Resources and Other Ways to Help

Shopping List

Books for Reference and Information

You can HELP!

Plant in harmony with the Montclair Railroad Trail, our oak woodland oasis.
Montclair Railroad Trail is home to many native species, some of which are quite spectacular if given the space to thrive. These plants, found along the trail, can also be attractive in your landscaped yard.

Plants to Consider...

The Natives

- **Sticky Monkey Flower**
  - A perennial, small shrub that grows well in many types of soil. Attracts butterflies and is pollinated by bees and hummingbirds. Used by Native Americans to promote healing of scrapes and burns.

- **Silver Bush Lupine**
  - This showy, long-blooming, 3 to 4-foot perennial grows well in lean, well-drained soil. Excellent for rock gardens, it is very drought tolerant and hosts the endangered Mission Blue butterfly.

- **Ocean Spray or Cream Bush**
  - This butterfly and bee attractor produces many fragrant 5-inch flower clusters May–June. Can grow up to 8 feet tall. Flowers and seeds are both edible.

- **California Poppy**
  - Beautiful lacy blue-gray flower with abundant blooms of golden flowers over a long period, especially in mild climates. A little summer water can extend their blooming.

- **California Honeysuckle**
  - A semi-evergreen, 3–foot shrub can grow to 20 feet high by twining. Grows well in moist and dry soils. May–June, the flowers attract hummingbirds, in the fall, the red berries attract birds.

- **California Blue-Eyed Grass**
  - Small clumps of grass-like foliage support ½-inch spring blossoms ranging from blue to purple to an occasional white. In dry gardens, it goes dormant in the summer. OK in heavy soils.

- **Phacelia**
  - Bees and butterflies are attracted to the large coils of lavender flowers of this perennial. Grows about a foot tall with clumps of cindy gray leaves. Needs good drainage. Great for rock gardens.

- **California Fuchsia**
  - The red, late summer-to-fall blooms of this 30-inch native are highly attractive to hummingbirds. It spreads by roots and tolerates poor drainage.

- **Deerweed**
  - A drought-resistant, 3 to 4-foot shrub in the pea family, this perennial is excellent for stabilizing or restoring disturbed areas. March to August blooms. Attracts hummingbirds and bees.

- **Needlegrass**
  - Clumps of grassy foliage with 2 to 2-foot tall, graceful drooping seed clusters. Grows well in our oak woodlands.

- **California Bigleaf Maple**
  - A fast-growing, large, round-topped tree or small tree 8 to 25 feet tall. Creamy yellow floral clusters in many types of soil. Attracts butterflies and is pollinated by bees. It spreads by roots and is very drought tolerant.

- **Toyon**
  - Often used for Christmas decorations, the dark green, leathery leaves of this small tree or shrub offer abundant, white blooms that mature into long-lasting bright red berries.

- **Blue Elderberry**
  - Called by Native Americans the “tree of music” as they made flutes from its branches. Creamy yellow floral clusters yield blue berries – tasty for over 43 bird species. Fast-growing, deciduous shrub or small tree 8 to 20 feet tall.

- **Western Sword Fern**
  - This versatile fern does well in shady beds, along walls, as large-scale groundcover and in mixed woodland plantings. Best with humid soil and regular water, but drought tolerant once established.

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Use this brochure as a starting point for creating your own landscaping ideas.

Hillside homeowners can help to protect and expand our fire-resistant, woodland trail environs.

- Include native, non-invasive species in your landscaping
- Clear the area around your property borders of non-native plant invaders to reduce fuel load.
- Replace with slower-growing natives or other non-flammable plants.

Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail, volunteers are actively involved in the maintenance, preservation and enhancement of the wild and natural character of the 1.6-mile trail built upon the rail bed of the historic Sacramento Northern Railway. As an Oakland city park, it is part of the Shepherd Canyon and the greater Sausal Creek watershed and provides access to and from Montclair Village and the residential neighborhoods of Shepherd Canyon and Montclair.

We are working toward several complementary goals.

- Restoring the trail’s unique oak woodland plant environment
- Preventing runoff and erosion
- Improving fire safety

How can you help if you live nearby?

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Residential landscaping impacts the trail, both positively and negatively.

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Resources and Other Ways to Help

Websites
MontclairRRTrail.org
Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail website has links to:
Native plant information – other websites, photos and plant ideas
Local native-plant sources – nurseries, organizations and sales
SausalCreek.org
Friends of Sausal Creek website has information about ways to protect the watershed environment and to improve the quality of local creeks.

www.cnpix.info
The California Plant Exchange’s website will help you select local native plants for any location in the state and find out who sells them. For each plant that grows wild in California, there is a plant information page.
oaklandnet.com/wildfirePrevention/plants.asp
This is a link to the City of Oakland Wildfire Prevention Department’s list of fire-wise and not-so-fire-wise plants.
oaklandcreeks.org
The City of Oakland’s Public Works Agency has programs to protect watershed areas, including heavily discounted rain barrels for preventing excessive water run-off.

Volunteering
Join Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail volunteers for trail maintenance and planting work parties every third Saturday, rain or shine, 9-11 a.m.

Provide other talents and time with the Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail.
Earn plants for The Railroad Trail by volunteering at the Friends of Sausal Creek’s Native Plant Nursery in Joaquin Miller Park: sausalcreek.org/volunteer/nursery.html

Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail
Oakland, California
MontclairRRTrail@gmail.com
MontclairRRTrail.org

Shopping List

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<tr>
<th>Instead of...</th>
<th>Select...</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pampas grass</td>
<td>California fescue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green fountain grass</td>
<td>Golden yarrow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jubata grass</td>
<td>Purple needle grass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reed grass</td>
<td>Sedge (Carex)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grasses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broom</td>
<td>Blue elderberry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cotoneaster</td>
<td>California lilac (Ceanothus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Euphorbia (Spurge)</td>
<td>California sagebrush</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hopseed bush</td>
<td>Clarkia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffeeberry</td>
<td>Manzanita (Arctostaphylos)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duneweed</td>
<td>Ocean spray</td>
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<td>Phacelia</td>
<td>Phacelia</td>
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<td>Shrubs</td>
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<tr>
<td>California blue-eyed grass</td>
<td>California fuchsia</td>
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<tr>
<td>California yellow-eyed grass</td>
<td>California honeysuckle</td>
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<td>California buckwheat</td>
<td>California poppy</td>
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<td>California buttercup</td>
<td>Coast purple sage</td>
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<td>Ground Covers &amp; Vines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Periwinkle</td>
<td>Coral bells (Heuchera)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ivy</td>
<td>Dudleya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniper</td>
<td>Manzanita (Arctostaphylos)</td>
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<td>Ferns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bracken fern</td>
<td>Western sword fern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giant chain fern</td>
<td>Wood fern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acaisia</td>
<td>Amoyna willow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cotoneaster</td>
<td>Box elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monterey pine</td>
<td>California bigleaf maple</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monterey cypress</td>
<td>Giant coast redwood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Italic indicates species names, which may contain different varieties

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Plants and Landscapes for Summer Dry Climates
Published by EBMUD
A beautiful full-color book filled with charts, photos and plant information specific to gardens in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Designing California Native Gardens: The Plant Community Approach to Artful, Ecological Gardens
by Glenn Keator and Alrie Middlebrook
Landscape design ideas built around California’s twelve unique plant communities, e.g., oak woodland and redwood forest. Includes plant lists with color photos, and garden designs.

Compatible Plants Under & Around Oaks
by Bruce W. Hagen, Barrie Coate and Keith Oldham
Published by California Oak Foundation
A free, downloadable 2007 electronic edition (PDF format) available at californiaoaks.org
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Dune weed Ocean spray

Salvia Silver bush lupine

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Ivy California yellow-eyed grass
Juniper California buckwheat
California buttercup

California fuchsia California honeysuckle
California poppy Coast purple sage
Manzanita (Arctostaphylos)

Trees
Acacia Amoyna willow
Cotoneaster Box elder
Montrey pine California bigleaf maple
Monterey cypress

California live oak California silk tassel
Western redbud

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