

A Guide to Landscaping within and along Electric Transmission Corridors



Guidelines and recommendations to
create beautiful, usable spaces, and
habitat for wildlife and beneficial insects



A Pacific Gas and Electric Company "Right Tree Right Place" Publication



PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (PG&E) created this Electric Transmission Landscaping Guide to help you choose the right plants when planting near high voltage electric power lines. Choosing the right plants helps ensure the safe and reliable operation of electric transmission facilities, the delivery of affordable, reliable power to keep your lights on and those at hospitals, schools and businesses.

This illustrated guide suggests an abundant, beautiful array of vegetation suitable for planting and growing near transmission lines. It is not a comprehensive list, but helps begin discussions with your local nursery.

Using this guide when planting can help create a landscape that is unlikely to need utility pruning or vegetation removal in the future.

Wire Zone-Border Zone Vegetation Management

The industry best management practice for vegetation along transmission corridors used nationwide by all utilities is called Wire Zone-Border Zone Management. PG&E uses a standardized policy of monitoring and removing incompatible vegetation within the wire zone-border zone, including potentially hazardous trees that pose threats to public safety and the reliability of the electric system.

Low-growing vegetation is not considered a threat to transmission lines, and generally is not removed. Low-growing vegetation is now an encouraged landscape for all property owners with transmission lines on their property.

Landscaping Near Electric Transmission Lines

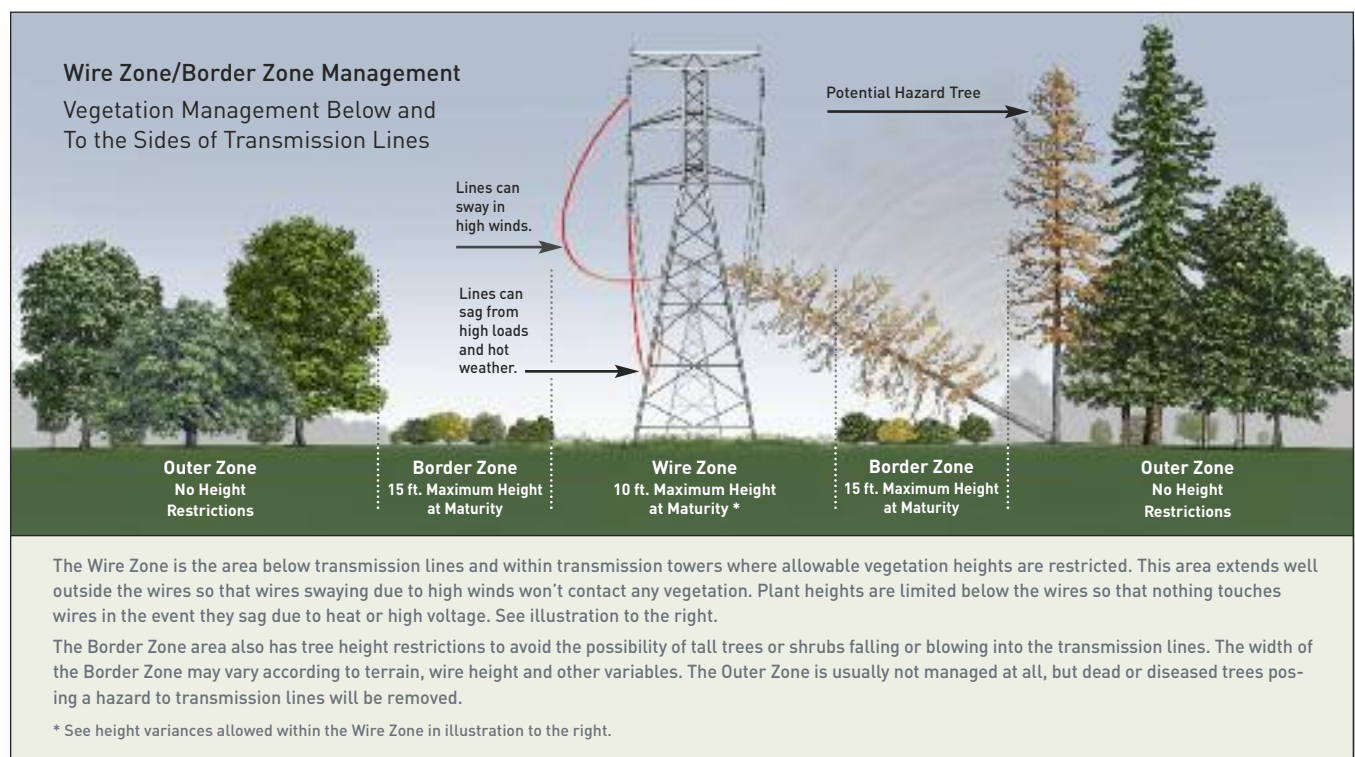
There are several things to consider when planting near transmission lines, as shown in the two illustrations below. Transmission corridors are threatened by incompatible vegetation from both the sides and underneath the wires.

In the Wire Zone-Border Zone Management illustration below, note the various landscaping zones: Outer Zone, Border Zone and Wire Zone. Planting guidelines ensure trees or vegetation to the sides and below do not come in contact with electric lines should they move as a result of wind or weather or should a tree fall into the line.

The Tower Zone-Quarter Zone-Belly Zone illustration below provides guidance for planting to ensure vegetation that is planted underneath the wires will not grow too tall.

What To Avoid in Landscaping

- Planting vines too close to transmission towers and wooden poles
- Planting trees within transmission towers
- Planting anything above a maximum height of 10 feet at maturity in the Belly Zone
- Planting incompatible agricultural crops, such as walnut and almond orchards



What Agricultural Growers Should Know

Orchard trees, such as walnuts, almonds and pistachios, can grow taller than 15 feet and will eventually pose a risk to the safe and reliable operation of the electric transmission system — and compromise public safety. These trees are incompatible with transmission lines, should not be planted, and will be subject to removal. Growers should design their orchards so that incompatible orchard trees are not being planted within transmission easements or underneath electric lines. For more information, visit the Orchard Website at: www.pge.com/orchards

Work with your local farm adviser to determine suitable agricultural crops for your area. Suggestions include cotton, tomatoes, lettuce, carrots, and grape vines.

Successful Planting Tips

- Work with your local nursery to identify other suitable plantings for the various zone areas.
- Consult a Utility Arborist for a free courtesy visit to verify voltage and ensure proper selection and placement of new plantings.



- Call 811 at least two working days before digging. This free service will mark and locate where underground utilities are buried, so that they may be safely avoided.

Planting To Benefit The Environment

Many property owners use the opportunity provided by the newly modified transmission corridor to plant gardens, flowers, grasses and shrubs to benefit nature and wildlife.

It's a great opportunity to plant for needed critical habitat for Monarch Butterflies or Honey Bees.

Helping Beneficial Insects

The Monarch Butterfly

The 2000-mile journey of the Monarch Butterfly is unique and a treasure whose fragility is evident in the diminishing numbers of Monarchs.

In the Pacific Northwest, Monarchs spend their summers breeding and laying eggs in milkweed stands before making their migration to coastal California or Mexico.

By creating Monarch habitat that includes milkweed and other native plant species, landowners can provide Monarchs with the resources to fuel their journey. For more information visit www.pollinator.org



The Honey Bee

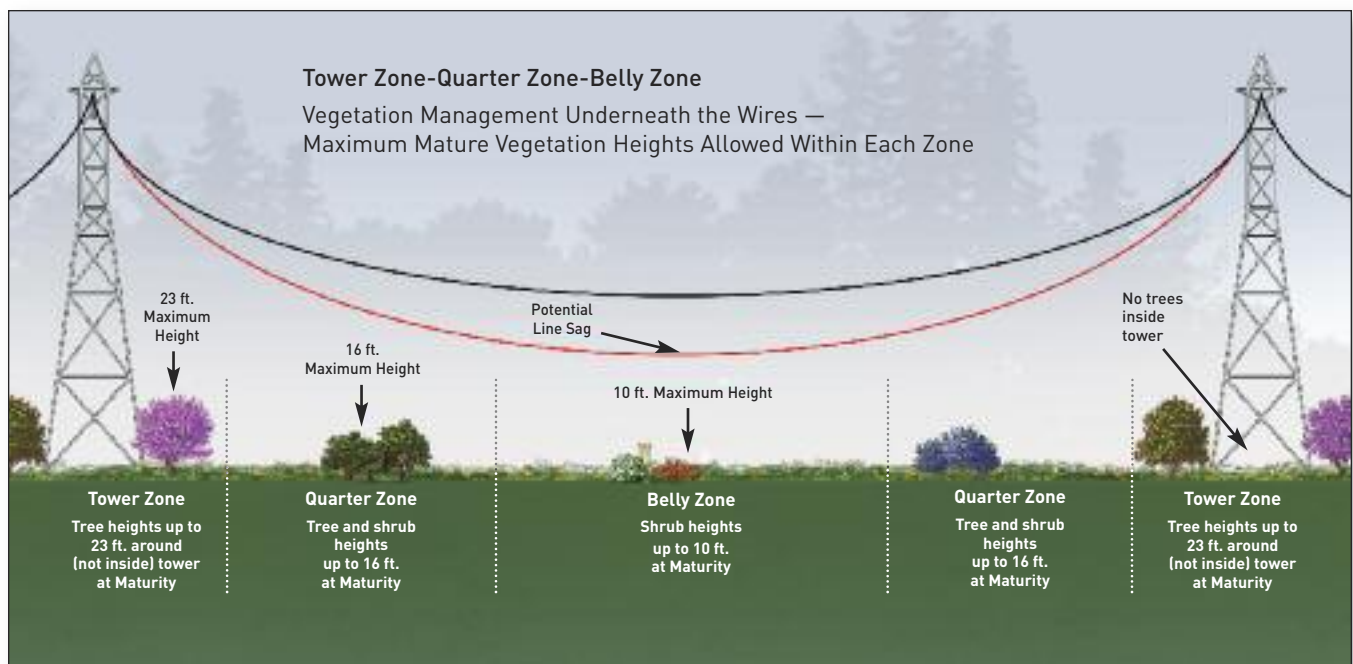
Bees across the country are disappearing due to a mysterious condition known as Colony Collapse Disorder, threatening agriculture and many of our favorite foods.

The list of crops that simply won't grow without honey bees

is a long one: apples, cucumbers, broccoli, onions, pumpkins, carrots, avocados, almonds ... and it goes on. You can help keep these important pollinators healthy by attracting them to your garden.

For more information visit:

<http://www.nrdc.org/wildlife/animals/beegardens.asp>



Landscaping within and along Electric Transmission Corridors





Transmission corridors provide unusual opportunities for landscaping that can be both beneficial and attractive. The chart on pages 6 and 7, along with the descriptions of recommended plants inside this guide can assist in this new use of open space.

With careful planning, corridors can be managed for wildlife enhancement, hiking trails, increased native planting and other compatible uses. For instance, as noted elsewhere in this guide, many of the recommended plants provide food and habitat for Monarch butterflies and other beneficial insects and birds.

This type of landscaping needn't be cost prohibitive, because many of the plants recommended in this guide can be grown from seed. The best source to determine which plants can be grown from seed in your area is your local nursery. You can also find information about seeding at: <http://plantfinder.sunset.com/plant-home.jsp>.

Creating a compatible landscape near transmission corridors will keep your lights on and your community safe while still providing beauty and benefits to the environment.

Tower Zone
Tree heights up to 20 feet
allowed around
(not inside) tower.
All vegetation should be
10 feet from
tower footprint.

Border Zone
Small trees not to exceed
15 feet in height

Outer Zone
No tree height
restrictions

Recommended Plants for Electric Transmission Corridors

THE WIDE VARIETY OF PLANTS ILLUSTRATED and described on the following pages work well when planted under or near electric transmission lines virtually throughout the Pacific Gas & Electric service area. These plants were selected because of drought tolerance, low maintenance, and in most cases, benefits for wildlife and beneficial insects. Each description includes information about height, preferred growing zones and notes about whether the plant attracts birds and beneficial insects. For a quick overview of these recommended plants, refer to the chart on the following pages 6-7.

Yarrow

Achillea millefolium

Yarrow has many varieties, with bloom colors ranging from white to purple. The white variety illustrated here has no branches except near the top. This plant has a lacy, delicate appearance, but once established is very drought tolerant. Height 1-2 feet. Sunset Zones: 1-24; USDA Zones: 3a-9b.

California native

Fragrant leaves and flowers

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Blue grama grass

Bouteloua gracilis

Also known as Signal-arm or Mosquito grass, Blue grama grass is native to open prairies, thus drought and heat tolerant. Can be planted to create a meadow or form an attractive border. Blooms are unusually flattened and bent. In fall, it shows a rusty rose color that fades to almost white in winter. Height 1-2 feet.

Sunset Zones: 1-3, 7-11, 14, 18-21; USDA Zones 5-9.

California native



Manzanita, 'Vine Hill'

Arctostaphylos densiflora

Manzanitas are characterized by thin, crooked branches with smooth, reddish-black bark. Small, urn-shaped white or pink flowers, usually blooming in late winter to early spring, followed by berry-like red or brown fruits that attract birds. Height 4-6 feet.

Sunset Zones: 7-9, 14-21; USDA Zones: 7-9.

California native

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



California lilac, 'Julia Phelps'

Ceanothus local species and 'Julia Phelps'

The Julia Phelps hybrid is one of many varieties of lilac found in California. It has small, dark green leaves and dark indigo flowers that grow in spike-like clusters. It can be left to grow as a bush or trained as a small tree. Height 8-10 feet.

Sunset Zones: 5-9, 14-24; USDA Zones: 8-10.

California native



California fuchsia
Epilobium canum,
select forms

When not flowering, this plant appears to be a tangle of narrow, gray-green woolly leaves and stems. But near summer's end, flower buds appear and the intense scarlet, trumpet-shaped flowers often last until cold weather. It spreads rapidly underground. Height 1-3 feet. Sunset Zones: 2-11, 14-24; USDA Zones: 8-9.

California native
Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Deergrass *Muhlenbergia rigens*

Also known as meadow muhly or deer muhly. It resembles a small pampas grass, with narrow, two-foot plumes rising above light green blades. A very tough plant, capable of surviving in harsh conditions. Height 3-5 feet. Sunset Zones: 4-24; USDA Zones: 8-10.

California native



Saint Catherine's lace
Eriogonum giganteum,
Eriogonum fasciculatum and others

A California native that produces large, showy clusters of lacy white flowers throughout the summer. Grows quickly into a large, rounded shrub with woolly, light-gray foliage. Height 3-6 feet.

Sunset Zones: 5, 7-9, 14-24; USDA Zones: 9a-11.

California native
Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Chaparral currant
Ribes malvaceum

This California native is a favorite of local bees. Its pink blooms occur in late winter or spring and last at least several weeks. Height 4-6 feet. Sunset Zones 6-9, 14-24; USDA Zones: 5a-8a.

California native
Attracts birds & beneficial insects
Has edible parts

Table of Recommended Plants for Electric Transmission Corridors

COMMON NAME	PAGE	PLANT SCIENTIFIC NAME	CLIMATE ZONES		HEIGHT	WIDTH	FLOWER COLOR
California Native Plants			SUNSET	USDA			
Yarrow	4	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	1-24	3a-9b	1-2 ft.	3 ft.	White, Pink
Manzanita, Vine Hill	4	<i>Arctostaphylos densiflora</i> & local species	7-9, 14-21	7-9	4-6 ft.	5-8 ft.	White, Pink
Blue grama grass	4	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	1-3, 7-11, 14, 18-21	5-9	1-2 ft.	1-2 ft.	Tan
California lilac, 'Julia Phelps'	4	<i>Ceanothus</i> local species and 'Julia Phelps'	5-9, 14-24	8-10	4-7 ft.	6-8 ft.	Dark Indigo
California fuchsia	5	<i>Epilobium canum</i> , select forms	2-11, 14-24	8-9	1-3 ft.	2-4 ft.	Red, Pink
Saint Catherine's lace	5	<i>Eriogonum giganteum</i> , <i>E. fasciculatum</i> , others	5, 7-9, 14-24	9a-11	3-6 ft.	3-6 ft.	White, Tan
Deergrass	5	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	4-24	8-10	3-5 ft.	4-6 ft.	Tan
Chaparral currant	5	<i>Ribes malvaceum</i>	6-9, 14-24	5a-8a	4-6 ft.	4-6 ft.	White, Pink
Hummingbird sage	8	<i>Salvia spathacea</i>	7-9, 14-24	7-10	2-3 ft.	3-6 ft.	Red, Pink
California goldenrod	8	<i>Solidago californica</i>	1-11, 14-23	5 to 10	1-5 ft.	1-2 ft.	Yellow
Fragrant Leaves and Flower							
Yarrow	4	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	1-24	3a-9b	1-2 ft.	3 ft.	White, Pink
Razzleberry, Chinese fringe flower	8	<i>Loropetalum chinense</i> 'Razzleberry'	6-9, 14-24	8-9	6-10 ft.	6-10 ft.	Pink to Purple
Hybrid catmint	8	<i>Nepeta x faassennii</i>	1-24	3a-8b	1-2 ft.	1-2 ft.	Lavender, Blue
Cut leaf lilac	9	<i>Syringa x laciniata</i>	3-12, 14-16, 18-22	4-8	5-8 ft.	4-8 ft.	Violet, Purple, Lavender
Dwarf oregano	9	<i>Origanum</i> 'Betty Rollins'	1-24	8-10	1-3 ft.	1-3 ft.	Pink
Rosemary, 'Ed Carman's'	9	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> 'Mozart'	4-24, H1, H2	7-10	1-6 ft.	3-6 ft.	Blue
Purple spot mock orange	9	<i>Philadelphus</i> 'Belle Etoile'	2b-17	5-8	5-8 ft.	3-6 ft.	White, Lavender
Rose, 'Gruss an Aachen floribunda'	9	<i>Rosa</i> 'Gruss an Aachen'	All Zones	4-11	4-5 ft.	4-6 ft.	Pink, White
Daylily	10	<i>Heemerocallis hybrids</i>	4-24; H1, H2	4-0	2-4 ft.	2-3 ft.	Multi-colored
Rose, Iceberg	10	<i>Rosa</i> 'Iceberg'	All Zones	5-9	3-5 ft.	3-6 ft.	White
Rose, 'Golden pearl' polyantha	10	<i>Rosa</i> 'Perle d'Or'	All Zones	4-11	3-8 ft.	5-12 ft.	Pink, Orange
Cleveland sage	10	<i>Salvia clevelandii</i>	8, 9, 12-24	9a-10b	1-3 ft.	1-3 ft.	Violet, Blue
Butterfly bush, Summer Lilac	11	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	2-24, H1	5-10	4-10 ft.	4-10 ft.	Purple
Attract Birds, Bees and Butterflies							
Yarrow	4	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	1 to 24	3a-9b	1-2 ft.	3 ft.	White, Pink
Manzanita, Vine Hill	4	<i>Arctostaphylos densiflora</i> & local species	7-9, 14-21	7-9	4-6 ft.	5-8 ft.	White, Pink
Day lily	10	<i>Heemerocallis hybrids</i>	4-24; H1, H2	4-0	2-4 ft.	2-3 ft.	Multi-colored
Michaelmas daisy, 'Purple dome'	11	<i>Aster</i> 'Purple Dome'	1-24	3a-9b	1-5 ft.	2-5 ft.	Violet
Texas Ranger (sage)	11	<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	7-24, H1, H2	6b-8b	6-8 ft.	16-8 ft.	Magenta, Purple
California fuchsia	5	<i>Epilobium canum</i> , select forms	2-11, 14-24	8-9	1-3 ft.	2-4 ft.	Red, Pink
Saint Catherine's lace	5	<i>Eriogonum giganteum</i> , <i>E. fasciculatum</i> , others	5, 7-9, 14-24	9a-11	3-6 ft.	3-6 ft.	White, Tan
Butterfly bush, Summer lilac	11	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	2-24, H1	5-10	4-10 ft.	4-10 ft.	Purple
Poker plant, 'Christmas cheer'	11	<i>Kniphofia</i> 'Christmas Cheer'	2-9, 14-24	5b-10b	4-5 ft.	6-12 ft.	Gold, Orange
Spanish lavender, 'Otto Quast'	12	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i> 'Otto Quast'	4-24	8-9	2 ft.	3-4 ft.	Purple
Razzleberry, Chinese fringe flower	8	<i>Loropetalum chinense</i> 'Razzleberry'	6-9, 14-24	8-9	6-10 ft.	6-10 ft.	Pink to Purple
Hybrid catmint	8	<i>Nepeta x faassennii</i>	1-24	3a-8b	1-2 ft.	1-2 ft.	Lavender, Blue
Dwarf oregano	9	<i>Origanum</i> 'Betty Rollins'	1-24	8-10	1-3 ft.	1-3 ft.	Pink
Chaparral currant	5	<i>Ribes malvaceum</i>	6-9, 14-24	5a-8a	4-6 ft.	4-6 ft.	Pink
Rose, Butterfly	12	<i>Rosa x odoratus</i> 'Mutabilis'	All Zones	7-9	5-9 ft.	5-12 ft.	Multi-colored
Rosemary, 'Ed Carman's'	9	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> 'Mozart'	4-24, H1, H2	7-10	1-6 ft.	3-6 ft.	Blue
Cleveland sage	10	<i>Salvia clevelandii</i>	8, 9, 12-24	9a-10b	1-3 ft.	1-3 ft.	Violet, Blue
Mint bush sage	12	<i>Salvia microphylla</i>	7-24	7-10	3-4 ft.	4-6 ft.	Red, Violet, Pink
Hummingbird sage	8	<i>Salvia spathacea</i>	7-9, 14-24	7-10	2-3 ft.	3-6 ft.	Red, Pink
Hybrid soapwort	12	<i>Saponaria x lempergii</i> 'Max Frei'	1-11, 14-24	4a-8b	6-12 in.	1-2 ft.	Pink
Cut leaf lilac	9	<i>Syringa x laciniata</i>	3-12, 14-16, 18-22	4-8	5-8 ft.	4-8 ft.	Violet, Purple, Lavender
Dwarf germander	13	<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i> 'Nanum'	2-24	4-9	1-2 ft.	1-2 ft.	Purple, Pink
Bush germander	13	<i>Teucrium fruticans</i>	4-24	8-9	3-4 ft.	4-6 ft.	Blue
California goldenrod	8	<i>Solidago californica</i>	1-11, 14-23	5-10	1-5 ft.	1-2 ft.	Yellow
Have Edible Parts							
Golden currant	13	<i>Ribes aureum</i>	A2, A3, 1-12, 14-23	7-10	5-7 ft.	4-6 ft.	Yellow, Orange
Chaparral currant	5	<i>Ribes malvaceum</i>	6-9, 14-24	5a-8a	4-6 ft.	4-6 ft.	Pink
Dwarf oregano	9	<i>Origanum</i> 'Betty Rollins'	1-24	8-10	1-3 ft.	1-3 ft.	Pink
Rosemary, 'Ed Carman's'	9	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> 'Mozart'	4-24, H1, H2	7-10	1-6 ft.	3-6 ft.	Blue
Butterfly Larval Food Plants							
Showy milkweed	13	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i> , <i>A. fascicularis</i> , <i>A. eriocarpa</i>	1-24	3a-9b	2-4 ft.	1-2 ft.	Purplish pink, white

FOLIAGE COLOR	ORNAMENTAL CHARACTER	COMMENTS
Light Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Many colorful varieties; lacy appearance. Attracts beneficial insects including butterflies. Attracts birds.
Green	Bark, Flowers	Colorful blooms; berry-like fruit. Attracts beneficial insects and hummingbirds. Deer resistant.
Light Green, Yellow Green	Fall color, Flowers	Drought and heat tolerant. Native to open prairies. Attracts beneficial insects.
Dark Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Small, dark green leaves; large dark indigo flowers. Attracts beneficial insects.
Light Green, Gray	Flowers, Fall color	Intense scarlet flowers into winter. Attracts hummingbirds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Gray Green, Silver	Fruit, Flowers, Bark	Large showy, lacy white flowers. Attracts beneficial insects including butterflies.
Green	Container plant, Flowers	Survives harsh conditions. Attracts beneficial insects.
Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Pink blooms. A favorite of bees, other beneficial insects. Attracts hummingbirds.
Green, Light Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Aromatic leaves with magenta flower spikes. Attracts hummingbirds.
Light Green	Flowers	Spectacular yellow flowers. Attracts beneficial insects, including butterflies.
Light Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Many colorful varieties; lacy appearance. Attracts beneficial insects including butterflies. Attracts birds.
Green and Purple	Flowers, Foliage color	Colorful flowers ranging from white to shades of red. Attracts hummingbirds and beneficial insects.
Gray Green	Flowers	Misty clouds of tiny flowers. Attracts beneficial insects including butterflies.
Green, Dark Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Fragrant, pale lilac flower clusters. Attracts beneficial insects.
Dark Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Leaves used as popular spice. Attracts butterflies. Attracts beneficial insects.
Dark Green, Gray Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Dark blue flowers. Rich in cooking oil. Attracts beneficial insects.
Dark Green	Fragrance	Fragrant, white to cream-colored blossoms. Attracts beneficial insects.
Dark Green	Flowers, Container plant, Fragrance	Pink or white clustered flowers. Attracts birds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Green	Flowers	A persistent and trouble-free plant that comes in a wide array of colors. Attracts hummingbirds and beneficial insects.
Green	Container plant, Fragrance, Flowers	Clusters of brilliant white flowers. Attracts birds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Green, Light Green, Red	Flowers, Container plant, Fragrance	Small blooms in open clusters. Attracts birds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Light Green, Gray Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Used for cooking, teas. Attracts hummingbirds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Gray Green	Flower, Fragrance, Foliage Color	Spikey clusters of lilac flowers. Dark green leaves on top, felted white below. Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects.
Light Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Many colorful varieties; lacy appearance. Attracts beneficial insects including butterflies. Attracts birds.
Green	Bark, Flowers	Colorful blooms; berry-like fruit. Attracts beneficial insects and hummingbirds. Deer resistant.
Green	Flowers	A persistent and trouble-free plant that comes in a wide array of colors. Attracts hummingbirds and beneficial insects.
Dark Green	Flowers, Container plant, Fall color	Purple blooms, yellow centers. Attracts beneficial insects including butterflies.
Gray	Flowers, Foliage color	Colorful plant with contrasting purple and silver when in bloom. Attracts beneficial insects.
Light Green, Gray	Flowers, Fall color	Intense scarlet flowers into winter. Attracts hummingbirds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Gray Green, Silver	Fruit, Flowers, Bark	Large showy, lacy flowers. Attracts beneficial insects including butterflies.
Gray Green	Flower, Fragrance, Foliage Color	Spikey clusters of lilac flowers. Dark green leaves on top, felted white below. Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects.
Green	Flowers	Bright orange buds, golden flowers. Attracts birds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Gray, Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Fragrant purple flowers. Attracts butterflies. Attracts beneficial insects.
Green and Purple	Flowers, Foliage color	Colorful flowers ranging from white to shades of red. Attracts hummingbirds and beneficial insects.
Gray Green	Flowers	Misty clouds of tiny flowers. Attracts beneficial insects including butterflies.
Dark Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Leaves used as popular spice. Attracts butterflies. Attracts beneficial insects.
Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Pink blooms. A favorite of bees, other beneficial insects. Attracts hummingbirds.
Dark Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Multi-colored, fluttery petals. Attracts beneficial insects. Attracts birds.
Dark Green, Gray Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Dark blue flowers. Rich in cooking oil. Attracts beneficial insects.
Light Green, Gray Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Used for cooking, teas. Attracts hummingbirds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Dark Green	Flowers	Looks like peppermint candy. Attracts birds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Green, Light Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Aromatic leaves with magenta flower spikes. Attracts hummingbirds.
Green	Flowers	Extremely drought tolerant. Attracts beneficial insects. Attracts birds.
Green, Dark Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Fragrant, pale lilac flower clusters. Attracts beneficial insects.
Dark Green	Flowers, Container plant	Low growing, dark pink flowers. Attracts beneficial insects. Attracts birds.
Gray	Flowers, Container plant	Lavender-blue flower spikes. Attracts beneficial insects. Attracts birds.
Light Green	Flowers	Spectacular yellow flowers. Attracts beneficial insects, including butterflies.
Light Green, Green	Flowers	Yellow flowers, turning orange with age. Attracts hummingbirds. Attracts beneficial insects.
Green	Flowers, Fragrance	Pink blooms. A favorite of bees, other beneficial insects. Attracts hummingbirds.
Dark Green	Fragrance, Flowers	Leaves used as popular spice. Attracts butterflies. Attracts beneficial insects.
Dark Green, gray green	Fragrance, Flowers	Dark blue flowers. Rich in cooking oil. Attracts beneficial insects.
Gray, Green	Flowers	All zones Balls of small, star-like flowers. Attracts butterflies and provides food for their larvae.



Hummingbird sage

Salvia spathacea

This coastal native spreads by rhizomes and bears upright stems with several pairs of broad, quilted, light green, aromatic leaves. Its flower spikes rise above the leaves and bear large, tubular, magenta-colored flowers. As its name implies, it is a favorite of hummingbirds. Height 2-3 feet. Sunset Zones: 7-9, 14-24; USDA Zones: 7-10.

California native

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



California goldenrod

Solidago californica

Known for its spectacular yellow flowers. It has fuzzy-gray leaves and stems, with wand-like stalks topped by clusters of small, yellow flowers. Height 1-5 feet.

Sunset Zones: 1-11, 14-23;

USDA Zones: 5-10.

California native

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Razzleberry, Chinese fringe flower *Loropetalum chinense* 'Razzleberry'

This colorful evergreen is a member of the witch hazel family.

It blooms in spring, and depending on the variety, its flowers can range from white to various shades of red. Each bloom has four-inch-long petals that droop downward. Height: 6-10 feet.

Sunset Zones: 6-9, 14-24; USDA Zones: 8, 9

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Hybrid catmint *Nepeta x faasennii*

Also known as catnip, this plant has attractive, aromatic foliage and misty clouds of tiny flowers. The individual grayish-green leaves are small, soft, and heart-shaped. They're set on long, slack stems topped with spikes of lavender-purple to blue tubular flowers. Height 1-2 feet. Sunset Zones: 1 to 24; USDA Zones: 3a-8b.

Fragrant leaves/flowers

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Cut leaf lilac *Syringa x laciniata*

This hybrid is often described as graceful because of its airy, finely textured foliage. It produces fragrant, pale lilac flower clusters up to 4 inches long in late spring. Height 4-8 feet.

Sunset Zones: 3-12, 14-16, 18-22; USDA Zones: 4-8

Fragrant leaves/flowers

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Dwarf oregano *Origanum 'Betty Rollins'*

This fragrant plant is a favorite on the hummingbird circuit during the winter. It thrives in low- or medium-water situations, and has a distinctive fountain-like shape. White flowers adorn semi-leafless stems during winter and early spring. Height 1-3 feet. Sunset Zones: 1-24; USDA Zones: 8-10.

Edible parts

Fragrant leaves/flowers

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Rosemary, 'Ed Carman'

Rosmarinus officinalis 'Mozart'

Looks good and tastes great! This variety of rosemary has the darkest blue flowers of any rosemary, and is rich in cooking oil. Blooms in spring and summer, then again in fall, making it very attractive to bees. Height 1-6 feet.

Sunset Zones: 4-24; H1, H2. USDA Zones: 7-10.

Fragrant leaves/flowers

Attracts birds & beneficial insects

Has edible parts



Mock orange, 'Purple spot'

Philadelphus 'Belle Etoile'

A very fragrant plant, with white to cream-colored blossoms that have purple or maroon centers. Grows in most conditions to a fountain-like shape. Height 5-8 feet.

Sunset Zones: 2b-17; USDA Zones: 5-8

Fragrant leaves/flowers



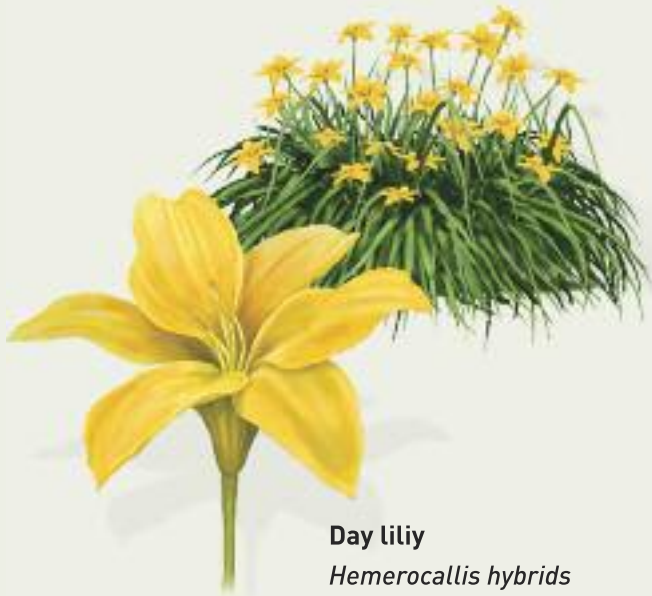
Floribunda rose, 'Gruss an Aachen'

Rosa 'Gruss an Aachen'

This hybrid rose was originally bred to withstand harsh winters. Produces pink or white flowers that occur in clusters rather than as a single flower per stem.

Height 4-5 feet. Sunset Zones: All; USDA Zones: 4-11

Fragrant leaves/flowers



Day lily
Hemerocallis hybrids

Day lillies are among the most persistent and trouble-free plants. They flourish in almost any soil type. Flowers appear at the ends of leaf-free stems, in a wide variety of colors ranging from white to yellow to orange to red. Height: 2-4 feet.

Sunset Zones: 4-24; H1-H2. USDA Zones: 4-10

Fragrant leaves/flowers

Has edible parts



Rose, Polyantha
'Golden pearl'
Rosa 'Perle d'Or'

Also known as Yellow Cecile Brunner, it has small blooms in open clusters. This variety has apricot or light pink undertones that age to white. Height 3-8 feet. Sunset Zones: All; USDA Zones: 4-11.

Fragrant leaves/flowers



Iceberg rose
Rosa 'Iceberg'

This plant features clusters of brilliant white flowers, thus the name 'iceberg.' It also comes in a climbing variety that reaches greater heights, but it must be attached to a fence or trellis to achieve full growth. Height 3-5 feet.

Sunset Zones: All; USDA Zones: 5-9.

Fragrant leaves/flowers



Cleveland sage *Salvia clevelandii*

A member of the mint family, this plant's fragrant leaves are sometimes used as a substitute for garden sage in cooking or to make a refreshing tea. Attracts hummingbirds, and bees and other beneficial insects. Blue-to-violet blooms. Height 1-6 feet.

Sunset Zones: 8,9, 12-24; USDA Zones: 9a-10b.

Fragrant leaves/flowers

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



**Butterfly bush,
Summer lilac**
Buddleja davidii

Distinctive, tapering leaves grow up to 12 inches with dark green on top, felted white below. Small, fragrant flowers, lilac with an orange eye, bloom in midsummer on branch ends, in arching, spikelike, dense clusters sometimes longer than 12 inches. Height: 4-10 feet.

Sunset Zones: 2-24, H1; USDA Zones: 5-10

Fragrant leaves/flowers

Attracts birds & beneficial insects

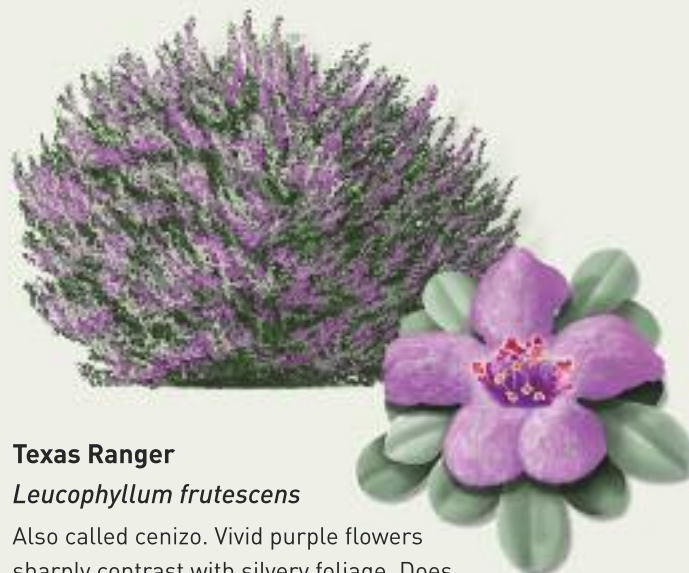


**Purple dome
Michaelmas daisy**
Aster, 'Purple Dome'

A quickly spreading plant that adapts to most soils. Its abundant, deep purple blooms with yellow centers can cover the entire plant. Height 1-5 feet.

Sunset Zones: 1 to 24; USDA Zones: 3a-9b.

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Texas Ranger
Leucophyllum frutescens

Also called cenizo. Vivid purple flowers sharply contrast with silvery foliage. Does well in hot, dry conditions. It can be pruned into a hedge, forming an attractive border. Height: 6-8 feet.

Sunset Zones: 7-24, H1, H2; USDA Zones: 6b-8b

Fragrant leaves/flowers

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Poker plant, 'Christmas cheer'
Kniphofia 'Christmas Cheer'

This hybrid gets its name 'Christmas Cheer' because unlike relatives, its blooms begin in late fall and early winter. Bright orange buds grow into brilliant golden flowers. With blooms on the ends of long stems, it resembles a hot poker. Height 4-5 feet.

Sunset Zones: 2-9, 14-24; USDA Zones: 5b-10b.

Attracts birds & beneficial insects

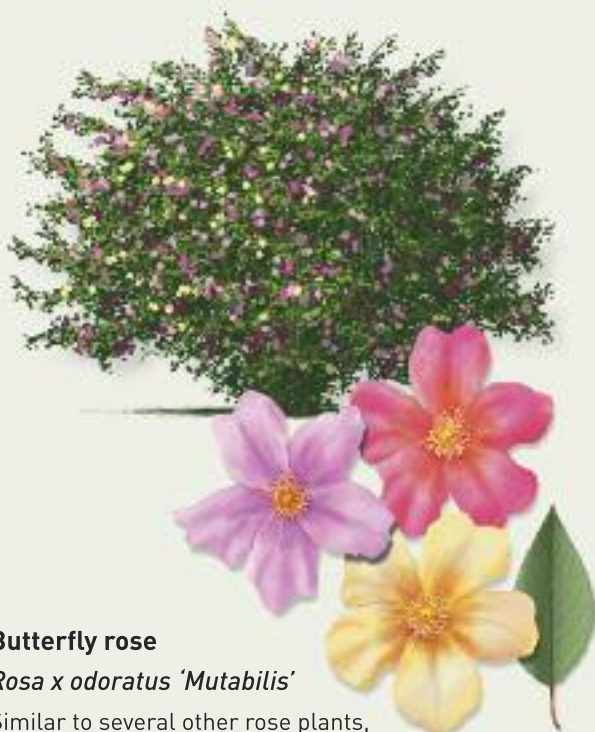


Spanish lavender, 'Otto Quast'

Lavandula stoechas 'Otto Quast'

Famous for fragrant lavender or purple flowers, often set off by aromatic gray, gray-green or yellowish green foliage. Blossom spikes are used for perfume, aromatic oil, soap, medicine and sachets. Height 2 feet. Sunset Zones: 4-24; USDA Zones: 8-9.

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Butterfly rose

Rosa x odoratus 'Mutabilis'

Similar to several other rose plants, and also known as tea rose. The 'butterfly' in one of its common names comes from its multi-colored, fluttery petals that an early observer mistook for butterflies. Height 7-9 feet. Sunset Zones: All; USDA Zones: 7-9.

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Mint bush sage

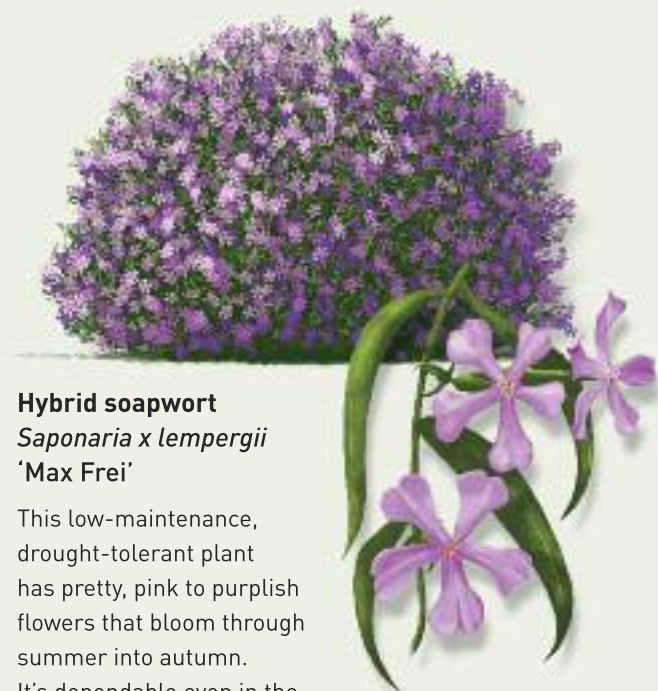
Salvia microphylla

From more than a few feet away, this plant looks like peppermint candy growing on a green stalk. Its white and red blooms attract bees. Height 3-4 feet.

Sunset Zones: 7-24;

USDA Zones: 7-10.

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Hybrid soapwort

Saponaria x lempergii

'Max Frei'

This low-maintenance, drought-tolerant plant has pretty, pink to purplish flowers that bloom through summer into autumn.

It's dependable even in the hottest weather, and works well with roses and taller plants. Height 1-2 feet.

Sunset Zones: 1-11, 14-24; USDA Zones: 4a-4b.

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Dwarf germander
Teucrium chamaedrys 'Nanum'

This low-growing ground cover has dark pink flowers in early summer. One of the few ground covers that does well in either full sun or part shade. Be aware that a much smaller plant with delicate white blooms is also known as a dwarf germander. Height 1-2 feet. Sunset Zones 2-24; USDA Zones 4-9.

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Bush germander
Teucrium fruticans

This silvery gray plant blooms virtually year-round, with lavender-blue flower spikes at branch ends. Height 4-6 feet. Sunset Zones: 4-24; USDA Zones: 8-9.

Attracts birds & beneficial insects



Golden currant
Ribes aureum

This shrub has light-green, three-lobed leaves and spicy-scented yellow flowers, turning orange with age, on long, wand-like stems. Berries are either yellow, red or black when ripe. Height 5-7 feet. Sunset Zones: A2, A3, 1-12, 14-23; USDA Zones: 7-10.

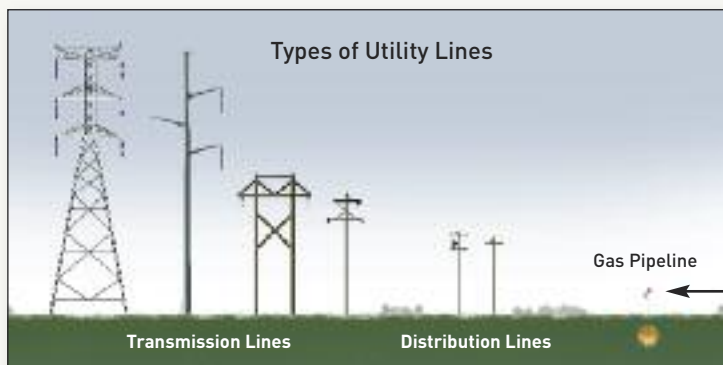
Has edible parts



Showy Milkweed
Asclepias speciosa

A striking plant, with balls of small, star-like flowers in shades of purplish-pink and white, nestled in thick, hairy gray leaves growing from sturdy green stems. Height 2-4 feet. Sunset Zones: 1-24; USDA Zones: 3a-9b

Butterfly larval food plant
Attracts beneficial insects



What types of utility lines are near you?

Planting restrictions for trees and other vegetation vary widely for different types of utility lines — electric transmission lines, electric distribution lines and gas pipelines. If you need help verifying which type of utility line is near you, call our Customer Care Center at 1-800-743-5000 to schedule an appointment with one of our tree-care professionals.

To request Gas Pipeline planting information call 1-800-743-5000.



What We Do to Keep Your Lights on and Your Community Safe

Pacific Gas and Electric Company's vast electric system crosses some of the most diverse terrain in the United States, delivering electricity to approximately 15 million people in northern and central California. The PG&E service area includes:

- 5.1 million electric customer accounts
- 4.2 million natural gas customer accounts
- 70,000 square miles
- 113,000 miles of distribution lines
- 18,500 miles of electric transmission lines
- 2.5 million wood poles and steel towers

Pacific Gas and Electric Company Is Here to Help You with Your Trees and Landscaping Needs

We are one of the largest employers of International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborists in the nation. Our vegetation management staff includes Registered Professional Foresters and Utility Arborists and an augmented staff of 1,200 specially trained tree-care professionals contracted from other tree companies that inspect and prune trees. Many of these contractors are also ISA Certified Arborists.



To schedule an appointment with one of our tree-care professionals or for questions about landscaping near electric utility facilities, please contact our Customer Call Center at 1-800-743-5000.

National Recognition and Professionalism

PG&E is a recognized Tree Line Utility by the National Arbor Day Foundation. This prestigious award is presented to utilities across the nation for utilizing arboriculture practices to protect and enhance America's urban forests. And we continue to be a leader in the tree industry through involvement in a variety of organizations such as: International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), Western Chapter of ISA, Utility Arborist Association, Society of Municipal Arborists, California Fire Safe Council, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and the Right-of-Way Stewardship Council.

References and Resources

- Reliable Plants for California Landscapes: www.ccu.h.ucdavis.edu
- Pollinating Plants: www.pollinator.org
- California Tree Selections: www.selecttree.calpoly.edu
- Tree Line USA: www.arboday.org
- Utility Vegetation Management: www.ferc.gov
- Bramble and Byrnes Research, Game Lands 33: www.dowagro.com/vm/environmental/game_land_33.htm
- California Center for Urban Horticulture, UC Davis
- Illustration: Robert O'Brien

Other Publications

To request a free copy of a Guide to Small Trees Near Distribution Lines (available for Bay Area and Inland, Northern California and Central California), the Powerwise Tree Planning Guide or another copy of this guide, email a request to RightTreeRightPlace@pge.com or call 1-800-743-5000. Please indicate which guide, how many copies are needed and include a mailing address.



PG&E Service Area

