



PLANT NATIVE

Your Guide To Growing
Native Plant Species
Of the Coachella Valley

PRODUCED BY



**Friends of the
Desert Mountains**

DESERTMOUNTAINS.ORG

Thank you for planting native plants, Coachella Valley.



People often think that the idea of land conservation and protecting native species and habitat is a monumental task. Planting native is an excellent way to start. It's better for the environment, saves water, encourages local flora and fauna to flourish ... and reduces invasive species.

We thank you for taking this small step on the journey to caring for our desert lands.



CONNECT TO THE LAND WITH FRIENDS!

Friends of the Desert Mountains
51-500 Highway 74
Palm Desert, CA 92260
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DesertMountains.org



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Thank You to Our Partners!



This project is funded by the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy's Climate, Resilience and Community Access Grant Program, administered by the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy, a state agency within the California Natural Resources Agency.



CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT
SOCIETY



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Introduction to Native Plants

Native plants are plants that originated in a certain region and have evolved over many generations to survive in their local environment.



This planting guide contains information about native plants found throughout the Coachella Valley. These plants have adapted to their environment over thousands of years in order to survive our hot and dry desert conditions.



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Why should we plant native species?

Planting native plants can be a very effective and affordable way to help our local species thrive while they face the challenges of climate change and human development.



We hope this guide helps you learn more about Coachella Valley native plants so that you can join the movement to restore and protect our native species while helping to improve our environment and take care of our natural resources.



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Languages



Plants in this guide are listed
with 4 names:

English in Large Bold

Scientific name in italics

Spanish name in small letters

Cahuilla name in small bold



Example



HONEY
MESQUITE

Honey Mesquite

Neltuma glandulosa

Mesquite Dulce

ily



**SPANISH TRANSLATION PROVIDED BY EDELI REYES, TRANSLATION
SPECIALIST FOR FRIENDS OF THE DESERT MOUNTAINS**

**CAHUILLA TRANSLATION PROVIDED BY SIENNA THOMAS, BOARD
MEMBER AT FRIENDS OF THE DESERT MOUNTAINS**



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Symbols

Plants in this guide are also listed with symbols related to their benefits and traits

HABITAT

Bee Habitat 

Butterfly Habitat 

Hummingbird Habitat 

Bird Habitat 

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun 

Part Shade 

WATER USAGE

Low Water Use 

Moderate Water Use 

High Water Use 

CONSUMPTION/TOOLS

Food Source 

Medicinal 

Toxic** 

Tools 



**EVERY PERSON/PET REACTS DIFFERENTLY TO DIFFERENT PLANTS. ALWAYS USE CARE WHEN HANDLING NEW PLANTS THAT YOUR BODY HAS NOT BEEN EXPOSED TO IN THE PAST

Benefits of Native Planting



1

Water Conservation



MANY OF OUR NATIVE PLANTS HAVE EVOLVED OVER THOUSANDS OF YEARS TO LIVE OFF OF MINIMAL WATER SUPPLIES IN THE DESERT.

USING THESE PLANTS IN OUR LANDSCAPING CAN HELP US DRASTICALLY REDUCE THE WATER USED IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.

2

Biodiversity



NATIVE PLANTS WILL HELP PROVIDE FOOD AND HABITAT FOR THE NATIVE WILDLIFE THAT THEY HAVE EVOLVED WITH FOR MANY GENERATIONS.

THESE HABITAT RELATIONSHIPS ARE IMPORTANT TO CONSERVE IN ORDER TO HAVE A HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM.



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Benefits of Native Planting



3

Urban Greening/ Climate Resilience



USING LARGE NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS CAN BE AN INEXPENSIVE WAY OF BUILDING OUT THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE WE NEED TO BE CLIMATE RESILIENT.



NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS CAN THRIVE WITH MINIMAL WATER AND CREATE SHADE THAT HAS COOLING EFFECTS ON OUR YARDS AND PAVEMENT.

4

Food Sources



MANY OF OUR NATIVE PLANTS HAVE BEEN A FOOD SOURCE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS TO THE LOCAL INDIGENOUS POPULATION, THE CAHUILLA.



SOME NATIVE FOODS IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY INCLUDE PRICKLY PEAR (FRUIT AND CACTUS ARE EDIBLE), PALO VERDE BEANS, AND MESQUITE FLOWER.



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Benefits of Native Planting

5

Medicine



THE LOCAL CAHUILLA TRIBES HAVE ALSO USED MANY OF OUR NATIVE PLANTS AS MEDICINE FOR MANY GENERATIONS

ONE PLANT THAT IS WIDELY USED IN BOTH THE CAHUILLA COMMUNITY AS WELL AS THE MEXICAN COMMUNITY IS THE CREOSOTE BUSH OR "LA GOBERNADORA"

6

Tools and Resources



THE CAHUILLA TRIBES HAVE MANY USES FOR THE DIFFERENT STEMS AND FIBERS OF OUR NATIVE PLANTS

MANY STRUCTURES WERE MADE OUT OF PALM FRONDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA FAN PALM, OR "MAUL" IN CAHUILLA. THEY ALSO USED THE FIBERS FROM THE YUCCA PLANT TO MAKE CLOTHING AND BASKETS



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Trees



DESERT
IRONWOOD



Desert Ironwood

Olneya tesota

Palo Fierro

The Desert Ironwood is a rare, long-lived tree native to the Sonoran Desert, with some trees reaching around 800 years old. It serves as a nurse plant, providing shade for other flora and fauna. When incorporating a Desert Ironwood into your landscape, avoid overwatering and limit pruning to no more than 20% during the dormant season to prevent tree death.



BLUE PALO
VERDE



Blue Palo Verde

Parkinsonia florida

Palo Verde Azul

u'uwet/ankichem

The blue palo verde supports various insects, like native bees, and provides nesting for desert birds. Its name reflects its bluish-green bark, which allows for low-level photosynthesis, enabling the tree to drop leaves during dry seasons to conserve water. In landscaping, avoid overwatering, as it can cause root rot and reduce lifespan; infrequent deep watering every 3 to 4 weeks during dry periods is recommended.



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Trees



HONEY
MESQUITE



Honey Mesquite

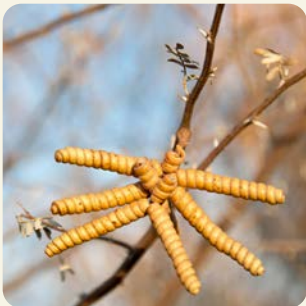
Neltuma glandulosa

(Formerly *Prosopis glandulosa*)

Mesquite Dulce

ily

The honey mesquite is a rapidly growing tree that can reach heights of up to 50 feet, boasting a taproot that extends up to 160 feet underground to access water. This tree produces seed pods that are not only important for wildlife, but also hold significant value for indigenous tribes. To enhance wildlife habitat, consider allowing the tree to develop a thicket by reducing your pruning efforts.



SCREWBEAN
MESQUITE



Screwbean Mesquite

Strombocarpa pubescens

(Formerly *Prosopis pubescens*)

Tornillo

qwinyal

This species exhibits numerous similarities in flower type, color, and overall tree appearance with the honey mesquite. However, its seed pods are distinctly different, featuring tightly twisted shapes. Like other legumes, this tree modifies the soil composition beneath its canopy, enriching it with essential nutrients, including nitrogen.



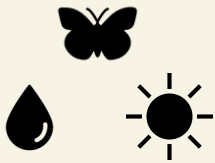
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Trees



SMOKE TREE



Smoke Tree

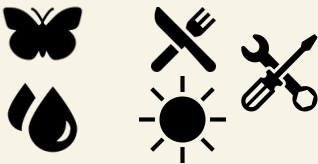
Psorodendron spinosum

Palo de Humo

The common name of this tree is derived from its unique appearance. From afar, it resembles a plume of smoke due to its shape and grayish hue. This species is vital for native bees and other pollinators, making it a fantastic accent in your garden or landscape. If you're looking to add summer-blooming plants to your garden, this is the perfect choice, as it produces a stunning display of purple flowers.



DESERT WILLOW



Desert Willow

Chilopsis linearis

Mimbre

qaankish

The Desert Willow resembles true willows in leaf shape but is not a true willow. Numerous cultivars exhibit various flower colors, leaf sizes, and seed pod quantities. It is visited by various pollinators from hummingbirds to butterflies while also supporting other wildlife. It is winter deciduous, so there's no need to be concerned if it seems to be lifeless in the winter.



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Trees



CALIFORNIA FAN
PALM



California Fan Palm

Washingtonia filifera

Palma Abanico

maul

The California fan palm is the only palm species native to the Western United States. Once established, it doesn't need much water. Its dead leaves do not drop; instead, they droop down, creating a protective skirt around the trunk while also offering shelter for wildlife.



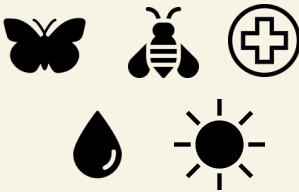
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Shrubs



CREOSOTE
BUSH



Creosote Bush

Larrea tridentata

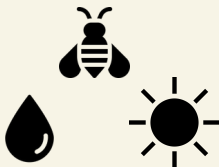
Gobernadora

atukul

Creosote is a prominent shrub found throughout our desert region and other deserts in North America, including the Mojave. It supports a diverse range of pollinators, hosting over 120 native bee species, many of which are specialized in creosote pollen. This makes it an essential addition to any native plant garden.



DESERT
LAVENDER



Desert Lavender

Condea emoryi

Salvia del Desierto

nishxily

The white color of the plant reflects sunlight, aiding in temperature regulation. Its hairy leaves capture moisture, minimizing water loss. Being part of the mint family, it emits a delightful fragrance. With its tall, upright growth habit, it can serve as an informal hedge for privacy while requiring less upkeep compared to a traditional hedge.



Shrubs



JOJOBA



Jojoba

Simmondsia chinensis

Jojoba
qawnaxal

The jojoba plant is dioecious, meaning that male and female flowers grow on separate plants. Female flowers will only produce seeds if there is a nearby male flower plant. Additionally, jojoba can be utilized to create attractive hedges around your home.



OCOTILLO



Ocotillo

Fouquieria splendens

Ocotillo
utush

The Ocotillo boasts a distinctive appearance that makes it an excellent choice as an accent plant. However, due to its thorns, it's best to position it in low-traffic areas. Be cautious with watering, as overwatering can be detrimental to its health, and pruning is not advisable for this species.



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Shrubs



CHUPAROSA



Chuparosa

Justicia californica

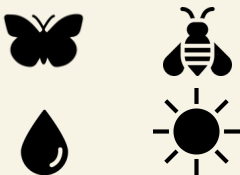
Chuparosa

pisily

The name "chuparosa" translates to "hummingbird" due to its vibrant red tubular flowers that draw these delightful creatures in. If maintaining feeders seems too demanding, this native plant is an excellent choice for luring hummingbirds to your garden.



BRITTLEBUSH



Brittlebush

Encelia farinosa

Flor de Rocío

pa'akal

Brittle bush is a vital addition to native plant gardens. This small, rounded shrub can grow up to 5 feet tall and features grayish leaves along with vibrant yellow composite flowerheads which attract a variety of pollinators and wildlife that depend on its seeds. It requires minimal maintenance and resources. To achieve a lush appearance, simply provide supplemental water once a month.



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Shrubs



CHEESEBUSH



Cheesebush

Ambrosia salsola

Jecota

The cheesebush is a shrub that typically grows 4-5ft tall. Its foliage is known for having a cheese-like aroma, which is how it got its common name. The plant produces small cream-colored flowers that bloom in clusters and is also beneficial for native pollinators.



RUSH MILKWEED



Rush Milkweed

Asclepias subulata

Candelilla Bronca

kivat or kiyal

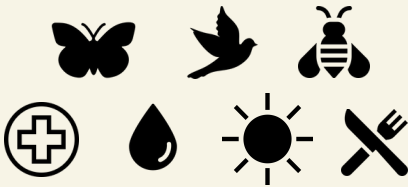
Rush milkweed belongs to the milkweed family and serves as a crucial host plant for the endangered monarch butterfly in desert environments. Adult monarchs exclusively lay their eggs on milkweed, while the caterpillars feed on its leaves. The milkweed contains cardenolides, which are consumed by the larvae, making the butterflies toxic and protecting them from predators.



Shrubs



CALIFORNIA
BUCKWHEAT



California Buckwheat

Eriogonum fasciculatum

Flor de borrego

hulaqal

California buckwheat is prevalent throughout California, including our desert region. The evolution of this flower adds visual interest to your garden throughout the seasons. The blooms begin as white and gradually transform into a striking reddish-copper hue. Additionally, it provides support to various native insect and bird species.



CATCLAW
ACACIA



Catclaw Acacia

Senegalia greggii

Tepame/ Uña de gato

sichingily

Catclaw is a hardy and sizable shrub, typically ranging from 10 to 15 feet in height, distinguished by its hooked thorns, which inspire its common name. Due to the thorns, it is best planted in areas with low foot traffic. This shrub produces clusters of cream-yellow flowers that develop into bean pods resembling those of the honey mesquite.



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Shrubs



SWEETBUSH



Sweetbush

Bebbia juncea

Palo dulce

Sweetbush is a smaller shrub that can grow up to 5 feet tall, typically featuring a few narrow leaves or none. It produces vibrant yellow discoid flowers that bloom during the spring and summer, attracting not only insect pollinators but also delighting the chuckwalla lizard.



Succulents



SILVER CHOLLA



Silver Cholla

Cylindropuntia echinocarpa
Choya Plateada

The silver cholla features 1 to 2 inch long spines that provide a shield for birds like the cactus wren, which frequently nest among the chollas, ensuring protection from predators. Additionally, cholla cactus species support pollinators while contributing a unique aesthetic to your garden.



BARREL CACTUS



Barrel Cactus

Ferocactus cylindraceus
Biznaga barril de Baja California
kupash

This cylindrical cactus can grow up to 8 feet tall and adds a striking accent to any garden with its vibrant red spines. It is a slow-growing species featuring a floral crown that blooms in early summer. To thrive, it requires well-draining soil, as poor drainage can lead to root rot.



Succulents



BEAVERTAIL
CACTUS



PRICKLY PEAR
CACTUS



Beavertail Prickly Pear Cactus

Opuntia basilaris var basilaris
Nopal Del Castor
manal

The beavertail cactus is an excellent choice for pot cultivation, as it typically remains low in height but can spread up to 5 feet wide. Its pads resemble a beaver's tail, which is how it earned its common name. While the beavertail cactus is spineless, each pad features dense clusters of glochids that may cause irritation.

Desert Prickly Pear Cactus

Opuntia phaeacantha
Nopal de Chihuahua
qexe'yily

The desert prickly pear features flat green pads adorned with spines that measure about 1 inch in length. Its flowers display a vibrant range of colors, including orange, pink, yellow, and red, blooming during the spring and summer months. This plant produces edible, red, fleshy fruit that not only adds visual appeal to your garden throughout the seasons but also offers resources for local wildlife.



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Grasses



DEER GRASS



Deer Grass

Muhlenbergia rigens
Liebdrilla de venado
suul

Deergrass is a rapidly growing perennial bunchgrass that can reach heights of up to 4 feet, featuring tall spikes adorned with small yellow flowers. It thrives in a variety of soil types, from sandy to clay, and prefers full sun or partial shade. Additionally, it offers food and shelter for nesting or denning animals.



BIG GALLETA



Big Galleta

Pleuraphis rigida
Zacate galleta gigante

Big Galleta is a clumping bunchgrass that usually reaches a height of 3 feet and a width of 4 feet. Its flowering period varies by region, featuring small purple inflorescences. This grass primarily reproduces through rhizomes and can be cut back to the ground. Ecologically, it serves as a nurse plant, offering food and habitat for wildlife, including bighorn sheep.



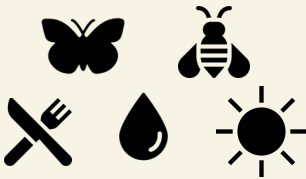
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Perennials



DESERT
MARIGOLD



Desert Marigold

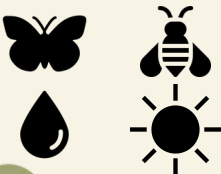
Baileya multiradiata

Hierba Amarilla

This small perennial can reach a height of up to 2 feet. It features bright, daisy-like flowers alongside grayish leaves. This plant thrives in containers, making it ideal for a patio garden with limited space. While it has a lifespan of a few years, it is capable of reseeding itself effortlessly.



APRICOT
MALLOW



Apricot Mallow

Sphaeralcea ambigua

Malva del Desierto

Also known as the desert globe mallow, this perennial plant typically reaches an average height of 3 feet. While its most common color is a vibrant orange, it can also bloom in shades of lavender, red, or pink. This variety is another excellent choice for patio gardens, especially in spaces with limited room.



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Perennials



DESERT
TOBACCO



Desert Tobacco

Nicotiana obtusifolia

Tabaco de Coyote

pivat

Desert tobacco may be less frequently seen in landscaping, but it is a stunning perennial that can reach heights of up to 3 feet, showcasing small, funnel-shaped cream-colored flowers. This plant is usually found growing between rocks and boulders in the wild.



DESERT
MILKWEED



Desert Milkweed

Asclepias erosa

Algodoncillo del Desierto

kivat or kiyal

If you're short on space for a shrub but want to provide a habitat for monarch and queen caterpillars, consider the desert milkweed. This herbaceous perennial usually reaches a height of just 4 feet. Although it will die back as an annual herb, its roots will remain alive, enabling the plant to regrow in the following season.



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Invasive Species

Invasive species can spread widely into our natural lands and take up resources from our native plant species. They can also increase the risk of wildfire due to their fast-growing and fast-spreading nature.

Avoid using these plants in your garden to prevent them from spreading into our deserts and mountains!



FOUNTAIN
GRASS

Fountain Grass

Cenchrus setaceus

Fountain grass has very light seeds that float long distances in the wind, and they thrive in our desert environments. These plants can be hard to remove and are now easily found throughout our surrounding mountains.



SALT CEDAR/
TAMARISK

Salt Cedar/Tamarisk

Tamarix ramosissima

Salt Cedar, of the Tamarisk family, was often used in the past to build large barriers against wind and noise. Unfortunately, their seeds have spread all throughout our region. These plants can be very hard to manage with strong roots that can be hard to remove completely. They are very heavy water users pulling up to 200 gallons of water every day per plant from our local aquifer.



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Invasive Species



**Smallflower
Tamarisk**
Tamarix parviflora



Spanish Broom
Spartium junceum



**Himalayan
Blackberry**
Rubus armeniacus



Parrot's Feather
*Myriophyllum
aquaticum*



Purple Loosestrife
Lythrum salicaria



**Scotch Broom
(Common Broom)**
Cytisus scoparius



Pampas Grass
Cortaderia jubata



Giant Reed
Arundo donax



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Planting Techniques Provided by the Mojave Desert Land Trust



The Mojave Desert Land Trust acquires and permanently protects ecologically significant land throughout the California desert. We focus on parcels within national parks and preserves, wilderness areas, areas of critical environmental concern, and wildlife corridors. MDLT has conveyed more tracts of land to the National Park system nationwide than any other non-profit since 2006.

MDLT's plant conservation program includes a native plant nursery, a conservation seed bank, and a demonstration garden. We grow native plants for desert restoration projects and to empower locals to plant native plants at home. The Mojave Desert Seed Bank serves as an insurance policy for the desert's future.

For more information visit [MDLT.org](https://www.mdlt.org)



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How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley

When to Plant

The best time to plant perennials, shrubs and trees is during the fall and early winter.



This gives plants time to establish a healthy root system and build energy for the growing season.

Annuals are best sown or planted from October to late November.






How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley

Choosing Your Soil


Most native plants perform better without fertilizer or actually respond negatively to fertilizer.



Desert native plants are adapted to soils that are low in nutrients, so adding extra nitrogen in the form of compost or fertilizer is not necessary.

In addition, nitrogen promotes foliar growth, and may actually delay root establishment.

Mulching with inorganic materials like rocks or gravel is recommended instead of organic materials like bark. Mulching in general can be helpful in retaining moisture, reducing erosion, and controlling weeds.





How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley

Planting Technique

Start by replacing the loosened backfill you removed while digging the hole.



Gently tamp it down so the plant is stable. You can add more water as you fill the hole or afterwards. Avoid burying the collar of the plant.

Build a berm with the extra soil around the outer dimensions of the hole to retain water.





How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley

Planting Technique

Water the root ball and the planting area thoroughly after planting. Remove any nursery stakes, if present. If necessary, re-stake the plant loosely.



Avoid pruning at this time. A “nurse rock” should be placed on the south side of the plant to maintain soil moisture, but keep it a few inches away from the base of the plant.

Caging small plants with hardware cloth is recommended to protect them from hungry wildlife.





How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley

Watering.

Many native plants can survive with minimal supplemental water once they are established (after 2-5 years).



New plants, however, need to be watered more frequently than established plants.

Always water deeply. Light, frequent irrigations create shallow, weak root systems.

Deep, less frequent irrigations encourage deep strong root systems that can tolerate longer periods of drought.





How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley

Basic Watering Schedule for new plants

Weeks 1-2: Water every 1-2 days in summer and 3-4 days fall through spring



Weeks 3-4: Water every 3-4 days in summer and 6-7 days fall through spring

Weeks 5-6: Water every 4-6 days in summer and 7-10 days fall through spring

Weeks 7-8: Water every 7 days in summer and every 10-14 days fall through spring


After week 8: Gradually extend the time between irrigation until the plants are established (2-5 years)





How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley

Basic Watering Schedule for new plants



After the first summer there is rarely a need to irrigate more than once a week.

Once established after the first couple of years, plants with the exception of annuals can be watered once every 1-3 weeks in summer and 2-4 weeks fall through spring.

***Keep in mind, this is just a suggestive guide. One must always pay attention to the plant and the weather.





How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley

Staking and Pruning

When possible, remove stakes at the time of planting. If stakes are needed, make sure they are loose and allow the plant to sway without falling over.



This will allow the trunk of the plant to become stronger in response to the wind.

Never allow ties to become tight around the trunk. Remove or adjust stakes after one year.

Pruning will be dependent of the individual plant species. It is best to prune trees while they are still young, but wait until after the first year. Leave growth on the lower trunk for up to two years to allow the tree to grow strong.



How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley



Typical signs of plant stress: Underwatering.

- Soil in the lower portion of the root ball is dry
- Older leaves turn yellow/brown and drop off
- Leaves are wilted or drooping
- Leaves curl upward or inward
- Stems or branches die back



How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley



Typical signs of plant stress: Overwatering.

- Soil is constantly damp, especially around the base of the main stem
- Leaves turn light green, yellow or become dull
- Young shoots are wilted or drooping
- Leaves are green yet brittle, or wilted but not dropping
- Algae and/or mushrooms are on or around plants



How to Take Care of Native Plants in the Coachella Valley



What If I Can't Plant My New Plant Right Away

We recommend that you plant your new plant in the ground because it will be easier to maintain. Yet sometimes, that is not always possible right away.



If you will keep your plant in its container, please place it somewhere that gets plenty of indirect sunlight, but not direct full sun.

You will need to pay attention to the soil moisture and water when the soil becomes dry. During this phase, it is advantageous to use a cage to protect the plant from hungry animals.



Local Nurseries with Native Plants

List provided by California Native
Plant Society Riverside -
San Bernardino Chapter

- Madison Gardens in Indio
- Cactus Mart in Morongo Valley
- Desert Strawhouse Native Plant Nursery in Sky Valley (Open Seasonally)
- GDNC Cactus & Desert Plant Nursery in Desert Hot Springs
- Green Desert Nursey in Indio (Wholesale Only)
- Moller's Garden Center in Palm Desert
- Mariscal Cactus & Succulents in Desert Hot Springs
- Moon Valley Nurseries in Coachella
- Macias Nursey in Thousand Palms & Mecca

Mojave Desert Land Trust, Living Desert Zoo & Gardens, and Desert Horticultural Society each host annual native plant sales every fall.



Learn More



Visit the following websites and organizations to learn more about native planting!

- calscape.org
- calflora.org
- audubon.org/native-plants
- livingdesert.org
- mdlt.org
- desertstrawhouse.com/plants
- deserthorticulturalsociety.org
- CNPS San Bernardino & Riverside Chapter
- Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOLS)
- UCANR Master Gardeners
- California Invasive Plant Council (CAL-IPC)
- Lush & Efficient by Coachella Valley Water District
- Nifty Natives by Desert Water Agency





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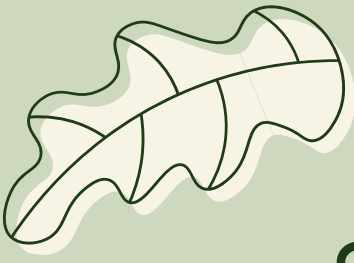
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**Friends of the
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ABOUT FRIENDS

AS FRIENDS OF THE DESERT MOUNTAINS, WE ARE DEDICATED TO BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT TO HELP PRESERVE THE UNIQUE WILDLIFE AND SCENIC BEAUTY OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY AND OUR DESERT MOUNTAINS. WE ACQUIRE AND PRESERVE WILDLANDS, PROMOTE STEWARDSHIP OF TRAILS, CONDUCT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, AND SUPPORT ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH.

FRIENDS OF THE DESERT MOUNTAINS WORKS WITH BIOLOGISTS, CONSERVATIONISTS, AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO IDENTIFY KEY LANDS FOR PROTECTION. WE SELECT LAND FOR ITS SCENIC, BIOLOGICAL, RECREATIONAL, OR CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, AND THEN OFFER TO PURCHASE IT FROM WILLING SELLERS AT FAIR MARKET VALUE. THROUGH THESE KEY ACQUISITIONS, WE GIVE PERMANENT PROTECTION TO THE BEAUTY, CHARACTER, AND DIVERSITY OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY.




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ABOUT FRIENDS



FRIENDS OF THE DESERT MOUNTAINS HAS WORKED IN LAND CONSERVATION SINCE 1987. WE UNDERSTAND THAT, WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF FUTURE GENERATIONS, OUR PRESERVATION EFFORTS MAY BE IN VAIN. FOR THIS REASON, WE HAVE MADE IT OUR MISSION TO REACH OUT TO TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

WE STEWARD THE LAND, SUPPORT THE NATIONAL MONUMENT VISITOR CENTER, AND HELP TO EDUCATE OUR COMMUNITY. WE GO INTO THE FIELD WITH STUDENTS, LEAD HIKES, AND SHARE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES ON ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION. BY DOING SO, WE HOPE TO REVEAL THE WONDERS OF THE FRAGILE DESERT AND MOUNTAINS WE CALL HOME AND INSTILL AN ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME.



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