Season	Plant	Maintenance	Habitat value	Firesafe tip
Spring				
	Narrowleaf Milkweed (Asclepias fasicularis)	Plant in unenriched soil. Plant 3 separate patches of 3-5 plants.	Host plant for monarchs. Adults lay eggs here, and when they hatch this is the only food larvae will eat.	
	Yarrow (Achillea millefolium)	Plant in late spring after last frost. Fertilize every 3 years to help bloom and vigor. Dead heading lengthens bloom time.	Hosts many moths and butterflies.	Deep water monthly once established.
	Showy Milkweed (Asclepias speciosa)	Plant in unenriched soil.	Host plant for monarchs. Rich nectar source for pollinators.	
	Monkey Flower (Mimulus)	Plant in early spring. Need care to look their best for longer bloom time. Pinch back in May and give a deep water to produce another wave of bloom in July and August in some afternoon shade. Deadhead and tip pinch regularly to prevent brittle woody growth and maintain shape. When done blooming cut stems by 1/3 to ½ and allow to rest. May live 2-12 years with this care. Can ,alternatively, be treated as bedding annuals with regular water and fertilizer and replaced yearly.	Host plant for the common buckeye butterfly. Nectar for hummingbirds, bees, butterflies and other pollinators.	
	California Fuschia (Zauschneria or Epilobium)	Plant in Spring. Can be floppy with heavy flowers so pinch the outside branches in late May to promote side branches to form a support-string is	Hosts 15 butterflies and moths, including the White-lined Sphinx Moth. Attracts hummingbirds,	

		the other option. Deep water once a month.	bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.	
	De La Mina lilac verbena (Verbena lilacina)	Plant in spring. Water deeply monthly. Lightly shear to remove spent blooms and bring on the next wave of blooms. Does not need a hard pruning.		
	California Poppy (Eschscholzia californica*)*	Plant in early spring.		
	Black eyed Susan "goldsturm" (Redbeckia hirta)	Plant in spring.	Loved by bees.	
Summer			.	
	Coyote Mint (Monardella villosa)	Water deep monthly to refresh in summer.	Hosts 7-9 species of moths and butterflies. Great nectar source	
	Manzanita (Arctostaphylos)	Do not water during summer, after first year of establishment.	Moths, butterflies, hummingbirds, and berry eating birds	
	Cleveland Sage (Salvia clevlandii)	Do not water during summer, after first year of establishment.		
	California Fuschia (Zauschneria or Epilobium)	At the end of summer do not cut back but thereafter cut them back hard after blooming to promote strong healthy growth.		
	California Poppy (Eschscholzia californica*)*	Goes dormant in the summer without irrigation.		
Fall				
	Native Buckwheat varieties (Eriogonum)	Prune back legginess and deadhead to shape as desired. Plant from seed in fall.	Host plant for many moths and butterflies. Rich nectar for pollinators	Plant lower growing varieties, Irrigate monthly to keep fresh

	Coyote Mint (Monardella villosa)	Cut back lightly to encourage new growth.		
	Wooly Sunflower (Eriophyllum lanatum)	Lightly shear after bloom time in fall.	Host plant for 7 butterflies and moths. Nectar rich	Deep water monthly once established
	Manzanita (Arctostaphylos)	Plant to coincide with rains.	Moths, butterflies, hummingbirds, and berry eating birds	Lower growing varieties are better. Cut off any dead growth and keep healthy
	Cleveland Sage (Salvia clevlandii)	Plant on mound to improve drainage. Cut back by a third in fall to prevent thatch and breakage of large branches.	Quail love the seeds if they are spread on the ground while pruning	Maintain an annual pruning schedule
	California Lilac (Ceanothus)	Best established in fall. Water deep monthly in extreme heat or drought.	Hosts 14 butterflies and moths. Provides nectar for butterflies and bees. Supports birds	Moderately fire safe with proper maintenance. Plant large varieties away from structures due to size.
Winter				
	Narrowleaf Milkweed (Asclepias fasicularis)	Dormant from November-April.		
	Coyote Bush (Baccharis pilularis)	Cut back low in winter to promote healthy growth.		
	Showy Milkweed (Asclepias speciosa)	Dormant from November-April. Dead plants can be left for winter shelter for insects or cut back in the fall after seed pods are collected. Mature plants can provide root cuttings during dormancy for a head start on propagation.		
	Black eyed Susan “goldsturm” (Redbeckia hirta)	Leave seed heads standing in winter as a food source for goldfinches and other wildlife.	Goldfinches love the seeds in the winter.	