



California Native Plant Society
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

THE BLAZING STAR

July-August 2026

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**A listing of all events, including date and page
number, appears in the Calendar
on the last page**

Save the Dates!

Our Chapter's Fall **Native Plant Sale** will be held at
Hidden Villa in Los Altos Hills on **Saturday, October 24.**

Our Chapter's Fall **Potluck** will be held at Shoup Garden
House in Los Altos on **Saturday, November 7.**

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Seed/Cutting Exchange + Online Plant Sale

Online Sale: July 13-14 [california-native-plant-
society-santa-clara-valley-chapter.square.site](https://california-native-plant-society-santa-clara-valley-chapter.square.site)

Seed and Cutting Exchange

Saturday, July 18 1:00 - 3:00pm

**Peninsula Conservation Center,
3921 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto**

For details on these events, see the Chapter weekly email
news and the Blazing Star article about the May versions
described in the May-June *Blazing Star*. This July-August
issue of the newsletter was published mid-July, after some
July events had already taken place. Also as of press time,
the Chapter website at www.cnps-scv.org is still down.

Native Plant Talks

Join us for our native plant talks, in-person at local libraries
and online via Zoom and YouTube. Whether you're
curious about native plants, an experienced or aspiring
native plant gardener, a professional botanist or beginning
naturalist, you will find something to interest and educate
yourself in our offerings. From gardening to plant science
to climate change to tours of botanical hot spots, there's
something here for you.



Stephanie Morris

Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden in San Jose,
March 2026

**Kirk Park: An Inspiring
Native Plant Pollinator Garden**
A talk by Kathy Kleinsteinber, Michelle
Deandrea and Stephanie Morris

**Sunday, August 16 3:00 - 4:30 PM, Los Gatos
Library, 100 Villa Ave., Los Gatos**

Are you hoping to attract more pollinators to your garden?
Would you like to see California native plants in your local
park? Start planning now so you are ready to plant this fall.

Come be inspired by the thriving plants at Kirk Park in San
Jose and the volunteers behind this local habitat gem. We
will share photos and stories of the garden as we take you

behind the scenes to explain the garden's origins and how it has evolved into the monarch butterfly and pollinator hub it is today, with plants supporting pollinators through all seasons of the year. Learn also how this neighborhood park continues to expand and how local volunteers plant, prune and maintain the garden.



Stephanie Morris

Western brown elfin butterfly on ceanothus, at Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden, March 2026

Kathy Kleinstein founded the Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden with the goal of improving biodiversity in her neighborhood and beyond. Her passion for nature and deep respect for the environmental sciences led her to her role creating, and assisting others to create, pollinator gardens in public parks.

Michelle Deandrea is a regular volunteer at the Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden. She is passionate about the incorporation and artistic pruning of native plants in landscaped gardens to both beautify and boost community ecosystems.

Stephanie Morris is a landscape architect who designs creative, functional and ecological pollinator gardens with California Native Plants. She enjoys giving presentations about special native plant gardens in our area, such as this one at Kirk Park.

Continue the Fun at Our Social Hour

After the presentation, join fellow CNPS members for an informal social gathering at Los Gatos Music in the Park. Miko Marks will perform on the Civic Center Lawn, directly in front of the library, **from 5:00–7:00 pm**. Bring

an appetizer or beverage to share (alcoholic beverages are permitted in the park), and we will walk over together after the talk. It's a great opportunity to enjoy live music and connect with fellow native plant enthusiasts!



Recordings of our virtual talks and some of our library talks may be viewed on our YouTube channel, at www.youtube.com/@CNPSSantaClaraValley. We occasionally schedule additional talks. You can learn about these talks by subscribing to our Chapter News email list. To subscribe, see "Stay in Touch" on page 9.

The organizing committee has periodic meetings on Zoom and welcomes new volunteers. If you have ideas for future talks or are interested in helping set up upcoming talks, please send a message to Priya Pharate at priya4cnps@gmail.com to receive notifications of upcoming meetings. The next quarterly program meetings will be **Mondays, July 13 and, October 12, 7:00 to 8:30pm** on Zoom.

Photography Group

Our Photography Group is a great place to meet other native plant enthusiasts, improve photographic skills and learn more about our native plants and best places to view them. Discussions range from photography tips to organizational ideas to plant hotspots. The group is open to all and has an active email list.



Charley Pow

Backlit by the evening sun, ferns glow along a path under a coast live oak. From left to right, they are western sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*), California polypody (*Polypodium californicum*), western sword fern and coastal wood fern (*Dryopteris arguta*). June 2024

The group has an ongoing **#MyPhotoOfTheWeek** activity on the email list for group members to share their favorite shots with the group on a weekly basis. Charley Pow sent us the above photo of backlit ferns from his Los Altos home. He adds, "To show each fern in focus, I used photo stacking to merge five photos into the final image."

The photo group's meetings usually take place over Zoom on the fourth Friday of the month. Our next meetings will be on **Fridays, July 31 and August 28 at 7:00pm**. You can learn more and join the email group at: www.groups.io/g/cnps-scv-photography.

Native Plant ID Needs You!

Native Plant ID has met once a month since January 2024. For many years prior to the COVID outbreak, the group was known as Keying with Natives. Over the past 2.5 years we have come up with a new format that seems to work well. Our programs have usually consisted of a slide presentation about a group of plants and some of their characteristics used for identification. We also bring in plant samples from that group of plants so that participants can look at them and see the features that have been presented. There are a small group of people who have helped with these presentations including Tom Lee, Bruce Homer-Smith, Janet Hoffmann, Joe Cernac and Stella Yang.

To keep this up, we are looking for people to help with planning future presentations and collecting plant samples. We have a collection of PowerPoint slide shows for several plant groups that presenters can use or modify for their presentations. Any other suggestions that you have for ways that we might modify and continue Plant ID sessions would also be appreciated.

For July, instead of our usual Native Plant ID meeting, we will have a **planning meeting**. This meeting will take place over Zoom, on **Wednesday, July 29 at 7:00pm**. Please tune in to the meeting if you want to help keep the Plant ID group going. Email Janet Hoffmann at janet@cnps-scv.org for the meeting Zoom link.

If you cannot attend but have something to contribute, please **feel free to email Janet with your suggestions**. When we decide on a program for August, we will announce it on our [Chapter Meetup page](#) as well as in the Chapter e-news the week prior to the meeting. To subscribe to the e-news visit www.cnps-scv.org/stay-in-touch.

Chapter Election Results

Thanks to all who voted in our recent Chapter election. Newly elected officers and leaders began serving their terms on June 1 and will continue to serve through May 31, 2027:

Co-President – Priya Pharate

Co-President – Vivian Neou

Vice President – Kim Vrijen

Recording Secretary – Janet Hoffmann

Treasurer – Open

Past President – Madeline Morrow

Chapter Council Delegate – Vivian Neou

The Leadership Development Committee thanks and appreciates all officers and leaders who served for 2025-2026 and those who will be serving in 2026-2027. Our Chapter continues to show itself as vibrant and resilient due to the hard work of so many talented people since our inception in 1972. However, note the open Treasurer position in the list above.

Seeking Chapter Treasurer

To keep our Chapter operating smoothly, we need a Chapter Treasurer. Financial expertise is not necessary for this position; the main prerequisite is the willingness to make the time commitment to learn our bookkeeping procedures. We have past treasurers on our Finance Committee who will help with the training process. You can find the **complete job description** at: www.cnps-scv.org/treasurer. If you or anyone whom you know would be interested in helping the Chapter as Treasurer, please contact the Leadership Development Committee Interim Chair, Radhika Thekkath, at cnpsradhika@gmail.com.

We want to thank everyone who provided feedback on their election ballot forms. The current Chapter leaders and chairs appreciated the positive reinforcement that several people shared. We are working on incorporating suggestions like including more advance notice for events in our Chapter weekly CNPS-SCV News.

To see the full list of Chapter officers and chairs, please visit www.cnps-scv.org/leadership.



Priya Pharate

Barbara Hunt receiving her Chapter Volunteer Spotlight Award from Chapter Co-President Vivian Neou, October 2025

Volunteer Spotlight Award for Barbara Hunt

The Chapter presented Barbara Hunt with the Spotlight Award in recognition of her many years of volunteering. (This is a long-overdue article acknowledging Barbara's award).

Barbara has been a tireless volunteer for our Chapter. Over the years, she has volunteered for many Chapter activities: the Growing Natives Garden Tour (GNGT), our native plant nursery, restoration at Alum Rock Park, tabling as an outreach volunteer and many other Chapter events.

Barbara was a Master Gardener and was very active in that organization, including being co-chair of three Spring Garden Fairs. This led to her volunteering for the GNGT starting in 2011. She joined the GNGT Steering Committee in 2015. In 2016, she began coordinating new garden evaluations. This work included recruiting volunteers and designers for garden evaluations, contacting garden owners and then scheduling the evaluations. She was one of the

volunteers who would visit gardens to determine suitability for the garden tour. Barbara also started setting up monthly garden previews for garden owners and GNGT volunteers. She also helped with contacting and recruiting sponsors. **Three** people are taking over her work after she retired from the GNGT committee!

She volunteered with Steve Rosenthal for restoration at Alum Rock Park and helped set up the plant propagation in a tiny greenhouse. She set up irrigation and made repairs and upgrades as needed.

She started volunteering at our CNPS SCV nursery over a decade ago. She was also a member of our Wildflower Show organizing committee for over four years.

Barbara's enthusiasm for native plants and good cheer will be missed as she retires.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Conservation Committee

Our Chapter's next Conservation Committee meetings will be held over Zoom on third **Mondays, July 20 and August 17**, from **7:00 to 8:30pm**.



Vivian Neou

Barbara Hunt, hands and teeth full, at the CNPS-SCV Nursery, preparing for the fall 2025 native plant sale

This committee covers many issues affecting native plants: conservation, advocacy, legislation, habitat restoration and rare plants. The committee meets once a month to provide information and support for these conservation issues and efforts. Members of our committee work on projects throughout the Chapter area, coordinating with our state CNPS program staff and other conservation organizations.

Please join us in our important work! For questions, comments or concerns, contact Committee Chair Carolyn Dorsch at cdorsch@cnps-scv.org or (650) 804-6162, or Conservation Chair Judy Fenerty at judy@fenerty.com. If you are interested in joining our committee meetings on Zoom, please email Carolyn for the link.

Biodiversity in Urban Gardens: The CNPS BUG Study Has Begun

Attention community scientists! Help CNPS gather data about how our native wildlife uses our urban native plants.

Biodiversity in Urban Gardens, aka BUG, is a CNPS community science initiative that officially launched on May 26, 2026. It consists of both a statewide initiative open to all, and a Santa Clara Valley-specific component, called the Paired Garden study, which is being conducted by trained research partners.

All you need to participate is access to California native plants in an urban or suburban garden and a free iNaturalist account. The statewide BUG initiative consists of two components: the California Public Gardens Project and the California Home and Neighborhood Gardens Project. Start by joining the following two projects in iNaturalist:

- Biodiversity in Urban Gardens: California Public Gardens
- Biodiversity in Urban Gardens: California Home & Neighborhood Gardens

Participating at a BUG-defined public garden is simple. Once you have joined the BUG public gardens project, just make an iNaturalist observation of native wildlife on a native plant in the garden, share the observation with the iNaturalist community and your observation will be automatically added to the project.

Observations taken anywhere else in California require that you explicitly put each observation into the BUG home and neighborhood gardens project and answer three simple questions. For more information, please see the instructions on the BUG website: www.cnps.org/bug.

Here is a list of the current **BUG-defined public gardens** in our Chapter area. If you know of another public garden that you think should be added, please [fill out this form](#) to suggest the garden.

San Jose

Bramhall Park Native Garden - By lawn bowling court
Cahalan Park Native Garden - Corner of Cahalan and Pearlwood and near playground

Cataldi Park Native Garden - Near parking lot at west end of park

Clarice Drive Native Garden - Across from K.R. Smith Elementary School

Emma Prusch Farm Park Native Garden Wheel

Houge Park Native Plant Garden - North and south of parking lot

Jeffrey Fontana Park Native Gardens (Five Islands) - Between Meridian and dog park

Kirk Park Native Plant Gardens - North edge of park

Lake Cunningham Native Garden - At east end of lake

Solari Park Native Garden - At Cas and Cedro

UC Master Gardener Martial Cottle Park Community Education Center: California Native Gardens

UC Master Gardener Martial Cottle Park: Pollinator Pathway Garden

Los Gatos/Saratoga/Mountain View

Cuesta Gateway Pollinator Garden - Mountain View

Oak Hill Play Lot Native Garden - Los Gatos

West Valley College: Moon Garden

West Valley College: Dawn Redwood Area of Ecosystem Garden

West Valley College: Senses Garden

Peninsula

Bol Park - Palo Alto

Gamble Garden: Native Plant Garden - Palo Alto

Hopkins Avenue Pollinator Garden - Palo Alto

Primrose Way Pollinator Garden - Palo Alto

San Carlos Native Plant Habitat Garden - At San Carlos City Buildings

The **Paired Garden study** is being conducted at five local gardens, each with a native and a non-native garden that are being studied as a pair. The gardens in the study are at the following locations:

Emma Prush Farm Park in San Jose

Martial Cottle Park in San Jose

Kirk Park in San Jose

West Valley College in Saratoga

Gambel Garden in Palo Alto.

Research partners for the Paired Garden study are already chosen for this year's pilot project, but there may be opportunities to participate next year. Please stay tuned for future updates.

Note that our CNPS Chapter provided seed money to the state CNPS in 2025 to help this project come into being. Please consider supporting the project by providing iNaturalist observations to the statewide project. It is fun to hunt for pollinators among our native plants!

CHAPTER SERVICE OUTINGS

Alum Rock Park Restoration

Come help us weed non-native, invasive plants at this natural gem of San Jose. Our habitat restoration efforts allow the native plants to “come to light.”

Our workdays take place every **Monday and Wednesday at 8:30am**, and on the **second Saturday morning at 8:45am** of each month. No experience is necessary. All tools and instruction will be provided. Please bring a filled water bottle, snacks, sunscreen, sunhat and insect repellent if you need it; wear trail/off-trail footwear, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt.

Forms and reservations are required to volunteer. Start by filling out the “Volunteer Service Agreement Form” linked from the following web page:

www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/parks-recreation-neighborhood-services/get-involved/volunteer-with-us. Bring your completed form with you at the meeting spot at the beginning of each workday. The workdays **end at noon**.

To reserve your spot to volunteer, **for the Saturday workdays sign up** with the City of San Jose at the Eventbrite link for the 2nd Saturday on which you are interested in attending. **The link for the August 8 workday is here**. The link provides event details including where to park. To find sign-up links for future 2nd Saturday events, visit www.eventbrite.com and search for “alum rock park” in “San Jose.”

If you have trouble finding the form or signing up at the City’s website, please contact Todd Hayes at the email address below. The City’s Adopt-a-Park program is understaffed and a Saturday event may be cancelled.

For the Monday and Wednesday workdays, the crew is typically made up of long-term volunteers for this project. The meeting spot varies, so to join the crew on one of their workdays, please **contact Todd Hayes at ultratoddh@gmail.com for more information, to register and instructions on where to park**. Note on rare occasions we may cancel due to weather or dangerous conditions. Don’t forget to bring your filled out Volunteer Service Agreement Form for the City of San Jose.

Lake Cunningham Native Garden

The California Native Garden project in Lake Cunningham Regional Park controls invasive plants in a 2-acre area and

beautifies it with California native wildflowers, perennials, shrubs and trees.

Workdays take place on **Saturdays from 8:00 to 10:00am**. New volunteers are welcome; City-issued guidelines are followed. The work depends on the season, mainly weeding and mulching year-round, but some planting in winter. For **details, directions, a waiver for first-timers and to RSVP**, see our Chapter’s Meetup page at www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter.

Edgewood Restoration

Help restore habitat at Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve, near Redwood City, known for fabulous wildflowers and amazing diversity. Weeders see far more than weeds: they get to be up close to the native plants, some of which are seen **only** by weeders.

Sturdy gloves are recommended; you might also want to bring sunscreen, water, a hat, layered clothing and wear long sleeves/pants. We weed **every Friday at 9:00am and every Wednesday at 5:30pm**. For an overview, please visit www.cnps-scv.org/restoration/edgewood-park.

To participate, join the email list and sign the electronic volunteer agreement, by sending an email to weed-warriors-coord@friendsofthewood.org. Please check the email list for each weeding session’s meeting place. For questions about **Friday** sessions, contact Paul Heiple at pheiple@gmail.com or (650) 854-7125. For questions about **Wednesday** sessions, contact Alf Fengler at afengler@pacbell.net.



Tilak

Black walnut trees at the edge of Cataldi Park Native Plant Garden, **AFTER** volunteers removed a massive thicket of weeds and sheet mulched the area. July 2026

Cataldi Park Native Garden

Join us to restore habitat in San Jose's Cataldi Park. This project aims to remove invasive plants and restore California native plants in a 1/2-acre area on the western end of Cataldi Park in San Jose.



Tilak

Cataldi Park Native Garden, area behind the picnic bench, BEFORE the volunteers cleared this massive area of weeds and sheet-mulched it. Compare with the AFTER photo at the bottom of the previous page. April 2026

Volunteer workdays take place on **Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00am**. New volunteers are welcome; City-issued guidelines are followed. Wear a hat and garden shoes and bring water to stay hydrated. Work gloves will be provided.

For details, directions, a waiver for first-timers and to RSVP, visit our Chapter's Meetup page at www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter.

Activities depend on the season. We start planting in late fall after the first rain and continue into the winter months as needed. Spring is the time for controlling weeds and taking care of the young saplings. During the summer and early fall, we irrigate/water the plants, prune established plants and sheet mulch adjacent areas in preparation for planting.

In June, volunteers continued sheet mulching the area to the north of the existing garden. They also expanded the mulched area. Shown in the photo above is an area overgrown with weeds (Italian thistle, curly dock and mustard), BEFORE the volunteers cleared the weeds.

Clearing the brush has also reduced fire risk within the park.

The area just south of the native garden has become overgrown with wild mustard plants that are now flowering and about to go to seed. If allowed to go to seed, it would become more difficult to control these weeds in the coming years, not only in the native garden but all over the park.

The weeds in this area are mowed down by the City, typically at the end of the summer when the weeds have already gone to seed. Our goal is to break that cycle by removing the weeds *before* they go to seed and applying sheet mulching to control the existing seeds in the ground.

The volunteers have started working to clear this next area of weeds, and we plan to annex this area into the native garden.

Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden

Community volunteers regularly care for this native plant garden. We are always happy to have help at the garden! **We meet regularly on Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00am**, weather permitting, for light maintenance such as weeding, watering; and occasionally we have plants or seeds to plant or mulch to spread. If you would like to help out, please sign up for our **Saturday** workdays on the [CNPS-SCV Meetup page](#). The garden is located along the north edge of Kirk Park in San Jose. Park along Briarwood Drive near Wawona Drive.

July is a great time to see pollinators in the garden! Our local furry bumble bees love the California poppies that are still blooming in a large patch near Briarwood Drive. Stop and watch as they roll around in the blooms, gathering pollen for their young. Then stroll toward the back of the park and you will likely see monarch butterflies flitting about in the milkweed and other flowers, bringing joy and hope to the human park visitors. Come see what you can discover in the garden!

Wildlife in the Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden

Images taken June 12-27, 2026



Captions and credits: left to right, top row first then bottom row:

Masked Bee on California Buckwheat

© Joe MDO – some rights reserved cc-by-nc

Unidentified Bee on Chaparral Mallow

© Lisa DiGirolamo – some rights reserved cc-by-nc

Furrow Bee on Gumplant

© Karenhurst – some rights reserved cc-by-nc

Fiery Skipper on Black Sage

© terence_lee – some rights reserved cc-by-nc

Flame Skipper on Toyon

© sm-almaden – some rights reserved cc-by-nc

Western Tiger Swallowtail on Coyote Mint

© Yvonne Blanchard – some rights reserved cc-by-nc

FIELD TRIPS

Chapter field trips are free and generally open to the public. They are oriented to conservation, protection and enjoyment of California native plants and wildlife and we adhere to all rules and guidelines for the lands on which we are visiting.

In our region it is very important to be prepared for hiking on rugged and steep terrain, wide temperature ranges and rapidly changing conditions at any time of

year. All participants should wear sturdy footwear and carry sufficient water, sun protection, food, clothing layers, personal first aid and other supplies you may need. If you have any questions about your ability to participate in a particular field trip, please contact the trip leader in advance.

Cell service is mainly restricted to cities and major highways. To find your way to an outing, please do not rely solely on your phone.

Check our field trips page www.cnps-scv.org/activities/field-trips for changes and cancellations, as well as information about newly added field trips.

Thu Jul 2 – Jul 6 – Ebbett's Pass, Alpine Lake and Calaveras Big Trees State Park - Cabin in Arnold

Fred and Patricia Evans invite you to join them at their cabin in Arnold for three days of wildflower hikes over the July 4 weekend. Arrive July 2, hike July 3-6 and travel home on July 5 pm or July 6. Cost is \$20/person to cover housecleaning.

We will be hiking part of the Pacific Crest Trail at Ebbett's pass on Friday, July 3. It will be spring/early summer at this elevation (8,736 ft) and the wildflowers should be great. On Saturday, July 4, we will hike near Alpine Lake (half way to Ebbett's Pass) and on Sunday July 5 we will hike (half day) at Calaveras Big Trees State Park (nice meadow there) very near Arnold. This itinerary is subject to change, depending on weather and conditions.

The cabin sleeps 13 in beds (with 7 in a dorm) and there are two futons, room for tents on the porch or in the yard and two small RVs or vans can hook to electricity in the driveway. Dinners will be potluck and popcorn is provided.

This trip is **open to CNPS members only**. Registration is required. For more information or to **reserve your spot**, contact Patricia at patriciaevans28@gmail.com or call (650) 949-2801.

NEWSLETTER, ETC.

Stay in Touch!

Some late-breaking events don't make it into the newsletter and are announced electronically. Stay informed by making sure that your contact information is correct. Please visit www.cnps-scv.org/stay-in-touch for information on how you can continue to receive email to stay informed.

This *Blazing Star* newsletter is published online only, at www.cnps-scv.org/blazing-star-newsletter.



Stephanie Morris

Heuchera maxima (Island alum root) and *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus* 'Frosty Blue' in Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden, San Jose, March 2026. Learn how this garden came to be, by attending the Native Plant Talk described on page 1.

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP FOR 2026-2027

Title	Name	Email
Co-President	Priya Pharate	priya4cnps@gmail.com
Co-President	Vivian Neou	techchair@cnps-scv.org
Vice President	Kim Vrijen	Kim_vrijen@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary	Janet Hoffmann	janet@cnps-scv.org
Treasurer	OPEN	
Interim Treasurer	Brett Tucker	treasurer@cnps-scv.org
Chapter Council Delegate	Vivian Neou	techchair@cnps-scv.org
Past President	Madeline Morrow	madeline@cnps-scv.org

To see the full list of Chapter officers and chairs, please visit www.cnps-scv.org/leadership.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT *BLAZING STAR*

Saturday, August 15

carol.mattsson@gmail.com or (408) 309-8314

ONGOING HABITAT RESTORATION AND NATIVE PLANT GARDEN PROJECTS

Join volunteers at your favorite parks to work on projects that help restore or create habitat for native fauna. Projects include planting California natives, trail maintenance and of course, plenty of weed pulling! Contact the listed organizations for details. "CNPS SCV" indicates a project of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of CNPS.

Alum Rock Park (CNPS SCV) – San Jose

Monday, Wednesday and some Saturday mornings. See article on page 6.

Cataldi Park Native Garden (CNPS SCV)

– San Jose

Saturday mornings. See article on page 7.

Edgewood County Park (CNPS SCV) – Redwood City

Wednesday evenings and Friday mornings. See article on page 6.

Grassroots Ecology

Volunteer to restore the biodiversity of local grassland, forest, wetland and creekside ecosystems at our habitat restoration projects in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

Visit www.grassrootsecology.org/calendar to choose an event, then register to volunteer. More events are added each month. volunteer@grassrootsecology.org or (650) 419-9880.

Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful – San Jose

Help restore Coyote Creek by joining us to remove trash and non-native plants, plant native plants and advocate for a healthy Coyote Creek. Choose an event from www.KeepCoyoteCreekBeautiful.org/events1. Jessica Ruppert, jessica@keepcoyotecreekbeautiful.org or (408) 755-6159.

Kirk Park Native Pollinator Garden (CNPS SCV) – San Jose

Saturday mornings. See article on page 7.

Lake Cunningham Park Native Garden (CNPS SCV) – San Jose

Saturday mornings. See article on page 6.

Magic – Planting for the Second Hundred Years

Plant and care for oaks and other California natives in local open space and at Magic's Palo Alto facility.

Saturday mornings and Tuesday afternoons. For details

and to sign up, contact oaks@ecomagic.org. www.ecomagic.org/projects.

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Projects include invasive plant removal, planting native vegetation, trail maintenance and fence repairs. Visit Midpen's Land Steward page at



Ellen Gartside

CNPS Edgewood Weeders pose during a special yellow star-thistle workday in Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve, hosted by Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, September 2025

volunteer.openspace.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=121115 to learn more, choose an event and register for it. Catherine Caldwell at ccaldwell@openspace.org 650-772-3708

San Bruno Mountain Watch

Restore remarkable ecosystems on San Bruno Mountain and nearby. Weeding, planting, collect seeds and cuttings for the nursery: Check volunteer events web page for workday details and to sign up:

www.mountainwatch.org/upcomingevents. info@mountainwatch.org (415) 467-6631.

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

Land Steward volunteers assist Authority staff with trail maintenance, habitat restoration, fencing and cleanup projects. Learn more at

www.openspaceauthority.galaxydigital.com or contact Jeanette Mayorga at jmayorga@openspaceauthority.org (408) 410-1563.

Santa Clara Valley Chapter California Native Plant Society
3921 East Bayshore Road, Suite #205
Palo Alto, CA 94303-4326



Join CNPS Today!

Members receive the *Artemisia* and *Flora* magazines, the Chapter newsletter and other benefits listed at www.cnps.org/membership.

I wish to affiliate with the Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____ ☐ New ☐ Renew

Suggested Membership Amounts

☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$120 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other (\$25 min.)

Send Membership Application to:

California Native Plant Society

Attn: Membership

2702 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5130

For memberships for organizations or to become a Perennial monthly sustainer, contact www.cnps.org.

First-Class Mail

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (page # in parentheses)

Jul 2-6 Thu-Mon Ebbett's Pass away field trip (8)
Jul 13-14 Mon-Tue Online native plant sale (1)
Jul 18 Sat Cutting and Seed Exchange + pickup (1)
Jul 20 Mon Conservation Committee meeting (4)
Jul 29 Wed Native Plant ID meeting (3)
Jul 31 Fri Photo Group photo sharing (2)
Aug 15 Sat **Newsletter submittal deadline** (9)
Aug 16 Sun Kirk Park Pollinator Garden Talk (1)

Aug 17 Mon Conservation Committee meeting (4)
Aug 28 Fri Photo Group photo sharing (2)
Mon & Wed, 2nd Sat Alum Rock Park workdays (6)
Saturdays Lake Cunningham Garden workdays (6)
Wed & Fri Edgewood restoration workdays (6)
Saturdays Cataldi Park Garden workdays (7)
Saturdays Kirk Pollinator Garden workdays (7)

The next Chapter board meetings will be held on **Thursday August 20 at 7:00pm** over Zoom.

There will be **no July board** meeting. Board meetings are open to all Chapter members and their guests.

For more information contact Priya Pharate at priya4cnps@gmail.com or Vivian Neou at techchair@cnps-sev.org.

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The Society, working with its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding and to preserve the rich heritage of the native flora for future generations. Membership is open to all. Individual memberships start at \$50.00 per year. If you have questions about your newsletter subscription, please contact info@cnps-sev.org. Address changes may be submitted to membership@cnps.org. Please put "address change" in the subject line.

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