.
- Tolerates winter flooding.
- Deer resistant to immune.

IRIS douglasiana

Pacific Coast Iris

Region/Origin: California Native/Santa Barbara to Oregon

Iris means “rainbow” in Greek

- 2 ft. x 2 ft. evergreen coastal perennial; range of cream to purple flowers; blooms mid-spring; slowly spreads by rhizomes.
- Full coastal to partial sun; afternoon shade and some summer water inland.
- Tolerates clay and winter flooding but dislikes soggy soil.
- Deer resistant to immune.

JUNCUS patens

Wire Grass

Region/Origin: California Native/moist areas in most plant communities.

Stems are beautiful accents for flower arrangements

- 2 ft. x 2 ft. evergreen coastal rush; slowly spreads to create large colonies.
- Full coastal to partial sun; afternoon shade and some summer water inland.
- Tolerates a wide variety of soils, drought and winter flooding.
- Deer resistant to immune.

TBD CAREX tumulicola

There is some question as to which sedge you actually have in the garden. Berkeley Sedge is really carex divulsa; Foothill Sedge is Carex tumulicola not “tumulica”, the name listed in the planting records.