



Happy Earth Month!

It's always the right time to celebrate native plants and all they do for mother earth, but April has been deemed Earth Month, Native Plant Month, and Community Science month.

Earth Day takes place on **April 22** and is recognized as the largest civic event in the world. The movement began in our own backyard in response to the 1969 oil spill, inspiring us to act towards the protection of the environment and focus on the need for conservation.

The Garden invites you to join us in celebrating uniquely beautiful Cal flora and take steps to make an impact in the face of a growing climate crisis.

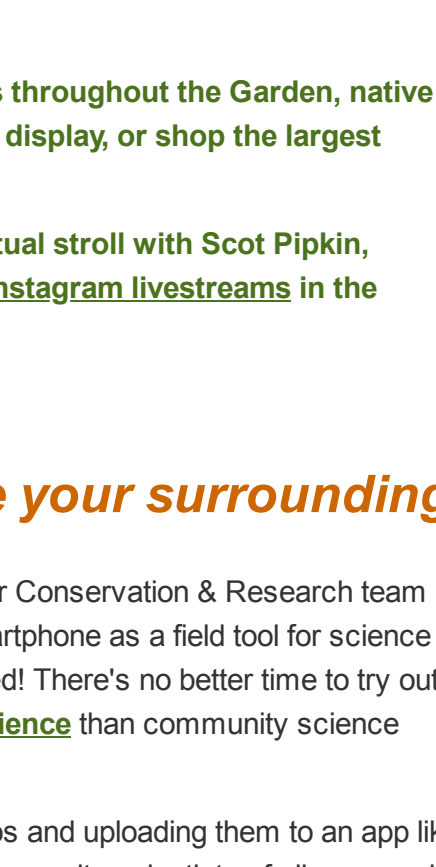
What You Can Do To Help:

Spend time in nature

Recharge at Garden this month. Let your child's imagination run wild in our Garden Casitas or explore the Garden through our flower-themed scavenger hunt.

The Garden happily welcomes all dogs on leash, so bring your four-legged friend to get some fresh air. Please be respectful of our plants and others by cleaning up after your pup and keeping them on the trail.

Look for our designated "photo spot" chalkboard signs to find the best places to capture iconic photos of you and your loved ones.



Come by on Earth Day to find conservation tips throughout the Garden, native plant inspiration for our home demonstration display, or shop the largest selection of native plants in our Nursery.

Get your Earth Day wildflower fix through a virtual stroll with Scot Pipkin, Director of Education and Engagement, as he [Instagram livestreams](#) in the Garden from 11am-12:30pm on April 22.

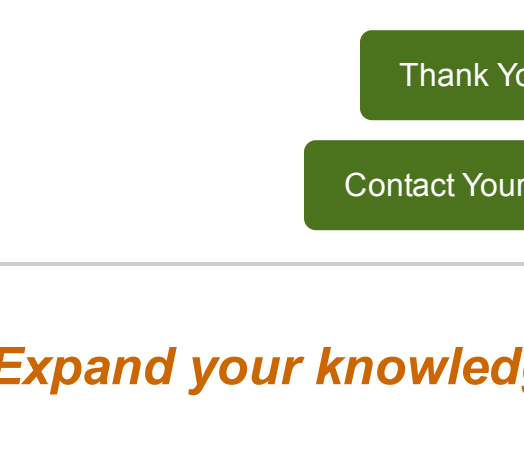
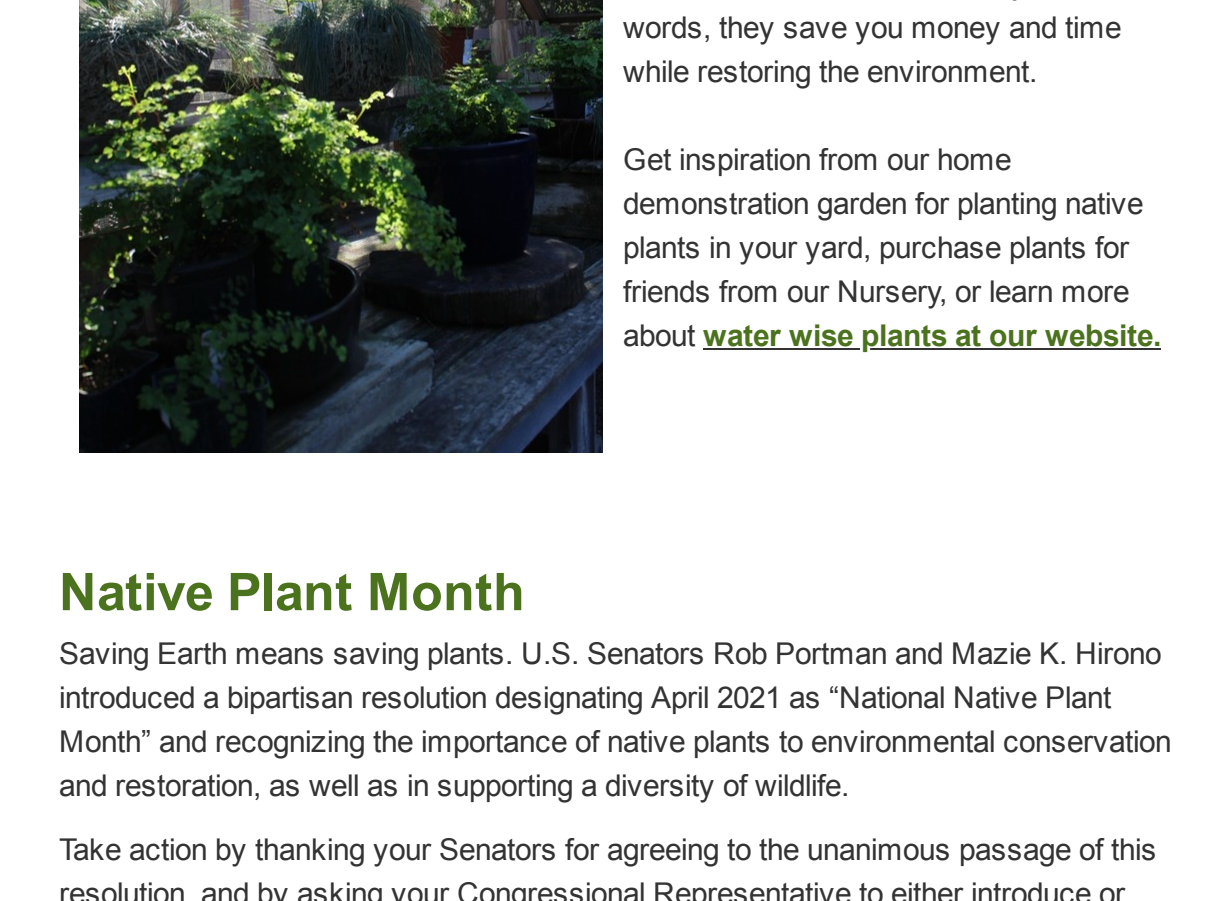


Observe your surroundings

Partner with our Conservation & Research team by using your smartphone as a field tool for science - no lab coat required! There's no better time to try out [community science](#) than community science month.

By taking photos and uploading them to an app like [iNaturalist](#), community scientists of all ages and abilities can record a wealth of information about nature. As the database grows, volunteers are producing a living record of life on Earth that scientists and land managers can use to monitor changes in biodiversity, and that anyone can use to learn more about nature. Observations can be taken anywhere outdoors.

Watch the video below for a quick tutorial on how to use the iNaturalist app.



Plant Native Plants

Native plants not only support the delicate food web that you and I rely on for survival, but they tend to be more naturally adapted to the local growing conditions.

That means they require less fertilizer, water, and maintenance from you. In other words, they save you money and time while restoring the environment.

Get inspiration from our home demonstration garden for planting native plants in your yard, purchase plants for friends from our Nursery, or learn more about [water wise plants at our website](#).

Native Plant Month

Saving Earth means saving plants. U.S. Senators Rob Portman and Mazie Hirono introduced a bipartisan resolution designating April 2021 as "National Native Plant Month" and recognizing the importance of native plants to environmental conservation and restoration, as well as in supporting a diversity of wildlife.

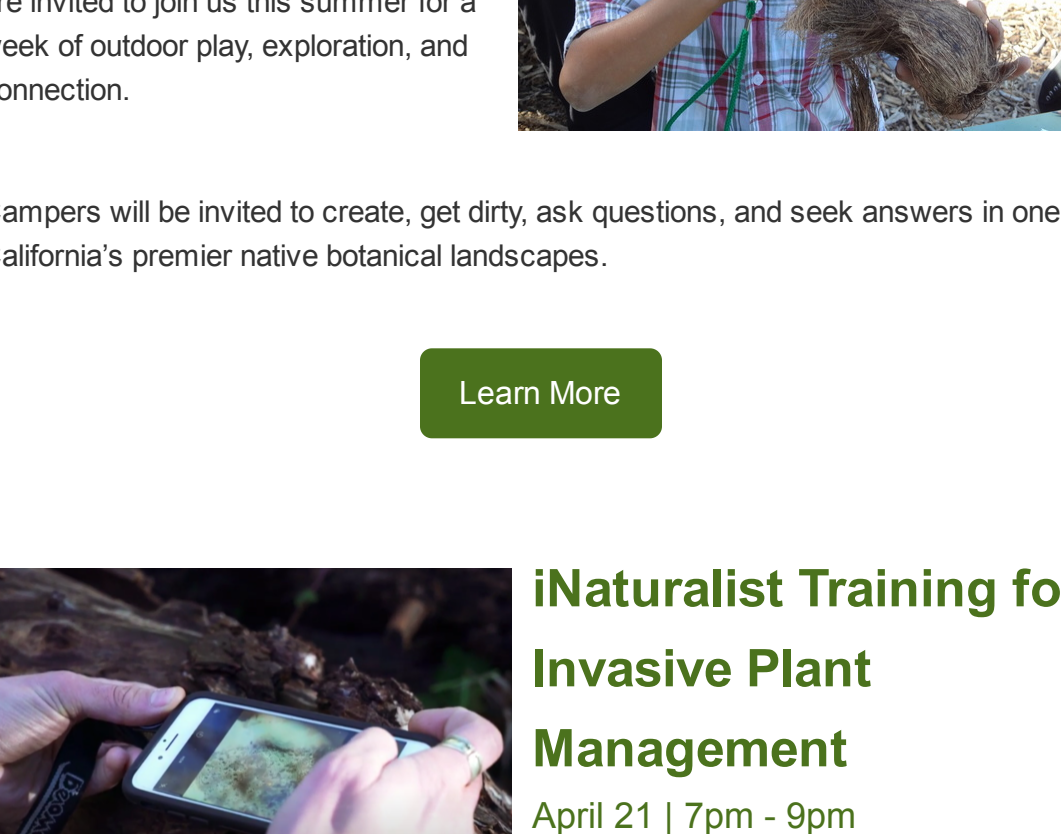
Take action by thanking your Senators for agreeing to the unanimous passage of this resolution, and by asking your Congressional Representative to either introduce or cosponsor the equivalent resolution in the House.

[Thank Your Senators](#)

[Contact Your House Member](#)

Expand your knowledge

Take advantage of our Earth Day-inspired talks and classes this month!



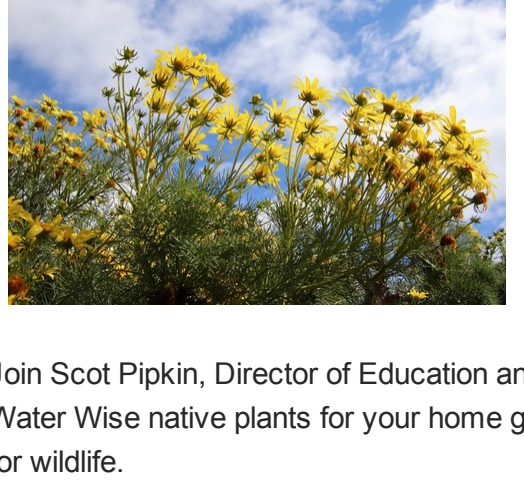
Santa Cruz Island Day Trip

Visit Scorpion Cove on Santa Cruz Island and see the spectacular wildflower blooms with island expert, Steve Junak. Participants can expect to see goldenfields (*Lasthenia gracilis*), Santa Cruz Island liveforever (*Dudleya nesiotica*), succulent lupine (*Lupinus succulentus*), San Miguel locoweed (*Astragalus miguelensis*), checker bloom (*Sidalcea malviflora*), and many more!

Two classes are offered, one on April 19th and one on April 30th. Click the button for more information!

[April 19th Trip](#)

[April 30th Trip](#)



Morning Bird Walk

April 20 | 8:30am - 10:00am

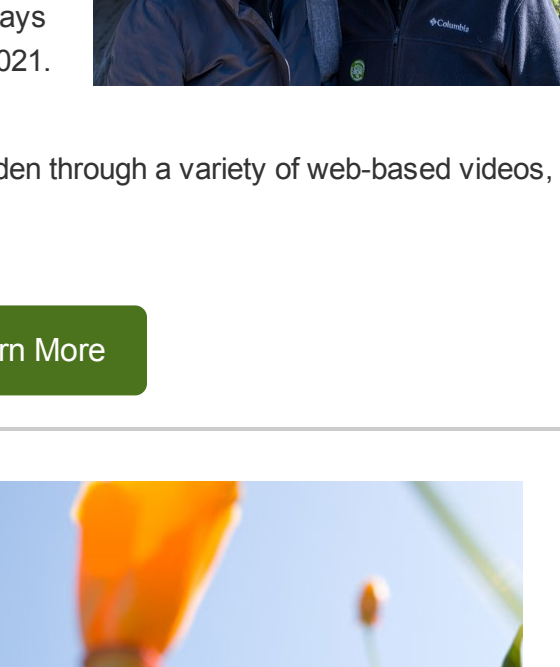
Be the first morning visitors in the Garden and enjoy watching the diverse and beautiful bird species that make the meadow, woodlands and creekside their home!

Join our experienced naturalist leader Rebecca Coulter as she looks and listens for woodpeckers and quail, wrens and raptors, and many more. Click below for more information.

[Register Now](#)

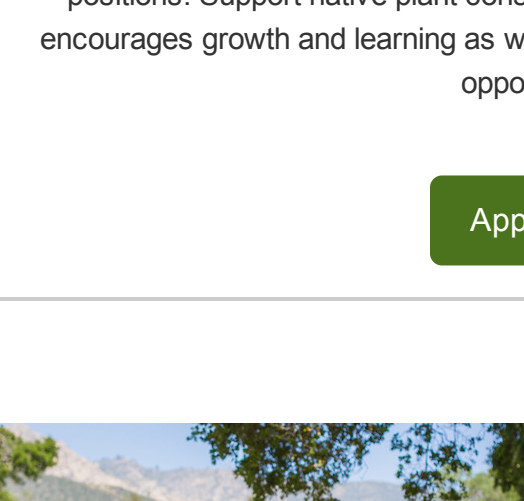
Summer Camps are back!

The Garden will launch our camp program this summer with 2 weeks of piloted programs. Children ages 5-10 are invited to join us this summer for a week of outdoor play, exploration, and connection.



Campers will be invited to create, get dirty, ask questions, and seek answers in one of California's premier native botanical landscapes.

[Learn More](#)



iNaturalist Training for Invasive Plant Management

April 21 | 7pm - 9pm

Join the Garden's Applied Ecologist, Dr. Josie Lesage, in an educational training session to learn how you can become a community scientist and collecting valuable species location data in iNaturalist.

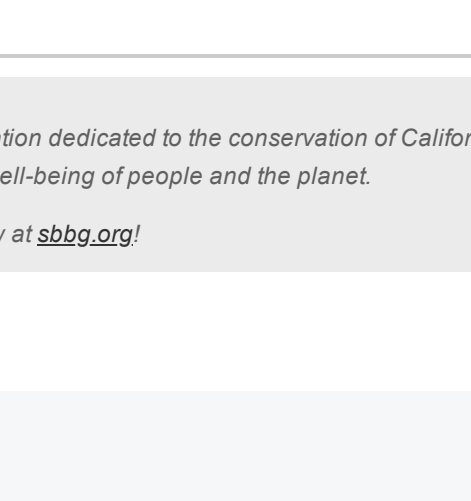
This free online workshop will introduce you to iNaturalist, describe key noxious weeds in the southern Los Padres and how to ID them and show you how to use iNaturalist to learn more about the plants and animals you encounter while hiking.

[Learn More](#)

Community Science and Stewardship

April 26 | 7pm - 9pm

Learn more about the Community Science Fire Resilience Project with the Garden and the Conservation Biology Institute. Community scientists and experts are mapping the locations of mudslide risk, invasive plants, rare plants, trail conditions, and more for the fire scars of the Thomas and Whittier Fires.



All you will need is a smartphone, a desire to go for a hike! If you live too far away, the technique, based on iNaturalist, can be applied to your local conditions. Dr. Josie Lesage will give training on how to best identify the 12 key invasive species of this project.

[Learn More](#)

Water Wise Native Plants

April 28 | 12pm - 1pm

Imagine a beautiful garden, full of life, which saves you water, time, and money; a garden full of California native plants!

Join Scot Pipkin, Director of Education and Engagement, for an introduction to winning Water Wise native plants for your home garden complete with tips for creating habitat for wildlife.

[Register Now](#)

Senior Free Day

April 21 | 10am - 6pm

Don't forget to join us on Senior Free Day on April 21. Welch-Ryce-Haider Funeral Chapels is providing six free admission days to seniors 60 years of age and better in 2021. Seniors unable to visit in person can still experience the joy and beauty of the Garden through a variety of web-based videos, livestreams, and activities online.

[Learn More](#)

We Are Hiring!

The Garden's team is growing and we have several full-time and part-time positions. Support native plant conservation in a beautiful environment that encourages growth and learning as well as excellence. Click below to view the opportunities.

[Apply Now](#)

Are you a member?

Members of the Garden support the conservation of native plants and enjoy unlimited admission to the Garden.

Find the right membership level for you and your family to take advantage of special members-only hours and events, nursery discounts, reciprocal admission to other participating gardens, and guest passes to share your love of the Garden with friends.

[Join or Renew](#)

Follow us online!

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of California native plants and habitats for the health and well-being of people and the planet.

Not a member? Join now at [sbbg.org!](#)

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