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Module 10: Garden Ecology

Urban EcoLab

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California Native Plants and Theodore Payne

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FACT SHEET California Native Plants, Theodore Payne and the Theodore Payne Nursery

California Native Plants

California has more than 6,000 species of native plants. They reflect the diverse geography and climates of the state.

Natives are easy to grow and many use little water once they're established.

They do not require soil amendments, like fertilizer.

They have high wildlife value - birds (hummingbirds), butterflies, native bees, etc.

Native plants are beautiful, fragrant and help restore California's heritage landscape.

It has been estimated that invasive pest plants - all of which are nonnative - cost California hundreds of millions of dollars.

Theodore Payne Nursery & Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants, Inc.

Founded in 1960.

Offers more than 400 species native plants for sale to the public, including grasses, perennials, ground cover, shrubs, and trees.

Offers more than 200 species of native plant seeds purchase at the nursery or by mail.

All members of the foundation receive a 10% discount on all plant purchases, and 15% at all plant sales. The general public receives a 10% discount at sales.

Operates the Wild Flower Hotline (established in 1982) from March to May, which provides up-to-date information about key wild flower sites throughout California.

Classes, including horticulture/garden design, medicinal plants, propagation, and drawing.

Annually sponsors a native plant garden tour of homes and public spaces throughout Los Angeles.

Located in Sun Valley, tucked away in the eastern-most corner of the San Fernando Valley.