



Sage Advice from the Roundhouse.... Native Groundcovers

The low-growing, spreading habit of certain California natives make them ideal groundcovers for planting in masses on slopes, in the front of mixed border plantings or even as a lawn substitute. Many of the native groundcovers make beautiful drought tolerant landscape accents with their unique colors, textures, flowers, berries and fragrant foliage. These plants are also a key component to a fire-safe landscape for those residing near high-risk natural areas. For a variation of plant height and texture, to fill a bare spot, to border a walkway, or even to cascade over a low wall, give one of these low, unthirsty spreaders a try...

PLANT NAME	COMMON NAME	EXPOSURE
Arctostaphylos 'Emerald Carpet'	Manzanita	full sun to part shade
Arctostaphylos 'Woods Compact'	Manzanita	full sun to part shade
Arctostaphylos 'Monterey Carpet'	Manzanita	part shade
Artemisia californica 'Montara'	Montara Sagebrush	full sun
Baccharis 'Pigeon Point'	Dwarf Coyote Bush	full sun to part shade
Baccharis 'Twin Peaks'	Dwarf Coyote Bush	full sun
Ceanothus 'Anchor Bay'	California Lilac	full sun (coast) to part shade
Ceanothus 'Yankee Point'	California Lilac	full sun (coast) to part shade
Ceanothus hearstorium	California Lilac	full sun
Epilobium californicum	California Fuschia	full sun
Fragaria californica	Wild Strawberry	part shade
Grindelia stricta	Gum Plant	full sun (coast) to part shade
Iva hayesiana	San Diego Marsh Elder	full sun to full shade
Mahonia repens	Creeping Mahonia	part to full shade
Salvia mellifera 'Tera Seca'	Tera Seca Sage	full sun to part shade
Satureja douglasii	Yerba Buena	part to full shade

Of course, there are many other low to medium-growing natives that can be used as groundcovers. Using an assortment of plant heights on a slope holds the soil in place at various root depths, which is vital for stability. Avoid large areas of bare soil by using a heavy mulch layer to control erosion. For more information on individual plants, check out our catalog.