




## 9 Find Native Plants in Your Area

The USDA has excellent online guidance for finding plants native to your state and even your county. The following tutorial includes screen shots to help you use their website to identify suitable plants for your project. You may want to visit a nearby native plant nursery to see what's available. If no native plant nursery is nearby, you'll have to look up what is available in your area with this database.

Always avoid invasive plants. Some of these, such as periwinkle (vinca minor or major), English ivy, and Yellowflag iris may be sold at your local nursery. For more information, visit the California Invasive Plant Council's website: [http://www.cal-ipc.org/ip/management/plant\\_profiles/](http://www.cal-ipc.org/ip/management/plant_profiles/).

Tutorial Directions & Related Information	What To Look For OR What You'll See
<p>1. Go online to the USDA PLANTS Database at: <a href="http://plants.usda.gov">plants.usda.gov</a></p> <p>2. In the upper left hand corner click on "Advanced Search".</p> <p>(For better viewing, the left navigation bar has been cropped from the rest of the screen shots.)</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the USDA PLANTS Database website. At the top, it says "USDA United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service". Below that is the "PLANTS Database" logo with images of various plants. There are navigation links for "Home" and "About PLANTS". A search box is visible with a "Name Search" field and a "Go" button. Below the search box are links for "State Search", "Advanced Search", and "Search Help". To the right of the search box, it says "You are here: Home/" and "The PLANTS Database provides the vascular plants, mosses, the U.S. and its territories." Below that is a section for "Plant of the Week".</p>
<p>3. We're going to pick and choose a few different items on the "Advanced Search and Download" web page. Not all search options need attention. For any of these scroll menus, you may have to click outside the box (in white space) to get your choice to "stick".</p> <p>Start by scrolling down under "1. Distribution" to "County Distribution" and choose your county. In this example, we chose California: Trinity.</p>	<p><b>1. Distribution</b></p> <p><b>PLANTS Floristic Area or Not</b> include: Any, PLANTS Floristic Area, --North America, --Lower 48 U.S. States, --Alaska, --Canada</p> <p><b>State and Province</b> include: Any, U.S. States, --Alabama, --Alaska, --Arizona, --Arkansas</p> <p><b>County Distribution (Select a maximum of 256)</b> include: California:Sutter, California:Tehama, <b>California:Trinity</b>, California:Tulare, California:Tuolumne, California:Ventura</p> <p><small>Note: PLANTS Floristic Area or Not cannot be used with the next two search boxes.</small></p> <p><small>Note: County results are added to State and Province results. See About the Advanced Search and Download for details.</small></p>

# 5C Program

Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program



<p>4. Scroll down under “2. Taxonomy” to “National Common Name” and click the checkbox to the right that says “Display”</p>	<p>National Common Name include: <input type="text"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display</p> <p>Wild cards are permitted.</p>																		
<p>5. Scroll down under “3. Ecology” to “Duration” and choose “Perennial”</p>	<p><b>3. Ecology</b></p> <p>Duration include: <input type="text" value="Perennial"/></p>																		
<p>6. Go to the next item under “3. Ecology” to “Native Status” and choose “-- L48 Native”</p>	<p><b>3. Ecology</b></p> <p>Duration include: <input type="text" value="Perennial"/></p> <p>Growth Habit include: <input type="text" value="Any"/></p> <p>Native Status include: <input type="text" value="--L48 Native"/></p>																		
<p>7. Scroll down (or up) to the “Display Results” button and click on it.</p>	<p><input type="button" value="Display Results"/> <input type="button" value="Review Selections or Sort Report"/></p> <p>Display Results runs the entire search, Parts A and B</p>																		
<p>8. A list (partially shown here) of all plants native to Trinity County in California with their common names is generated:</p>	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>Scientific Name</th> <th>Common Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Abies lowiana</i></td> <td>Sierra white fir</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Abies magnifica</i></td> <td>California red fir</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Acer circinatum</i></td> <td>vine maple</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Acer glabrum</i></td> <td>Rocky Mountain maple</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Acer glabrum var. torreyi</i></td> <td>Torrey maple</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Acer macrophyllum</i></td> <td>bigleaf maple</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Achillea millefolium</i></td> <td>common yarrow</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Achillea millefolium var. occidentalis</i></td> <td>western yarrow</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Scientific Name	Common Name	<i>Abies lowiana</i>	Sierra white fir	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	California red fir	<i>Acer circinatum</i>	vine maple	<i>Acer glabrum</i>	Rocky Mountain maple	<i>Acer glabrum var. torreyi</i>	Torrey maple	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	bigleaf maple	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	common yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium var. occidentalis</i>	western yarrow
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9. To narrow the search to certain types of plants, like shrubs and trees, click on the “Back” button or back arrow of your internet browser (see next step & figure).



Selections that might be appropriate to plant in a rain garden or your landscape area are:

- Forb/herb (flowering plants that aren’t grasses, sedges, & rushes)
- Graminoid (grasses, sedges, & rushes)
- Shrub
- Subshrub
- Tree
- Vine

10. Scroll down to “3. Ecology” and “Growth Habit”.

For this example, choose “Forb/herb”. (To choose more than one selection at a time in any of these lists, hold down the “Ctrl” button on your computer while scrolling and clicking. Once you’re done selecting, you can double check your selections by letting go of the Ctrl button and scrolling around to see if more than one selection is highlighted. )

### 3. Ecology

Duration	include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any</li> <li>Annual</li> <li>Biennial</li> <li style="background-color: #cccccc;">Perennial</li> </ul>
Growth Habit	include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any</li> <li style="background-color: #007bff; color: white;">Forb/herb</li> <li>Graminoid</li> <li>Lichenous</li> </ul>
Native Status	include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any</li> <li>Native to PLANTS Floristic Area</li> <li>--North America Native</li> <li style="background-color: #cccccc;">--L48 Native</li> <li>--AK Native</li> <li>--CAN Native</li> </ul>

11. Your previous choices should still be selected. Scroll down to “Review Selections or Sort Report” button in the middle or bottom of the page and click this to see what criteria you’ve entered so far.

Display Results

Review Selections or Sort Report

Display Results runs the entire search, Parts A and B

12. After you click, you’ll see all your criteria listed.

### Review Selections or Sort Report

Search and display criteria are listed below. Review your selections, a options if you plan to Display Report. Or, Modify Selections to change

#### Items Selected for Part A: PLANTS Core Data

- |                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Distribution</b> |                                      |
| County                 | include: California:Trinity          |
| <b>2. Taxonomy</b>     |                                      |
| Scientific Name        | include:                             |
|                        | include: Accepted Names and Synonyms |
| Common Name            | include:                             |
| <b>3. Ecology</b>      |                                      |
| Duration               | include: Perennial                   |
| Growth Habit           | include: Forb/herb                   |
| Native Status          | include: L48 Native                  |

# 5C Program

Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program



<p>13. Now click the “Display Results” button at the bottom of this page.</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px; margin: 0 10px;">Display Results</span> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px; margin: 0 10px;">Review Selections or Sort Report</span> </div> <p>Display Results runs the entire search, Parts A and B</p>																
<p>14. This list (partially shown) is narrowed to native, perennial flowering plants in Trinity County in California.</p>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; color: blue;">Scientific Name</th> <th style="text-align: left; color: blue;">Common Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Achillea millefolium</i></td> <td>common yarrow</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Achillea millefolium</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i></td> <td>western yarrow</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Aconitum columbianum</i></td> <td>Columbian monkshood</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Aconitum columbianum</i> ssp. <i>columbianum</i></td> <td>Columbian monkshood</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Actaea rubra</i></td> <td>red baneberry</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Actaea rubra</i> ssp. <i>arguta</i></td> <td>red baneberry</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Adonis vernalis</i></td> <td>American trailplant</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Scientific Name	Common Name	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	common yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>	western yarrow	<i>Aconitum columbianum</i>	Columbian monkshood	<i>Aconitum columbianum</i> ssp. <i>columbianum</i>	Columbian monkshood	<i>Actaea rubra</i>	red baneberry	<i>Actaea rubra</i> ssp. <i>arguta</i>	red baneberry	<i>Adonis vernalis</i>	American trailplant
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<p>15. To narrow your search to find plants appropriate for different moisture zones, scroll to “4. Legal Status” and look for “National Wetland Indicator Status” as follows: Click the back button on your browser twice to the “Advanced Search and Download” page. Scroll to “4. Legal Status” and under “National Wetland Indicator Status”. Holding down the Ctrl button throughout, choose “-- FACW (Facultative Wetland)”, then scroll down and click on “-- FAC+ (Facultative +)”.</p> <p>The different moisture zones of a rain garden (base, slope, top) can be correlated to National Wetland Indicator Status<sup>1</sup> as shown in this rain garden diagram:</p>	<div style="margin-bottom: 20px;"> <p>National Wetland Indicator Status include: --FACW+? (Possibly Facultative Wetland+)</p> <p style="background-color: #e0f0ff; padding: 2px;">--FACW (Facultative Wetland)</p> <p>--FACW? (Possibly Facultative Wetland)</p> <p>--FACW- (Facultative Wetland-)</p> </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 20px;"> <p>National Wetland Indicator Status include: --FACW+? (Possibly Facultative Wetland+)</p> <p style="background-color: #e0f0ff; padding: 2px;">--FACW (Facultative Wetland)</p> <p>--FACW? (Possibly Facultative Wetland)</p> <p>--FACW- (Facultative Wetland-)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div>																

<sup>1</sup> Per conversation with Rob Emmanuel, Ph.D. Clean Water Services in Hillsboro, OR



<p>16. Let's review our choices by clicking on the "Review Selections or Sort Report" button.</p>	<p><b>Review Selections or Sort Report</b></p> <p>Search and display criteria are listed below. Review your selections, options if you plan to Display Report. Or, Modify Selections to change</p> <p><b>Items Selected for Part A: PLANTS Core Data</b></p> <p><b>1. Distribution</b> County include: California:Trinity</p> <p><b>2. Taxonomy</b> Scientific Name include: include: Accepted Names and Synonyms Common Name include:</p> <p><b>3. Ecology</b> Duration include: Perennial Growth Habit include: Forb/herb Native Status include: L48 Native</p> <p><b>4. Legal Status</b> National Wetland Indicator Status include: FACW - Facultative Wetland, FAC+ - Facultative</p>																
<p>17. Click on the "Display Results" button at the bottom of this page.</p>	<p><b>Display Results</b> <b>Review Selections or Sort Report</b></p> <p>Display Results runs the entire search, Parts A and B</p>																
<p>18. You'll see all the flowering, native, and perennial plants native to Trinity County, CA that are appropriate for the wettest zones of a rain garden.</p>	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Scientific Name</b></th> <th><b>Common Name</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Aconitum columbianum</i></td> <td>Columbian monkshood</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Angelica arguta</i></td> <td>Lyll's angelica</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Apocynum cannabinum</i></td> <td>Indianhemp</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Apocynum sibiricum</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Aralia californica</i></td> <td>California spikenard</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Arnica amplexicaulis</i></td> <td>clasping arnica</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Arnica montana</i></td> <td>rueless arnica</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<i>Aconitum columbianum</i>	Columbian monkshood	<i>Angelica arguta</i>	Lyll's angelica	<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	Indianhemp	<i>Apocynum sibiricum</i>		<i>Aralia californica</i>	California spikenard	<i>Arnica amplexicaulis</i>	clasping arnica	<i>Arnica montana</i>	rueless arnica
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## Links to Plants Native to Your County

We've done *some* of the sorting for you. The links below will give you a list of perennial plants native to your county and will indicate whether they are a forb/herb (flowering plants that aren't grasses, sedges, and rushes), graminoids (grasses, sedges, & rushes), tree, shrub, subshrub, or vine. Wetland status is indicated in the list, but has not been narrowed to any particular status (i.e. FAC+, FAC, etc). Even if you are looking in your county, it is important to keep in mind your elevation, aspect (how much shade the area will get), and other factors unique to your home's location that will affect your plants and trees.

Del Norte: <http://tinyurl.com/6vqk42f>

Humboldt: <http://tinyurl.com/c46nbuz>

Mendocino: <http://tinyurl.com/ctu4l62>

Siskiyou: <http://tinyurl.com/77vjcj9>

Trinity: <http://tinyurl.com/6pz3tym>



## Bibliography

Tutorial created from USDA PLANTS Database website: <http://plants.usda.gov/>

## Photo Credits

All figures except rain garden in step 15 are screenshots of the USDA PLANTS Database website: <http://plants.usda.gov/>.

Rain garden figure in step 15 based on graphic from Candace Stoughton.

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