

LivingDesert.org



NATIVE plant guide

WE'RE SO EXCITED, WE WET OUR PLANTS!

The popularity and availability of native plants have greatly improved over the last twenty years. Incorporating even a few indigenous plants can help bridge the ever-widening gaps within fragmented natural habitat.

Native plants provide critical habitat for threatened pollinators and other local wildlife! Plus, they'll help you conserve huge amounts of our shared, precious water resources.

Small Trees

	BLOOM TIME	POLLINATORS
Desert willow (<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>)*	Spring, Summer, Fall	
Screwbean mesquite (<i>Prosopis pubescens</i>)*	Spring, Winter	
Honey mesquite (<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i>)*	Spring, Summer	
Palo verde (<i>Parkinsonia florida</i>)*	Spring	
Ironwood (<i>Olneya tesota</i>)	Spring	

There are several large trees native to the canyons surrounding the Coachella Valley. These include sycamore (*Platanus* sp.), cottonwood (*Populus* sp.) alder (*Alnus* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus* sp.) and willow (*Salix* spp.). These trees are found in riparian areas with year-round water availability. They are heavy water users.

Shrubs

	BLOOM TIME	POLLINATORS
Bladderpod (<i>Peritoma arborea</i>)	Year round	
Brittlebush (<i>Encelia farinosa</i>)	Winter, Spring	
Burrobush (<i>Ambrosia salsola</i>)	Spring	
California buckwheat (<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>)	Summer, Spring, Fall	
California fuschia (<i>Epilobium canum</i>)	Summer, Fall	
Chuparosa (<i>Justicia californica</i>)	Spring	
Paperbag bush (<i>Scutellaria mexicana</i>)	Spring	
Threadlead ragwort (<i>Senecio flaccidus</i>)	Spring, Fall	
Desert globemallow (<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>)	Spring, Winter	
Desert milkweed (<i>Asclepias erosa</i>)	Spring, Summer, Fall	
Rush milkweed (<i>Asclepias subulata</i>)	Year round	
White sage (<i>Salvia apiana</i>)*	Winter, Spring Summer	
Baccharis (<i>Baccharis</i> spp.)*	Year round	

Large Shrubs

	BLOOM TIME	POLLINATORS
Creosote (<i>Larrea tridentata</i>)*	Spring, Fall	
Desert lavender (<i>Condea emoryi</i>)	Winter, Spring	
Indigo bush (<i>Psoralea schottii</i>)	Spring	
Jojoba (<i>Simmondsia chinensis</i>)*	Spring	
Cat claw acacia (<i>Senegalia greggii</i>)	Spring	
Smoke tree (<i>Psoralea spinosus</i>)*	Spring	

Succulents

	BLOOM TIME	POLLINATORS
Barrel cactus (<i>Ferocactus cylindraceus</i>)*	Spring, Summer	
Beavertail cactus (<i>Opuntia basilaris</i>)*	Spring	
Calico hedgehog (<i>Echinocereus engelmannii</i>)	Spring	
Mojave yucca (<i>Yucca schidigera</i>)	Spring	
Ocotillo (<i>Fouquieria splendens</i>)	Summer, Spring	
Our lord's candle (<i>Hesperoyucca whipplei</i>)*	Spring	
Silver cholla (<i>Cylindropuntia echinocarpa</i>)*	Spring	
Staghorn cholla (<i>Cylindropuntia gamderi</i>)*	Spring	
Teddybear cholla (<i>Cylindropuntia bigelovii</i>)*	Spring	
Desert Agave (<i>Agave deserti</i>)	Spring, Summer	

Cacti and succulents are most commonly illegally collected from the wild, which disturbs plant populations and surrounding ecosystems. When purchasing these plants assure they have been legally obtained. They should be nursery-grown or have a native plant certification which should be retained in your records.

Wildflowers

	BLOOM TIME	POLLINATORS
Arizona lupine (<i>Lupinus arizonicus</i>)	Winter, Spring	
Desertbells (<i>Phacelia campanularia</i>)	Winter, Spring	
Chia (<i>Salvia columbariae</i>)*	Winter, Spring	
Desert sunflower (<i>Geraea canescens</i>)	Winter, Spring	
Dune primrose (<i>Oenothera deltoides</i>)	Spring, Fall	
Sand verbena (<i>Abronia villosa</i>)	Spring, Summer, Fall	
Wild heliotrope (<i>Phacelia distans</i>)	Spring	
Sacred thornapple (<i>Datura wrightii</i>)	Year round	
Prickly poppy (<i>Argemone munita</i>)	Spring, Winter	
California poppy (<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>)	Winter, Spring	
Desert marigold (<i>Baileya multiradiata</i>)	Spring	




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