



Ecological Concerns Incorporated

# Central Coast Wilds

*Restoring the habitats that sustain us*



CCW-Newsletter

Spring 2012

*"Our mission is to nurture ecological relationships, cultivate community partnerships and build sustainable business practices in order to protect and restore biological diversity."*

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## Spring Sale

Check out our 'seasonal highlights' offering special prices on plants from our stock of over 320 native species.

[View Seasonal Plants](#)

We deliver throughout the Monterey & SF Bay areas

[www.centralcoastwilds.com](http://www.centralcoastwilds.com)

## Welcome to Central Coast Wilds!

Spring is upon us and we are in full swing, preparing for an exciting year. With the late rains, everything is feeling fresh at the nursery. Early spring flowers of the woodlands - like Heuchera, Dicentra and Smilicina - are in bloom.

2012 marks the 20th Anniversary for Central Coast Wilds. We started cultivating native grass seed in 1992 and have since grown into a California native plant nursery, biological consulting firm and ecological landscape company.

Our staff is growing too. We have a talented group of designers, ecologists, horticulturalists and landscape tradesmen working together to design, grow, install, and maintain a broad array of ecological landscape and habitat restoration projects.

Thank you for your support and best wishes on all of your native plant projects. We look forward to assisting you in all ways possible.

Sincerely,

Josh Fodor  
President/CEO

## California Native Plant Week is coming up!

*April 15 - 22 2012:*

*A time to appreciate the wonders of our native plant communities.*

Come and join us to celebrate California Native Plant Week at the 40th Annual Wildflower show featuring over 400 species of wildflowers and native plants of Santa Clara, San Mateo, and surrounding counties.

[Learn more at CNPS](#)



## Featured Products:

**Native Sod:** Six Drought Tolerant Blends from \$1.99 SF

**Custom Native Seed Blends** for landscape, revegetation & erosion control

**Root Guard:** Gopher Protection

**Plant Baskets:** 1 - 15 Gallon Sizes

**Organic Fertilizer and Mycorrhizal Packets @ \$0.50/packet**

### Learn More About Us

Office: 831.459.0656  
Nursery: 831.459.0655  
Fax: 831.457.1606

[Driving Directions](#)

[Online Native Plant Inventory](#)  
(call to confirm availability)



## Transition in Nursery Management

Central Coast Wilds is pleased to introduce our new Nursery Manager Cindy Hudson!



With a strong background in nursery management, and a keen enthusiasm for California natives, we are all happy to have her join our team.

Previous nursery manager Ellen Uhler (formerly Holmes) is happy to announce her marriage to Michael Uhler, a gardener at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Tilden. An eventual relocation to the East Bay is the bitter-sweet result of this union, but Ellen plans to continue to lend her expertise in seed collection, native plant propagation, and botanical consulting to Central Coast Wilds projects throughout the Monterey and San Francisco Bay Areas.

## Plant of the Month

**Name/Species:** Yerba Buena /

Satureja douglasii /Clinopodium douglasii

**Family:** Mint (Lamiaceae),

**Relatives:** Coyote Mint (Monardella spp.), Pitcher Sage (Lepechinia), Sage (Salvia spp), Hedge nettle (Stachys spp)



**Range:** Klamath Ranges, North Coast Ranges,

Central Western California, Transverse Ranges to British Columbia, Idaho

**Description:** Yerba Buena is a sprawling, mat-forming perennial that grows in the woodland understory along the coast in the shade of oaks, bays, and madrones. It quenches itself partially on summer fog drip, and can tolerate a wide range of moisture conditions, usually thriving in dry shady areas and requiring only moderate water in the summer. Yerba Buena was named hierba buena by Spanish missionaries, which quite simply translates to good herb. So inspired were the Spanish when they stumbled upon the plant in its native range that they named present day San Francisco in its honor.

**Garden Use:** A creeping perennial that makes for an excellent (and fragrant!) year-round groundcover. It is tolerant of sandy and clay soils. Yerba buena can be propagated by dividing the root ball; from stem cuttings; or from seed sown directly in the fall or indoors in the winter. Tiny white flowers bloom from April through September. Useful in the garden as a filler between Irises (Iris douglasiana, Iris fernaldii, Iris longipetala), Grey Rush (Juncus patens) and Cow Parsnip (Heracleum lanatum).

**Food & Medicinal Values:** The small, shiny green aromatic leaves have been used in soothing teas, as a cooking herb, or in potpourris and perfumes. It has long been used medicinally by Native American, Mexican, and European peoples for a variety of digestive ailments.

## Coming Events

March - May 2012 -

### Randall Morgan Nature Walk Series

Location: Sites through Santa Cruz County

An unusual opportunity to spend time in the field with local naturalist Randy Morgan. Field trips throughout Santa Cruz County will cover botany, birds, and interesting insects! RSVPs required. More information can be found at :

[www.cruznps.org/events2.html](http://www.cruznps.org/events2.html)

### April 7 - June 16, 2012 - UCSC Arboretum California Naturalist Program

Location: Sites through Santa Cruz County

The UCSC Arboretum along with UC Cooperative Extension is offering a California Naturalist Certification Program this Spring, featuring biweekly classes on birds, insects, plants, mammals and other components of central coast ecosystems. The program will be composed of Thursday evening lectures to introduce topics, and weekday field trips to explore them in detail! Registration information and a full list of classes can be found at the UCSC Arboretum Website: <http://arboretum.ucsc.edu>.

[www.centralcoastwilds.com](http://www.centralcoastwilds.com)

## Landscape Design Team Expands

### CCW Welcomes Bill Raff and Dakotah Bertsch

In celebrating 20 years of creative California native garden and habitat restoration design, CCW is proud to announce two additions to our design team: Bill Raff and Dakotah Bertsch. They will be following in the success of our former landscape designer Darrin Miller. Bill and Dakotah have worked on residential, commercial and large scale public works projects, solving challenging design problems with simple solutions.

Bill joined CCW in June 2011. He has a Bachelors of Science in Landscape Architecture and a Minor in Irrigation Sciences from Cal Poly Pomona. Since his arrival he has utilized his California native plant knowledge to create beautiful and ecologically sustainable designs. Bill has a unique ability to create a vision that suits the clients' needs as well as insure that their project is installed according to the plan and budget. We look forward featuring his design work as these installed landscapes develop.

This past fall-winter, Bill took the lead implementing two significant habitat restoration projects: The Upper Stevens Creek project for the County of Santa Clara and the Crystal Springs Dam project for SF Public Utilities Commission. These projects are completed and are now being maintained by CCW in order to insure the development of their specific habitat values.

Dakotah is just joining the design team and he brings with him a broad range of academic and project experience. He has a BS degree in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Barbara and a Masters in Landscape Architecture from Cal Poly Pomona. He most recently worked as a design associate for Design Ecology and he continues to work on a Low Impact Development plan with them for the City of Santa Rosa. We look forward to Dakotah's integration and contributions to CCW's design team.

## Community Environmental Project

### Adobe Creek Habitat Enhancement in Los Altos Hills

Central Coast Wilds is excited to be partnering with the [Town of Los Altos Hills](#) to perform habitat restoration on Adobe Creek within the Town's Edith Park property. CCW Senior Project Manager, Jon Laslett, has been working on the project for over a year. The process started in January 2011 when Jon began working with the Town to provide conceptual planning and grant writing services to define the project scope and secure project funding. Early last fall, the Town was awarded funding for the project through the Santa Clara Water District's [Environmental Enhancement Grant Program](#).

Since then, CCW has been working with multiple agencies, including the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Department of Fish

## Coming Events

**April 22, 2012 -**

### Going Native Garden Tour

Location: Sites throughout Santa Clara County

Time: 10am-4pm

Info:

[www.goingnativegardentour.org](http://www.goingnativegardentour.org)

**April 28-29, 2012 -**

### CNPS Santa Clara 40th Annual Wildflower

Location: Mission College

Time: 10am-4pm Sat-Sun

Info: <http://www.cnps-scv.org>

**May 6, 2012 -**

### Bring Back the Natives Garden Tour

Location: Sites throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

Time: 10am-5pm

Info:

<http://bringingbackthenatives.net/>

Central Coast Wilds' Nursery will be selling California native plants at Carol Baird and Alan Harper's garden at 5170 Parkridge Dr. in Oakland.

Info: Baird-Harper Garden

and Game, to ensure the project's compliance with environmental regulations and secure the necessary permits. Ongoing project planning work includes the development of a maintenance and monitoring plan and a temporary irrigation plan. Native plant propagation has also begun at [Acterra Native Plant Nursery](#) from seeds collected within the Adobe creek watershed.

This fall, work will begin in earnest on the ground. After bird breeding season, several large invasive blue gum eucalyptus trees will be removed carefully by a climbing arborist to avoid equipment impacts to the creek. Approximately one third of an acre of other invasive plants will be removed as well, including poison hemlock, Himalayan blackberry, and various thistle species. Erosion control measures, including coir blankets and wattles made of rot resistant all natural coconut fiber, will be put in place to protect the bare soil left after the invasive species removal. Approximately 800 native plants will be installed with the help of students from the nearby [Gardener Bullis School](#), a partner on this project. After this installation work is completed, maintenance and monitoring will continue for three to five years in order to ensure that invasive species are kept at bay and the native plants we install are able to flourish.

This project is especially exciting as it is adjacent to the Santa Clara Water [District's Adobe Creek Reach 5 Restoration Project](#), which CCW helped install in 2008. We are completing a three year maintenance period on this project this March, and it is looking great, with creek banks covered in native herbs and twelve to fifteen foot tall willows shading the creek bed. We are looking forward to continuing our work to restore the Adobe Creek watershed with the Edith Park Project this fall.

## Other Services Available From Ecological Concerns Incorporated:

- Complete Landscape Design & Installation Services
- Irrigation System Design, Installation & Service
- Erosion Control Plans: CPESC on Staff
- Grey Water Treatment Systems: Certified Installers on Staff
- Sustainable Landscape Maintenance Service

## Contact Central Coast Wilds

Come visit us!

Nursery: Open 10am - 3pm M-F or by appointment

336A Golf Club Dr.

Santa Cruz, California 95060

(831) 459-0656

Driving Directions