

218 Montego Dr., Danville (Maria Sargent) 2023

I hope you enjoy my garden, and please feel free to ask me any questions. Over the past 3 years I have enjoyed watching the birds becoming more at home in this garden with their supplemental food, and also having the bird baths. I have seen many more bees coming to this garden since the lawn was taken out and the natives were installed.

Garden was installed by Pete Veilleux of East Bay Wilds in Feb. 2015. The left side by the garage was worked on in 2017. Originally there were three trees with rocks around them. Pete was able to incorporate all of the previous material, rocks surrounding the trees into the landscaping. The lawn was turned over and good soil from American soil in Richmond was added and Pete installed the pathway. I have added a few plants and flowers as they have died over the initial planting.

My go to Books:

Growing California Native Plants by Marjorie B. Schmidt and Katherine L. Greenberg
California Native Gardening A-MONTH-BY-MONTH GUIDE by: Helen Popper

Resources online

Facebook: California Native Plant Society
Calscape.org
Suncrestnurseries.com
Anniesannuals.com

Nurseries: Places I have bought plants. (check your booklet for addresses)

East Bay Wilds. Oakland Open most Fridays. All plants are CA natives.

Annie's Annuals and Perennials Richmond, CA

They have a CA native section. Notice the markers have a CN on them to show they are California Natives. They also do mail order. This is where I got my Wind Poppy.

Orchard Nursery. Orinda. They have a small section of natives, and lots of grasses, and carry some Annie's Annuals.

Native Here Nursery (Berkeley) I find the *Mimulus aurantiacus* Mt. Diablo that I buy here does very well in the Danville garden. Also got my soap plant here.

UC Berkeley Botanical Garden 200 Centennial Dr, Berkeley, CA 94720 There is a fee to tour their 35 acres garden, but if you go up to the window and tell them you are just there to look at their nursery and gift shop there is no charge. They have a small selection but I have been successful in finding a few natives and other interesting plants.

GreenThumbWorks.com. Get on their email list. They have native plants for sale at different places usually in the San Leandro, Castro Valley area. Sandra can sometimes find you a plant that you need. Website shows plants that you can get, and she will bring to her sale on weekend. Sale places change.

UC Davis Arboretum. They have sales in the fall and the spring.

Bulbs: This last year I ordered 500 + bulbs to plant in the Danville garden. I mail ordered from Van Engelen. They come in packs of 50 or 100. I order during the summer and they come in time for the fall planting. They do not need to be refrigerated first like Tulip bulbs.

Seeds: lernerseeds.com You can buy CA native seeds in quantity and start plants yourself. I have been very successful with the clarkia and poppy.

Other Materials

American **Soil** and Stone Products of Richmond. Soils, rocks,. Lately I have been using the EB stone cactus mix and adding some crushed red lava for drainage. Native plants like drainage.

Horizon **Irrigation** store- 1880 Arnold Industrial Pl, Concord, CA and 6700 Sierra Ln, Dublin, CA 94568. This is my go to irrigation place. They carry the netafim and other drip irrigation supplies at a very cheap price. Don't expect the price to be posted. You need to ask. Watering Schedule. I began with the following: Water 3 times per week, with 30 minutes each, however the 30 minutes, is done with 10 minutes on, 10 minutes off, 10 minutes on, 10 minutes off, 10 minutes on) Slowly through the next season decrease to watering twice a week, for 20 minutes, 10 on, 10 off, 10 on,) Last summer I only watered a few plants that looked to be in need of water.

Mulch call the tree companies and see if they have any free mulch that can be dropped off.

Birds I bought all my bird feeders from East Bay Nature except the white house on the porch. I bought it from Duncraft bird store online. (It took about 3 weeks for the birds to get use to this new feeder.) 1270 Newell Ave, Walnut Creek. I also buy all my bird feed from them. High quality bird food. I use the Pure Patio and suet. Bird feeders are hung on the porch in the winter to keep the birdseed from going rancid during the rainy period.

Stepping stones- I found Tammy Bottelman on etsy who will custom make for you your stepping stone. I designed the CA poppy stone and she made it for me. <https://www.etsy.com/people/tammybottelman>

Metal artsy animals- My go to catalog is Plow and Hearth. www.plowhearth.com also wind and Weather. www.Windandweather.com

Bird Baths I enjoy working with ceramics and designed the bird baths. They need to be cleaned weekly with a scrub brush. The base of the one bird bath is the bottom of a patio table that I got at **Urban Ore** in Berkeley. Eclectic items at this store. The bird bath that is on the ground is used a lot by the night animals that visit.

Side of house I moved to this house in 1960. Behind us was a working Walnut Orchard. Many of these tools were rescued from the ranch before it was torn down. The boards used as the backdrop was from the original fence between our 2 properties.

PLANTS I do have a couple of Dudleyas in my front yard. I have more in the back. They seem to need some shade in the afternoon, to avoid scorching. It has been very disturbing to read about the black market for Dudleyas in China and Korea, and how many of these plants are being harvested and smuggled out of our country. You might find this article interesting about the kidnapped plants and how volunteers are getting them back to their natural habitat. <https://www.mercurynews.com/2018/04/20/busting-plant-smugglers-along-californias-coast/>