



A SAGE IN EVERY GARDEN



We will launch our white sage give-away campaign at our chapter meeting on **Wednesday, November 9, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM** at the **Murray Community Center, 2432 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo**

The goal of the campaign is to place 2,000 4-inch white sage plants in Orange County gardens. This evening we will give away 96 plants—one to each Orange County resident in attendance.

At 7:15 **'Bug' Bob Allen** will present brief biology highlights about white sage. Bob is co-author with Fred Roberts of the authoritative book, **Wildflowers of Orange County and the Santa Ana Mountains**.

At 7:30 the award-winning short documentary, **Saging the World**, will be shown. This brief film discusses how saging has become popularized in movies, television, and social media. Instead of healing, the appropriated use of saging is having a devastating impact on our environment. Poachers are stealing metric tons of this plant from the wild to supply international demand. **Saging the World** spotlights the ecological and cultural issues intertwined with white sage, centering on the voices of Native advocates who have long protected and cherished this plant.

After the movie, Juaneño Band of Mission Indians member, **Heidi Lucero**, will lead a discussion of the movie.

For more information on the SAGE IN EVERY GARDEN campaign, a complete list of give-away dates and locations, other sages native to Orange County, cultural uses of sages, and planting and care in the garden, please visit occnps.org.



Tree of Life Nursery

Sage Festival

Saturday November 12

9 AM – 3:30 PM

This is a free family event with educational workshops, interactive booths, shopping, plant giveaways, and more. Go to californianativeplants.com for all the details.

OC CNPS and OC Parks, Working Together

OC CNPS and Orange County Parks have long had a strong working relationship. This summer, that relationship was strengthened even more.

Our chapter has been pursuing an access and scientific collection permit with the county for some time. A few hurdles had to be overcome for this permit to become a reality. We needed to secure insurance, write a scientific research proposal, delineate our requested areas of encroachment, complete an application and justify our objectives.

This summer our permit was approved. Selected members of the Rare Plant and Invasive Plant committee now have both access and plant collecting permission at all of the county parks, beaches and other open space areas. With this permit we will be even better able to document the status, and distribution of our county's flora. Knowing where the plants are in the county, their habitat associations, phenology, abundance and more creates a baseline for good land management decisions, and ultimately leads to the conservation of our native flora and the management of our invasive flora.



Members of the Rare Plant and Invasive Plant Committees collect small samples of the plants growing throughout the county and press them, along with critical data such as their latitude/longitude, soil type, plant associates, life stage, slope and aspect, photographic details and more. These collections and the accompanying data are archived, primarily at the UC Irvine Herbarium, to create both a publicly available permanent physical and digital record. To date over 38,000 Orange County vascular plant records have been archived, dating as far back as at least the 1860's. Nearly 4,000 have been added in just the past five years.

The OC Parks Natural Resources team as well as the Supervising Rangers and staff at each facility use this important information to make informed decisions about such things as public access, weed management, restoration, trail work, public programs, fuels management and conservation.

The Access and Collecting Permit and the work chapter volunteers are doing is just one example of your chapter working to better understand and protect the flora of Orange County.

Ron Vanderhoff, OC CNPS Plant Science

HELP SOUGHT FOR SIGNAGE PROJECT

Chapter member **Robin Huber**, lead Natural Resources (plants) volunteer at **Chino Hills State Park**, is in charge of the nature walk at the Discovery Center and is working on restoring the plant community exhibits that had been allowed to "go to seed" over the last ten years.

Signs will identify specific native plants along the trail. Made of 9" x 5" sheet metal, the signs will first be coated with blackboard paint. Illustrations and lettering will be done with paint markers, the effect being that of chalk on a blackboard only permanent. A volunteer artist was lined up to do the artwork but bowed out recently. There's a

need for someone with art skills to replace her. If you have an artistic bent and want to know more about this project, please contact **Roberthuber@icloud.com**

REMOVE INVASIVE PLANTS FROM ORANGE COUNTY PARKS AND WILDLANDS

Be part of the ongoing effort to remove non-native invasive plants from Orange County's parks and wildlands. Join the weeding team now! Contact **Joan Miller** at **jem99876@gmail.com**

THE ACORN GRANT

Awarded to Orange County public schools, Kindergarten through 12th grade, this grant funds school garden projects that feature California native plants. For more information and to apply for a grant, go to **ocnps.org** and select **Grants** under the **Education** tab.

The **Tustin Memorial Academy** was recently awarded \$500 for their native plant school garden.

Chapter meetings take place on the **second Wednesday** of the month at the **Norman P. Murray Community Center**, Sycamore-B room, 24931 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo. From I-405, exit on La Paz east. Continue for 1.7 miles then turn left onto Veterans Way. The Community Center is on the left.