

High Chaparral

Yes, it was a TV show from the Sixties, but “chaparral” is also the plant community in which Top O’ Topanga resides!

Why do you care?

In response to homeowners’ inquiries, the ARCS committee has compiled sources to suggested guidelines for landscaping in our enchanted Santa Monica Mountains. Conscientious gardeners know we are but custodians of the land on which we reside, so *drought-tolerant, fire-retardant and non-invasive native plants* are needed for both flora and fauna to thrive.

Water-wise and fire-smart, the native plants featured in the following links, reference books and botanical gardens offer both beautiful and informed choices. Our plant “community” -



chaparral - is maligned and endangered; great swaths have been lost to development. With a little research, you will find a wide range of shrubs and flowers that provide dramatic color while conservation savvy.

Plant Guides for Our Area

Drought Tolerant Plants for the Santa Monica Mountains

Source: LA County Dept. of Public Works

<http://www.ladpw.org/wwd/web/booklet/>

RECOMMENDED LIST OF NATIVE PLANTS FOR LANDSCAPING IN THE
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS

Source: Los Angeles / Santa Monica Mountains Chapter California Native Plant Society

http://www.lasmmcnps.org/PDF/Recommended_List_2007.pdf

The Garden Spot

Source: Metropolitan Water District of So Cal

<http://www.bewaterwise.com/knowledge01.html>

California Invasive Plant Control

<http://www.cal-ipc.org/landscaping/dpp/index.php>

Native Plant Nurseries

Theodore Payne - Native Plants and Wildflowers - Sun Valley, CA

www.theodorepayne.org

Matilija Nursery - Moorpark, CA

805.523.8604

Las Pilitas Nursery - Santa Margarita and Escondido, CA

www.laspilitas.com

El Nativo Growers - Wholesale Nursery - Azusa

<http://www.elnativogrowers.com/>

San Marcos Growers - Wholesale Nursery - Santa Barbara

<http://www.smgrowers.com/>

Gardens featuring California natives

Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Santa Barbara, CA

www.sbbg.org

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

Santa Ana, CA

<http://www.rsabg.org/inthegarden>

Books

“Designing California Native Gardens”
Glenn Keator and Alrie Middlebrook

“Fire, Chaparral and Survival in Southern California”
Richard Halsey

“Ceanothus”
David Fross and Dieter Wilken

“Seed Propagation of Native California Plants”
Dara Emery