Caring for the Wild Lands (and Gardens) We Live In: Some Resources

Note: Some of these are upcoming events at time of writing. Prepared by Jackie Pascoe 7/2021

Preparing for Fire

This book has thorough, excellent, practical information. I especially appreciate Chapter 18: techniques for ensuring that natural landscape natives are retained and the ecosystem cared for, to the extent possible.

California Native Plant Society (cnps.org)
Fire Specific Resources:

Fire Resilient Landscaping with Native Plants, a talk by Nikki Hanson is well worth your time. See it here: youtube.com/watch?v=_YUYqymM-Os
This is one of Santa Clara Valley CNPS chapter’s recorded online talks. Other recorded presentations about native plants are available on their web site cnps-scv.org/education and you tube channel: youtube.com/c/CNPSSantaClaraValley

Santa Cruz Public Library Fire Related talks and other events
santacruzpl.org/pages/czu-and-you/

Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History: “Amah Mutsun Fire Relationships”
santacruzmuseum.org/8-3-amah-mutsun-fire-relationships/
August 3, 6-7 pm. This online event is presented by Lawrence Atencio, the Native Stewardship Corps Field Manager for the Amah Mutsun Land Trust.

Amah Mutsun tribal band web site: https://amahmutsun.org/

Las Pilitas Nursery laspilitas.com/fire.htm
This native plant nursery in Santa Margarita has fire preparedness and other great pages.

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/national/home/
Talks, services, information for those living in rural/wildland areas e.g., for the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District -- go to rcdsantacruz.org/

Firewise USA: nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/Firewise-USA

Calfire: fire.ca.gov/
Native Plant Propagation References:
- Dara E. Emery, *Seed Propagation of Native California Plants* (out of print! But available for download here:
- Marjorie Schmidt, *Growing California Native Plants*.

Wild native plant information and native plant finder resources for gardeners
More botanically based: [calflora.org/](http://calflora.org/) Go to sections What Grows Here and Planting Guide
More gardener based: [calscape.org/](http://calscape.org/) (project of CNPS)

Invasive Weed Info
California Invasive Plant Council: [cal-ipc.org/](http://cal-ipc.org/)
They provide lists of invasive plants and more. Check out their Don’t Plant a Pest feature.
Also see: Plant Right: [plantright.org/](http://plantright.org/)

Books on Gardening with Natives and Ecological Perspectives
My go-to resources
- Bornstein, C., Fross, D., & O’Brien, B. (2005). *California Native Plants for the Garden*. (This is still the reference of choice!)
- Tallamy, Douglas. W. (2009). *Bringing nature home: How you can sustain wildlife with native plants*. (This is his earlier book, still worth reading – startling facts about how little wild land there is left, and how gardeners can create corridors of biodiversity.)
- Frankie, G. W., Thorp, R. W., Coville, R. E., & Erter, B. *California bees and blooms: A guide for gardeners and naturalists*. (Fascinating view of our many, many native bees.)
- Also recommend reading Judith Lowry’s books

Indigenous People and the California Landscape:
Kat Anderson. (2005). *Tending the wild: Native American knowledge and the management of California’s natural resources*. (This is a fantastic book, hefty in size, deep and well researched in scope.)

Just a taste of what’s out there – a start to your journey of exploration!