Module 10: Garden Ecology

3-2019

Gardening Resources

Center for Urban Resilience

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Gardening Resources

- Birds
- Bees
- Butterflies
- Gardens
- Plants
- Insects
- Soil
- Trees
How to register your garden as a **Wildlife Habitat Yard**


2) National Wildlife Federation  


4) Xerces Society  [http://www.xerces.org/bringbackthepollinators/](http://www.xerces.org/bringbackthepollinators/)

5) The Pollinator Partnership is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and the largest in the world dedicated exclusively to the protection and promotion of pollinators and their ecosystems. Go to this website for more resources on pollinators:  [http://www.pollinator.org/](http://www.pollinator.org/)

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**Why do this?**

- Your garden will come alive
- You’ll teach visitors
- You’ll love your garden!
National Wildlife Federation Honors America’s Top 10 Cities for Wildlife

By Anna Vecchio  March 12, 2019

From coast to coast, cities and their residents are taking action to create and protect habitat for local wildlife

“Wildlife in urban and suburban areas face tremendous stress as we chop down trees, plant yards, drain wetlands, install storm water systems, erect buildings and pave roads. Wildlife need our help to survive. In our “Top 10 Cities for Wildlife,” we recognize cities that are not only taking direct action to help wildlife, but their residents are also creating wildlife habitat in their backyards, balconies, at schools and throughout their communities.”

The National Wildlife Federation
Uniting all Americans to ensure wildlife thrive in a rapidly changing world

More Butterfly Resources

• http://www.thebutterflysite.com/butterfly-food.shtml
• https://www.nwf.org/butterfly-heroes
• http://www.sfbaywildlife.info/species/western_tiger_swallowtail.htm
• http://www.xerces.org/butterfly-conservation/

Painted lady butterflies pause to feed on the nectar of California's second “super bloom” in two years during a rare mass migration triggered by recent abundant rainfall on March 9, 2019, near Thousand Palms, Calif. (David McNew / Getty Images)
CELEBRATING 2018 (and beyond) as
THE YEAR OF THE BIRD

Joined by more than 180 organizations that work to protect birds and their habitats.

In 2018, we marked the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the most powerful and important bird-protection law ever passed. In honor of this milestone, nature lovers around the world joined forces to celebrate "Year of the Bird" and committed to protecting birds today and for the next hundred years.

https://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/year-of-the-bird/

“IF YOU TAKE CARE OF BIRDS, YOU TAKE CARE OF MOST OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE WORLD.”

Thomas Lovejoy
Biologist and Godfather of Biodiversity
Watch these videos for more inspiration:

https://youtu.be/c0caVjDTyZo
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y05Lajbebq4
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5220829/Microlight-pilot-dubbed-birdman-flies-geese.html
https://youtu.be/c0caVjDTyZo
Get your bird on!

Birds are the fly-through eye candy that tie habitats and neighborhoods together

For the first time, scientists at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology have documented migratory movements of bird populations spanning the entire year for 118 species throughout the Western Hemisphere. The study finds broad similarity in the routes used by specific groups of species—vividly demonstrated by animated maps showing patterns of movement across the annual cycle.


https://www.allaboutbirds.org/mesmerizing-migration-map-which-species-is-which/
Follow these links to read why it is so important to create ponds, waterfalls or water features and pesticide-free native gardens

- **HOW BIRDS KEEP OUR WORLD SAFE FROM THE PLAGUES OF INSECTS:** [http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/Fact_Sheets/default.cfm?fxsht=2](http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/Fact_Sheets/default.cfm?fxsht=2)
- **BRINGING NATURE HOME: HOW NATIVE PLANTS SUSTAIN WILDLIFE IN OUR GARDENS:** [http://bringingnaturehome.net/book](http://bringingnaturehome.net/book)
- **SONGBIRD JOURNEYS:** [http://www.songbirdjourneys.com/](http://www.songbirdjourneys.com/)
- **RACHEL CARSON LIVES ON:** [http://www.nrdc.org/health/pesticides/hcarson.asp](http://www.nrdc.org/health/pesticides/hcarson.asp)
- **List of Top 20 Common Birds in Decline:** [http://stateofthebirds.audubon.org/cbid/browseSpecies.php](http://stateofthebirds.audubon.org/cbid/browseSpecies.php)
- **AUDUBON CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT 2014:** [http://climate.audubon.org/](http://climate.audubon.org/)
- **TO FEED THE BIRDS, FIRST FEED THE BUGS:** [http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/06/garden/06garden.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/06/garden/06garden.html)
Where to get Info about birds, plants and water:

- County of LA Department of Public Works - Smart Gardening Program [http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sg/](http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sg/)
- #H2No [http://www.joinh2no.com/](http://www.joinh2no.com/)
- WBMWD (West Basin Municipal Water District) [http://www.westbasin.org/](http://www.westbasin.org/)
- WRD (Water Replenishment District of Southern California) [http://www.wrd.org/](http://www.wrd.org/)
Where to buy native plants and seeds, take classes and get info on the garden:

- C&S Nursery (Los Angeles) [http://www.csnursery.com/](http://www.csnursery.com/)
- Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery [https://www.arroyoseco.org/nursery.htm](https://www.arroyoseco.org/nursery.htm)
- International Garden Center (El Segundo) [http://www.igardencenter.com/IGC/](http://www.igardencenter.com/IGC/)
  (310) 546-1354
- Marina Garden Center (Marina del Rey) [http://marinagardencenter.com/](http://marinagardencenter.com/)
- Matilija Nursery (Moorpark) [http://www.matilijanursery.com/](http://www.matilijanursery.com/)
- Theodore Payne Foundation (Sun Valley) [http://www.theodorepayne.org/](http://www.theodorepayne.org/)
- The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens (Palm Desert) [https://www.livingdesert.org/](https://www.livingdesert.org/)
- Tree of Life Nursery (San Juan Capistrano) [http://www.californianativeplants.com/](http://www.californianativeplants.com/)
- Native Plants at CSUDH: Research, Restoration and Education with California Native Plants [http://nativeplantscsudh.blogspot.com/](http://nativeplantscsudh.blogspot.com/)
- Santa Barbara Botanic Garden [https://www.sbbg.org/](https://www.sbbg.org/)
Where to get bird seed, feeders and water features:

- Aquatic Services – Marine, Freshwater, Ponds, Installation and Service Bill Kalinowski (310) 822-7870 Torrance


- Enviroscape LA – Waterwise gardening and water features http://enviroscapela.com/


- Sierra Pacific Designs – Ponds and Waterfalls, Jamie Schevers (866) 888-POND (7663) or (310) 915-6600 Los Angeles http://www.sierrapacificdesigns.com/


- Wild Birds Unlimited – seed, feeders, birdbaths, books and more, Bob Shanman 1886 ½ S. Pacific Coast Hwy, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 (310) 326-2473, Website: http://torrance.wbu.com/

- Wild Wings - Backyard Nature Store – seed, feeders, birdbaths, etc., Scott Logan 4337 Woodman Ave, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 (818) 995-5703, Website: http://www.wildwingsla.com/, Email: wildwingsla@gmail.com
Decomposed Granite, Crushed Rock, Sand, Rock

- Dirt Cheap Delivered (S. CA); DG, other rock products, sand http://www.dirtcheapdelivered.com/Home_Page.php
- Robertsons (Gardena) – rock products, sand http://www.rrmca.com/
- Dirt Yard LLC - 750 North Francisca Avenue, Redondo Beach, CA 90277
- Gail Materials (Corona); DG; stabilized DG, NexPave http://www.gailmaterials.net/
- All Valley Sand & Gravel (Sylmar); DG, other rock products, sand http://www.allvalleyconcrete.com/home.nxg
- O.F. Wolfenbarger (Chino); DG, other rock products, sand http://www.ofwolfinbargerinc.com/door/
- Brandel Masonry Supplies (Pomona); DG, other rock products, sand http://www.gobrandel.com/brandelindex.html
- Cal-blend Soils (Irwindale); DG, other rock products, sand http://www.calblendsoils.com/services.nxg

Brick, Pavers, Tile Rock & Other

- Bourget Brothers (Santa Monica) – tile, stone, rock, recycled glass http://www.bourgetbros.com/
- Sepulveda Building Materials (Gardena) – rock, DG, brick, pavers http://www.sepulveda.com/
- Patagonia Building Supplies (Inglewood, Santa Ana, Agoura Hills) – rock, brick tile, pavers http://www.patagoniabuildingsupplies.com/
Birding Resources

• Apps
  – Audubon Bird Guide – free (phone)
  – iBird PRO app - $14.95 (phone)
  – Merlin Bird ID app - free (phone)
• American Birding Conservancy (ABC)  [https://abcbirds.org/]
• Audubon California  [http://ca.audubon.org/]
• Cornell Lab of Ornithology
  –  [www.birds.cornell.edu]
  –  [http://www.allaboutbirds.org/]
• Join a Local Audubon Birding Group
  –  Los Angeles Audubon Society  [http://losangelesaudubon.org]
  –  Palos Verdes South Bay  [https://www.pvsb-audubon.org/]
  –  San Fernando Audubon Society  [https://www.sfvaudubon.org/]
  –  Santa Monica Bay Audubon Society  [https://smbasblog.com/]
• Join a Local Birding Email Group
  –  LACoBirds  [https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/LACoBirds/info]
  –  CalBirds  [https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/CALBIRDS/info?referrer=LACoBirds]
• Journey North  [https://journeynorth.org/]
• Macauley Library (Cornell)  [https://macaulaylibrary.org/browse/taxa/aves]
• National Audubon Society (NAS)  [http://www.audubon.org/]
• The Institute for Bird Populations  [http://www.birdpop.org/]
Citizen Science
(Cornell & Audubon)

- E-bird
  - [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org)
- iNaturalist
  - [http://www.inaturalist.org/](http://www.inaturalist.org/)
- Project FeederWatch (November to April)
  - [www.feederwatch.org](http://www.feederwatch.org)
- Christmas Bird Count (CBC) (December)
- Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) (February)
  - [http://gbbc.birdcount.org/about/](http://gbbc.birdcount.org/about/)
- NestWatch
  - [https://nestwatch.org/](https://nestwatch.org/)
Education Resources
Cornell Lab of Ornithology

– **Bird Academy**
  • [https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/](https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/)

– **BirdSleuth**

– **Celebrate Urban Birds**
  • [https://celebrateurbanbirds.org/](https://celebrateurbanbirds.org/)

– **Macaulay Library**
  • [https://www.macaulaylibrary.org/](https://www.macaulaylibrary.org/)
Bird Reference Books

2) Birds of the Los Angeles Region, by Kimball L. Garrett, Jon L. Dunn, and Bob Morse, 2006
3) Birds of North America, By Kenn Kaufman, 2000
4) Birds of Southern California, by Kimball L. Garrett, Jon L. Dunn, Brian E. Small, 2012
5) Field Guide to the Birds – Western Region, by Donald & Lillian Stokes, 1996
8) Important Bird Areas of California, by Daniel S. Cooper, published by Audubon California, 2004
10) Western Birds, by Roger Tory Peterson, 1990

STANDARDIZED 4- AND 6-LETTER BIRD SPECIES CODES
https://www.birdpop.org/pages/birdSpeciesCodes.php
Garden Resources On-line: PLANTS

- Annie’s Annuals & Perennials [http://www.anniesannuals.com](http://www.anniesannuals.com)
- Calflora [http://www.calflora.org/index0.html](http://www.calflora.org/index0.html)
- CalPhotos Plants [http://calphotos.berkeley.edu/flora/](http://calphotos.berkeley.edu/flora/)
- Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery [https://www.arroyoseco.org/nursery.htm](https://www.arroyoseco.org/nursery.htm)
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center [Austin, Texas-based center; website includes image gallery and native plants database](http://www.wildflower.org)
- Las Pilitas Nursery (San Juan Capistrano) [http://laspilitas.com/](http://laspilitas.com/) (on-line or open Fri/Sat Only)
- Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden [http://www.manhattanbeachbotanicalgarden.org/MBBGPLantlist.html](http://www.manhattanbeachbotanicalgarden.org/MBBGPLantlist.html)
- Native Sons Nursery [http://nativeson.com/plants.htm](http://nativeson.com/plants.htm)
- Ocean Friendly Gardens (Surfrider) [https://www.surfrider.org/programs/ocean-friendly-gardens](https://www.surfrider.org/programs/ocean-friendly-gardens)
- Plant Native [http://www.plantnative.org/nd_ca.htm](http://www.plantnative.org/nd_ca.htm)
- Santa Barbara Botanic Garden [https://www.sbbg.org/](https://www.sbbg.org/)
- Sunset [http://plantfinder.sunset.com/sunset/plant-home.jsp](http://plantfinder.sunset.com/sunset/plant-home.jsp)
The Positive Affects of Soil, Plants ....and Gardening in general on the human body

- https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/soil-fertilizers/antidepressant-microbes-soil.htm
- https://gq.com/993258/dirt-has-a-microbiome-and-it-may-double-as-an-antidepressant/
- https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/66840.php

http://growfood-notlawns.com/
Bird, Tree and Garden Books

1) "A CALIFORNIAN’S GUIDE TO THE TREES AMONG US", by Matt Ritter
2) "AN INTRODUCTION TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BUTTERFLIES", by Fred Heath and Herbert Clarke
3) "BRINGING NATURE HOME How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants", by Douglas Tallamy
4) "CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS FOR THE GARDEN", by Carol Bornstein, David Fross and Bart O’Brien
5) "DESIGNING CALIFORNIA NATIVE GARDENS”, by Glenn Keator and Alrie Middlebrook
6) "FLOWERING PLANTS The Santa Monica Mountains Coastal & Chaparral Regions of Southern California", by Nancy Dale and California Native Plant Society
7) "GARDENING WITH A WILD HEART Restoring California’s Landscapes at Home”, by Judith Larner Lowry
9) “HOW TO BE A (BAD) BIRDWATCHER”, by Simon Barnes
10) “INSECTS OF THE LOS ANGELES BASIN”, by Charles L. Hogue
11) "KINGBIRD HIGHWAY: The Biggest Year in the Life of an Extreme Birder”, by Kenn Kaufman
12) "NATIVE TREASURES, GARDENING WITH THE PLANTS OF CALIFORNIA”, by M. Nevin Smith
13) “REIMAGING THE CALIFORNIA LAWN Water-conserving Plants, Practices, and Designs” by Carol Bornstein, David Fross, and Bart O’Brien
14) “SONGBIRD JOURNEYS Four Seasons in the Lives of Migratory Birds”, by Miyoko Chu
15) “TENDING THE WILD”, by M. Kat Anderson
16) “THE GENIUS OF BIRDS”, by Jennifer Ackerman
17) “THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES What They Feel, How They Communicate”, by Peter Wohlleben
18) “THE LANDSCAPING IDEAS OF JAYS A Natural History of the Backyard Restoration Garden”, by Judith Larner Lowry
19) “THE SECRET LIFE OF TREES: HOW THEY LIVE AND WHY THEY MATTER”, by Colin Tudge
20) “THE SINGING LIFE OF BIRDS The Art and Science of Listening to Birdsong”, by Donald Kroodsma
21) “THE SOIL WILL SAVE US How Scientists, Farmers, and Foodies are Healing the Soil to Save the Planet”, by Kristin Ohlson
22) “THE SONGS OF TREES Stories From Nature’s Great Connectors”, by David George Haskell
23) “TREES AND SHRUBS OF CALIFORNIA”, by John D. Stuart and John O. Sawyer
24) “TREES IN PARADISE A California Story”, by Jared Farmer
25) “WILDFLOWERS OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS”, by Milt McAuley
The Bird Connection


C. Audubon’s Birds and Climate Change Report - September 2014: http://climate.audubon.org/

D. Bird Checklist for Southern California – use this to create your own:


F. Birding (Yes, Birding) Is a Multi-Billion Dollar Ecotourism Industry: https://www.thedailybeast.com/birding-yes-birding-is-a-multi-billion-dollar-ecotourism-industry

G. BRINGING NATURE HOME: HOW NATIVE PLANTS SUSTAIN WILDLIFE IN OUR GARDENS:
   http://bringingnaturehome.net/book


I. Christmas Bird Count (CBC) 2019/2020 – do a count for your area with a local Audubon Chapter:
   https://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count

J. eBird – a great way to capture your data and compare with others around the world: http://ebird.org/content/ebird/

The Bird Connection… continued

L. Gardening For Life, article by Douglas Tallamy: http://www.for-wild.org/download/tallamy/gardeningforlife.html
N. HOW BIRDS KEEP OUR WORLD SAFE FROM THE PLAGUES OF INSECTS:
   http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/Fact_Sheets/default.cfm?fxsht=2
O. iNaturalist – a great way to share your observations with others from around the world: http://www.inaturalist.org/
P. LA County Birds Yahoo Group – to keep up on local sightings: https://groups.yahoo.com/group/LACoBirds/
Q. Mobile Phone Apps: Audubon California Birds, iBird PRO, Sibley Life, Merlin Bird ID
S. IMPACT OF NATIVE PLANTS on Bird and Butterfly Biodiversity in Suburban Landscapes:
We need trees -- they clean our air, cool our communities and are the home for wildlife that call LA’s hills home.

https://www.treepeople.org/treedeath
Southern California’s trees are dying. Research Foresters monitoring the die-off predict 38% of urban trees in communities and neighborhoods in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange Counties could be gone. This is a real crisis for ALL Angelenos.

https://www.treepeople.org/treedeath
Recommended Reading About Trees

- The Simple Act of Planting a Tree: Healing Your Neighborhood, Your City, and Your World
- A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us
- Trees in Paradise: A California History
16 places to go to see Native Gardens:

1. Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook Park, Culver City
2. Ballona Wetlands – Discovery Park, Playa Vista
3. Ballona Wetlands – Ecological Reserve (Fresh and Salt Water Marshes)
4. Ballona Wetlands – Freshwater Marsh, near Playa del Rey
5. CSU Dominguez Hills Discovery Garden, Carson
6. Debs Park Audubon Center, near downtown LA
7. Eaton Canyon Natural Area, Pasadena
8. El Dorado Nature Center, Long Beach
9. Gardena Willows, Gardena
10. Kenneth Hahn Recreation Area (Native Plant and Wildlife Garden)
11. Madrona Marsh Preserve, Torrance (Native plant garden around Center and on Preserve)
12. Malibu Lagoon, Malibu
13. Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden, Manhattan Beach
14. Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden, Rancho Santa Ana
15. South Coast Botanical Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula
16. Theodore Payne Foundation (native plants and trails), Sun Valley
Links to 24 “local” places to hike, see birds, plants and wildlife:

1. Angel's Gate Friendship Park  [http://www.sanpedro.com/sp_point/agrecent.htm](http://www.sanpedro.com/sp_point/agrecent.htm)
2. Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook Park  [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=22790](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=22790)
12. Kenneth Hahn Recreation Area  [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=612](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=612)
18. Point Vicente Interpretive Center (Rancho Palos Verdes)  [http://www.palosverdes.com/rpv/recreationparks/PointVicenteInterpretiveCenter/index.cfm](http://www.palosverdes.com/rpv/recreationparks/PointVicenteInterpretiveCenter/index.cfm)
22. Topanga Canyon State Park  [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=629](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=629)
13 Favorite “Day Trips” or Overnight

1. Anzo Borrego Desert State Park  [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=638](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=638)
10. Point Vicente Interpretive Center (see whales off the coast)  [http://www.sanpedro.com/sp_point/ptvicic.htm](http://www.sanpedro.com/sp_point/ptvicic.htm)
11. Red Rock Canyon State Park  [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=25204](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=25204)
12. Royal Palms State Beach - aka White Point  (fabulous tide pools)  [http://www.sanpedro.com/sp_point/roylplms.htm](http://www.sanpedro.com/sp_point/roylplms.htm)
Online Information about

Ballona Discovery Park
Located at: 13110 Bluff Creek Drive,
(off Lincoln Boulevard) Playa Vista, CA 90094

Center for Urban Resilience (CURes)
https://academics.lmu.edu/cures/partners/universitycommunity/ballonadiscoverypark/
Friends of Ballona Wetlands
http://www.ballonafriends.org/visit_discovery_park.html

CURes Contact:
(310) 338-5104
CURes@lmu.edu
https://academics.lmu.edu/cures/

Friends Contact:
(310) 306-5994
info@ballonafriends.org
http://www.ballonafriends.org/
Thank you!

Lisa Fimiani, Resident of Los Angeles
Board Member, Friends of Ballona Wetlands  http://www.ballonafriends.org/
Gottlieb Fellow, Loyola Marymount University, Center for Urban Resilience  https://academics.lmu.edu/cures/
Master Gardener and Restoration Specialist, Giardino della Vita  http://giardinodellavita.com/
Wetlands Restoration Principles Coalition Partner  http://wetlandsrestoration.org/

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““The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The second best time is now.”
Anonymous

Very old Oak Tree
(300 years old) on
Sand Canyon Country Club Golf Course
(formerly known as Robinson Ranch Golf Club)
in Santa Clarita, CA