Decimal Inches

English Inches

Notes:
A Photographic Guide to the Wild Plants of
Five Canyons Regional Open Space Preserve

More than 2,000 species of native and naturalized plants grow wild in the San Francisco Bay Area. Most are very difficult to identify without the help of good illustrations. This is designed to be a simple, color photo guide to help you identify some of these plants. This guide is published electronically in Adobe Acrobat® format so that it can easily be updated as additional photographs become available. You have permission to freely download, distribute and print this guide for individual use. Photographs are © 2014 Wilde Legard, all rights reserved.

In this guide, the included plants are sorted first by form (Ferns & Fern-like, Grasses & Grass-like, Herbaceous, Woody), then by most common flower color, and finally by similar looking flowers (grouped by genus within each family). Each photograph has the following information, separated by ‘-’:

| COMMON NAME | According to The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition (JM2) and other references (not standardized). |
| Origin & Longevity | Native, Naturalized, or Waif (not reproducing without human care). Annual, Biennial, Perennial, or a combination. |
| Family Name | Common family name according to JM2, |
| (Bloom date range) | Period during the year when the plant blooms, according to JM2 and other sources. ‘-’ if plant does not bloom (ie. Ferns). |
| Habitat | Habitat description according to JM2 and other sources. |
| ID Characteristics | Plant description with identification characteristics and other notes, based on multiple sources including: Annotated Checklist of the East Bay Flora, Second Edition (2013), JM2, Plants of the San Francisco Bay Region (Revised Edition), and Weeds of California and Other Western States. |
| Additional notes | Occasionally, an additional note may appear (ie. NOXIOUS weed, INVASIVE weed, Fed & Calif. ENDANGERED, etc.). |

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**Fern-like - Green/Brown**

- **BRACKEN FERN** (*Pteridium aquilinum* var. *pubescens*) Native Perennial - Bracken Family - Pastures, woodland, meadows, hillsides, partial to full sun - Leaf blades widely-triangular, gen 0.5-5’ long, gen 3x divided, hairy underneath.

- **CALIFORNIA MAIDENHAIR** (*Adiantum jordanii*) Native Perennial - Brake Fern Family - Shaded hillsides, moist woodland - Leaves 8-28” long with many rounded symmetrical segments, each with < 4 irregular lobes. Cultivated. Sudden Oak Death carrier.

- **GOLDENBACK FERN** (*Pentagramma triangularis* subsp. *triangularis*) Native Perennial - Brake Fern Family - Gen shaded, sometimes rocky or wooded areas - Leaves triangular, 1.2-4” long, undersides either granular green or powdery gold.

- **BROAD-LEAVED CATTAIL** (*Typha latifolia*) Native Perennial - Cattail Family - Unpolluted to nutrient-rich freshwater (brackish) marshes - Plant 4.9-9.8’ tall. Widest leaves 0.4-1.1” wide. Flower cluster with no gap between flower types.

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Revision: 3/2/2014

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Grass-like - Green/Brown

Wild Plants of Five Canyons Regional Open Space Preserve - Sorted by Form, Color and Family

**HAIRY PAMPAS GRASS** *(Cortaderia jubata)*
- Naturalized Perennial - Grass Family - (Sep–Feb)
- Disturbed sites, many habitats, esp coastal
- Plant 6-23' tall. Leaf blades 0.1-0.5" wide, sheathes hairy. NOXIOUS weed.

**BRISTLY DOGTAIL GRASS** *(Cynosurus echinatus)*
- Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (May–Jul)
- Open, disturbed sites - Tufted. Stem 4-28" long. Leaf blade 0.1-0.6" wide. Flower cluster 0.4-1.6" long, 1-sided. Fertile and sterile spikelets. INVASIVE weed.

**RYE GRASS** *(Festuca perennis)*
- Naturalized Perennial - Grass Family - (May–Sep)
- Dry to moist disturbed sites, abandoned fields
- Stem 20-40" tall. Spikelet 0.2-0.9" long, > glume, awned or awnless. Sterile shoots at base. INVASIVE weed.

**HARDING GRASS** *(Phalaris aquatica)*
- Naturalized Perennial - Grass Family - (Apr–Aug)
- Disturbed areas, roadides - Plant 16-79" tall, tufted. Flower cluster 0.6-6" long, unbranched. Lower florets 1 or or unequal. Glume wing untoothed. INVASIVE weed.

**TALL NUTSEDGE** *(Cyperus eragrostis)*
- Native Perennial - Sedge Family - (May–Nov)
- Vernal pools, streambanks
- Leaves basal. Flower cluster bracts 4-8. Spikelets 0.2-0.8" long, obovate, in heads to 1.6" wide. Seeds short-stalked.

**COMMON TULE** *(Schoenoplectus acutus var. occidentalis)*
- Native Perennial - Sedge Family - (Summer)
- Common. Marshes, shores, fens, shallow lakes, often emergent
- Stem 3.3-13' tall. Fat, round x-section, blue-green.

**LONG-BEAKEFILAREE** *(Erodium botrys)*
- Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family - (Mar–Jul)
- Dry, open or disturbed sites
- Stem 4-35" tall, coarse-hairy. Leaves lobic. Petals pink, 0.3-0.5" long. Sepals w/reddish tip. Fruit beak 2-4.7" long.

**HAIRY DOVE’S FOOT GERANIUM** *(Geranium molle)*
- Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family - (Feb–Aug)
- Open to shaded sites, disturbed ground
- Stem 4-17" tall. Petals red-purple, 0.1-0.4" long, notched. Sepals awnless. Fruit smooth, wrinkled.
**Herbaceous - Blue/Pink/Purple**

**PENNYROYAL (Mentha pulegium)** Naturalized Perennial - Mint Family - (Jul–Oct) - Moist places, fields - Stem 4-12" tall, short-hairy. Leaves 0.2-1" long, upper stalkless. Flowers 0.2-0.3" long, violet to lavender. Aromatic. INVASIVE weed.

**COMMON RIGID HEDGE-NETTLE (Stachys rigida var. quercetorum)** Native Perennial - Mint Family - (Mar–Oct) - Moist to ± dry places - Plant gen < 39", hairy, sticky. Leaf 2-3.5" long, egg-shaped w/heart-shaped base. Flowers 6-10/group, pink, 0.24-0.4" long.

**RADISH (Raphanus sativus)** Naturalized Annual - Mustard Family - (May–Jul) - Disturbed areas, fields - Stem 16-51" long. Petals 0.6-1" long, white to purple. Fruit a fat cylinder w/constrictions between seeds. INVASIVE weed.

**ITALIAN THISTLE (Carduus pycnocephalus subsp. pycnocephalus)** Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (Mar–Jul) - Roadsides, pastures, disturbed areas - Stems 8-79", narrow spiny-wings. Lower leaves 4-10 lobed, heads 2-5, flower bracts woolly. NOXIOUS.


**WEEDY CUDWEED (Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum)** Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (Apr–Aug) - Disturbed sites, fields, streambeds - Heads 0.12-0.16" long, yellowish, female flowers < 0.08" long, pappus bristles connected.

**MILK THISTLE (Silybum marianum)** Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Sunflower Family - (Feb–Jun) - Roadsides, pastures, disturbed areas - Stem 1-10', stout. Leaves spiny, shiny green w/white veins and spots. Flowers red-purple. INVASIVE weed.

**FIDDLE DOCK (Rumex pulcher)** Naturalized Perennial - Buckwheat Family - (May–Sep) - Disturbed places, meadows, moist or dry habitats - Stem 8-24" long, branches widely spreading. Leaf blades 1.6-4" long, 1.2-2" wide. Valves w/2-5 teeth.
HOARY NETTLE (Urtica dioica subsp. holosericea) Native Perennial - Nettle Family - (Jun–Sep) - Meadows, seeps, springs, margins of marshes, streams, lakes, moist areas in chaparral, coastal scrub - Plant 3.3-9.8' tall, grayish, covered with stinging hairs.

MUGWORT (Artemisia douglasiana) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (May–Nov) - Common. Open to shady areas, often in drainages - Plant 20-60" tall. Leaves gen 0.4-4" long, densely hairy below, some 3-5 lobed. Flower bracts hairy.

BUR-CHERVIL (Anthriscus caucalis) Naturalized Annual - Carrot Family - (Apr–Jun) - Generally shady places - Plant 18-40" tall. Flowers white; flower stalk >= fruit length. Fruits 0.1-0.2" long with curved "velcro" bristles. Leaves fern-like, triangular outline.


WAVYLEAF SOAP PLANT (Chlorogalum pomeridianum var. pomeridianum) Native Perennial - Century Plant Family - (May–Aug) - Common. Open grassland, chaparral, woodland - Plant 1-8' tall, flowers at night. Bulb juices lather in water.

GOOSE GRASS (Galium aparine) Native Annual - Madder Family - (Apr–Jun) - Grassy, ± shady places - Stem 12-35" long, weak, brittle. Leaves 0.5-1.6" long, in whorls of 6-8. Flowers white, 4-lobed. Fruits covered w/short, hooked hairs.

COMMON MINER’S LETTUCE (Claytonia perfoliata subsp. perfoliata) Native Annual - Miner’s Lettuce Family - (Jan–May) - Vernally moist, often shady or disturbed sites - Basal leaf length <3x width. Stem leaf gen not angled. Seeds shiny w/large appendage.

YERBA BUENA (Clinopodium douglasii) Native Perennial - Mint Family - (Apr–Sep) - Shady places, chaparral, woodland - Stem trailing, gen woody, forming mats. Leaves 0.4-1.4" long, oval. Petals white to lavender, 3-8 mm long. Aromatic.
**WATER CRESS (Nasturtium officinale) Native Perennial - Mustard Family - (Mar–Nov) - Streams, springs, marshes, lake margins, swamps - Stem 4-43” long. Leaflets 3-9, 0.3-1” wide. Petals white, 0.12-0.18” long. EDIBLE leaves.

**COMMON CHICKWEED (Stellaria media) Naturalized Annual - Pink Family - (Feb–Sep) - Oak woodland, meadows, disturbed areas - Plant 2.8-20” tall. Stem w/line of hairs on 1 side. Sepals 0.12-0.18” long. Petals white, 2-lobed, 0.7-0.9x sepals.

**ENGLISH PLANTAIN (Plantago lanceolata) Naturalized Annual - Plantain Family - (Apr–Aug) - Common. Disturbed areas - Leaves basal, hairy, 2-10” long, <= 1” wide. Flowers + stem 8-31” tall, flower cluster 0.8-3” long. INVASIVE, lawn weed.

**PACIFIC WOODLAND SANICLE (Sanicula crassicaulis) Native Perennial - Carrot Family - (Mar–May) - Open slopes, ravines, woodland - Plants stout, 9-47”. Leaves 1-5” across with 3-5 deep, palmate lobes and serrate edges. Flowers yellow.

**CLIMBING BEDSTRAW (Galium porrigens var. porrigens) Native Perennial - Madder Family - (May–Aug) - Among shrubs in chaparral, forest - Stem 4-59” long. Leaves 0.1-0.7” long, oval to egg-shaped, in whorls of 4. Flowers yellow to red, 4-lobed.

**BLACK MUSTARD (Brassica nigra) Naturalized Annual - Mustard Family - (Apr–Sep) - Common. Disturbed areas, fields - Plant 1-6’ tall. Petals bright yellow, 0.3-0.4” long. Fruit upright, pressed against stem. INVASIVE weed.

**BERMUDA BUTTERCUP (Oxalis pes-caprae) Naturalized Perennial - Oxalis Family - (Jan–May) - Disturbed areas, roadsides, grassland, dunes - Flowering stem < 12” tall. Leaflets in 3s, < 1.4” long. Petals yellow, < 1” long. Ornamental. INVASIVE weed.

**YELLOW STAR-THISTLE (Centaurea solstitialis) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (May–Oct) - Invasive, roadsides, disturbed grassland or woodland - Plant 4-35’ tall. Leaves woolly, extend down the stem. Flower bract spines 0.4-1” long. NOXIOUS weed.
STINKWORT (Dittrichia graveolens) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (Sep–Nov) - Disturbed areas - Plant 8-24’’ tall, camphor-scented, glandular. Flowers yellow. Flower-head bracts Aster-like. Fall bloomer. INVASIVE weed.

BRISTLY OX-TONGUE (Helminthotheca echioides) Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Sunflower Family - (All year) - Common. Disturbed areas - Stem 1-6.5’ tall, bristly. Leaf 2-8’’ long, covered with prickly bumps. Flower heads 0.8-1.6’ wide. INVASIVE weed.

COMMON GROUNDSEL (Senecio vulgaris) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (Feb–Jul) - Common. Disturbed areas - Plant 4-24’’ tall, not hairy, w/1-10+ stems. Flower head bracts with black-tips. Milky sap.

HAIRY VINE HONEYSUCKLE (Lonicera hispidula) Native Perennial - Honeysuckle Family - (May–Jun) - Canyons, streamsides, woodland - Shrub sprawling-climbing, 6-10’ long, short-hairy. Flower cluster densely sticky. Flowers pink, 0.5-0.6’ long, sticky-hairy.

CREEPING SNOWBERRY (Symphoricarpos mollis) Native Perennial - Honeysuckle Family - (Apr–May) - Ridges, slopes, open places in woodland - Shrub 6-24’’ tall, sprawling. Flowers < 8 cluster, pink + often red outside, 0.16’ long, bell-shaped, symetrical.

COAST LIVE OAK (Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia) Native Perennial - Oak Family - (Mar–Apr) - Valleys, slopes, mixed-evergreen forest, woodland - Tree 33-80’. Leaves convex, hair-tuft below in vein axils. Acorns on 1st year twigs, shell glabrous inside.

WESTERN POISON OAK (Toxicodendron diversilobum) Native Perennial - Sumac Family - (Apr–Jun) - Canyons, slopes, chaparral, coastal scrub, oak woodland - Shrub or vine. Leaflets 3, red in fall, mid leaflet stalked. Flowers green. Fruits white. TOXIC.

CALIFORNIA SAGEBRUSH (Artemisia californica) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Aug–Nov) - Coastal scrub, chaparral, open woodland - Shrub 2-8’’ tall, rounded. Leaves 0.4-4’, hairy, thread-like, It green to gray. Flower heads < 5 mm wide. Sage-scented.
Revision: 3/2/2014

Woody - White

Wild Plants of Five Canyons Regional Open Space Preserve - Sorted by Form, Color and Family

CHRISTMAS BERRY / TOYON (Heteromeles arbutifolia) Native Perennial - Rose Family - (May-Jun–Aug) - Chaparral, oak woodland, mixed-evergreen forest - Shrub-tree < 33' tall, evergreen. Leaf 2-4" long. Petals white, < 0.16" long. Fruit bright red.

OCEANSPRAY (Holodiscus discolor var. discolor) Native Perennial - Rose Family - (May–Aug) - Moist woodland edges, rocky slopes - Shrub 5-20’ tall. Leaf blade 0.6-3.1” long, toothed at end. Flower cluster 0.8-10” long. Petals white, ~0.07” long.

HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY (Rubus armeniacus) Naturalized Perennial - Rose Family - (Mar–Jun) - Common. Disturbed areas, roadsides - Shrub with thorny 5-angled stem. Leaflets 3-5, white-hairy beneath. Blackberry-type fruit. INVASIVE.

CALIFORNIA BLACKBERRY (Rubus ursinus) Native Perennial - Rose Family - (Mar–Jul) - Open, disturbed areas - Stem round, bristly/prickly. Leaves simple to 3 leaflets, underside green. Plants unisexual. Petals 0.24-0.6” long, white. Blackberry-type fruit.

COYOTE BRUSH (Baccharis pilularis subsp. consanguinea) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Jul–Dec) - Coastal bluffs, woodland, grassland, disturbed sites, occ on serpentine - Shrub < 15' tall, brittle, common. Leaves gen 0.8-1.6” long.

CALIFORNIA BAY (Umbellularia californica) Native Perennial - Laurel Family - (Nov–May) - Common. Canyons, valleys, chaparral - Tree < 150’ tall. Leaf 1.2-4”, 0.8-1.2” wide, aromatic. Cluster of 5-10 small, yellow or yellow-green flowers. Fruit 0.8-1” diam.

BUSH MONKEYFLOWER (Mimulus aurantiacus var. aurantiacus) Native Perennial - Lopseed Family - (Mar–Jun) - Disturbed areas, coastal cliffs, canyon sides - Shrub 4-20”. Flowers yellow, orange or red; 1-2.3” long; bract tube glabrous.

Decimal Inches

English Inches

Notes: