



VOLUNTEER ENRICHMENT SERIES

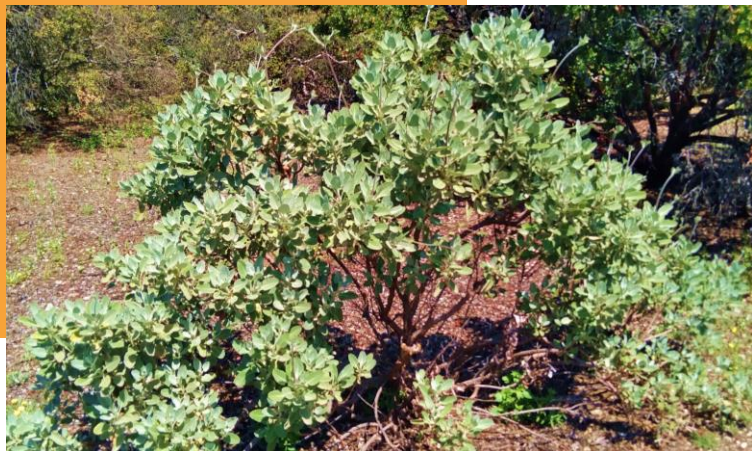
# Maintaining your Established Native Plants: Buckwheats, Ceanothus, Manzanitas, Matilija, and Sages

*California*  
BOTANIC GARDEN

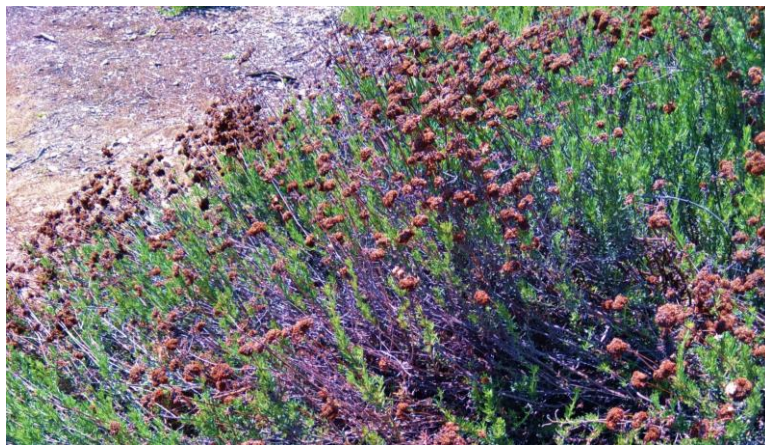
# Buckwheats







St. Catherine's Lace that has been deadheaded



California buckwheat that has been left to go to seed



Ashy-leaf buckwheat –right-side of photo has been deadheaded

# Pruning - Buckwheats



## When to Prune

- After the plant has finished blooming – late summer/fall each year

## How to prune

- Most buckwheat species require very little pruning, mainly deadheading if you choose to do so.
- Can head back buckwheat species in the fall for fuller look – avoiding woody material

## Severely overgrown?

- If you cut into older wood – the plant may not come back

# Watering



## New plantings

- Once per week for one year, gradually reducing to monthly watering.

## Established plantings

- Most buckwheat species can survive with monthly watering in the summer

# Ceanothus





# Pruning



## When to Prune

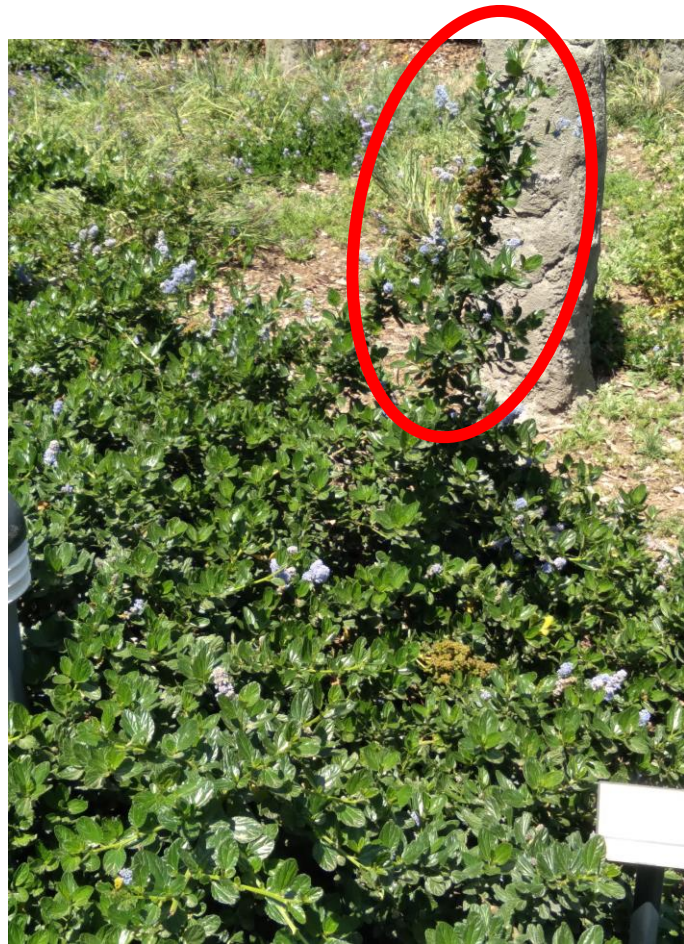
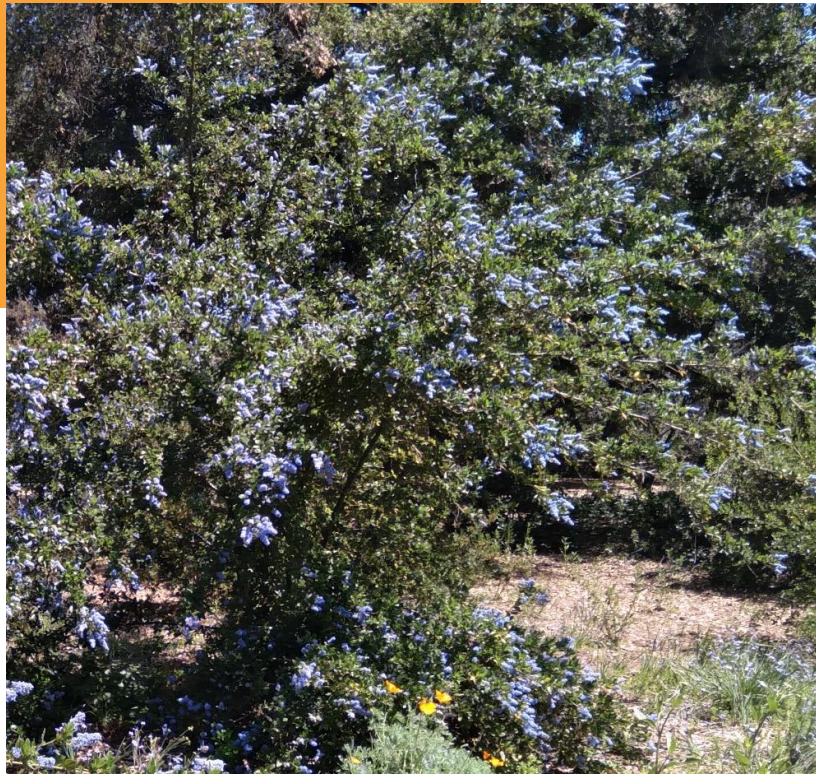
- In the summer when there is a lower risk of fungal infection/after the plant has finished blooming

## How to Prune

- Sanitize your pruning tools
- Remove dead or diseased material
- Pinch spent flowers (this would be very time intensive!)
- Maintain low-growing cultivars

## Severely overgrown?

- It may be time to find a Ceanothus that fits better in your area





# Watering



## New Plantings

- Once per week for first two years, gradually decreasing frequency at the end of the second year

## Established Plantings

- Reduce watering to once per month
- Be aware of where your plant comes from

# Manzanitas



# Pruning



## When to Prune

- Summer, when there is a lower risk of infection from pathogens

## How to Prune

- Sanitize your pruning tools
- Remove dead material

## Severely overgrown?

- Some cultivars, particularly Howard McMinn, can take more pruning more kindly than others

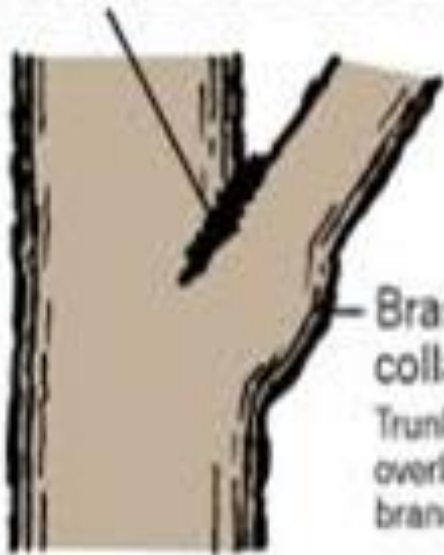


# Making a Proper Cut



Branch bark ridge

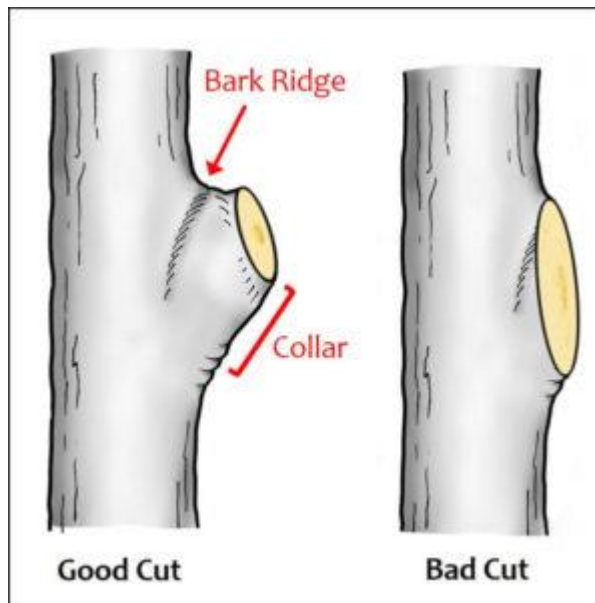
Where trunk bark meets branch bark



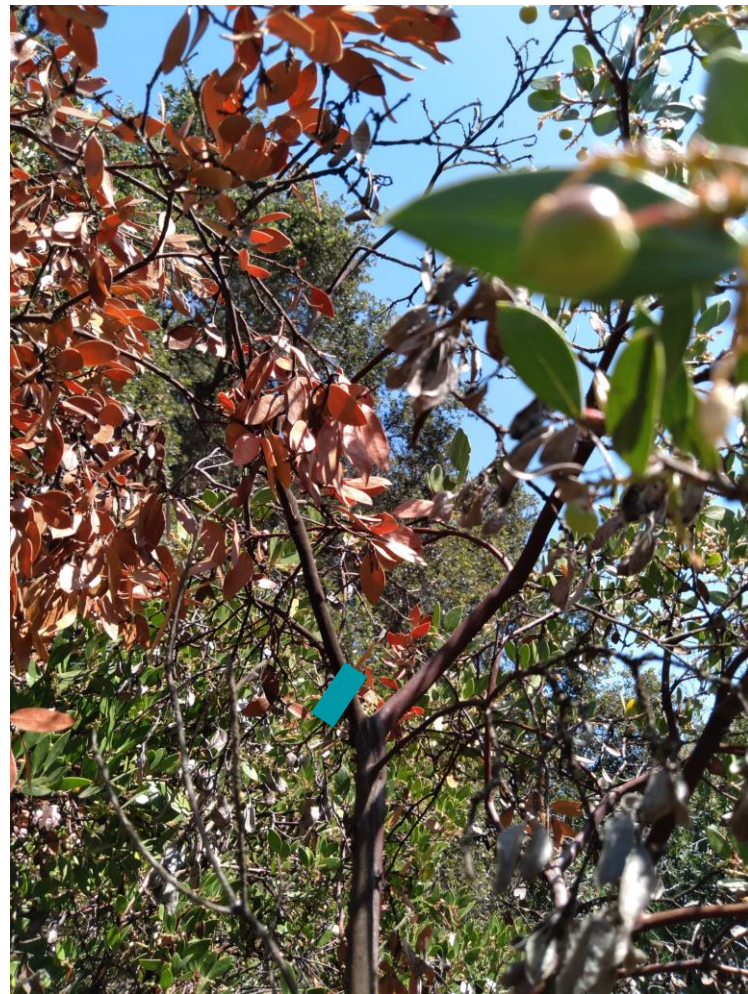
Branch  
collar

Trunk tissues  
overlap with  
branch tissues

# Making a Proper Cut









# Watering



## New Plantings

- Once per week for first two years; gradually reducing

## Established Plantings

- Once per month

# Matilija Poppy

# Pruning



## When to Prune

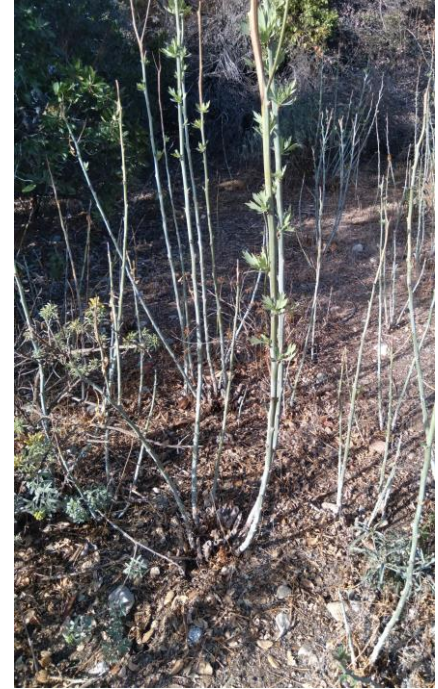
- In the fall/winter when the plant has finished blooming

## How to Prune

- Coppice Matilija Poppies leaving 4-6" of material

## Severely Overgrown?

- Be careful where you plant Matilija Poppy – it is an aggressive spreader!





# Watering



## New Plantings

- Once per week for first years; gradually reducing

## Established Plantings

- Once per month

# Sages

# Pruning



## When to prune

- Annually - late summer/fall once the plant has finished blooming

## How to prune

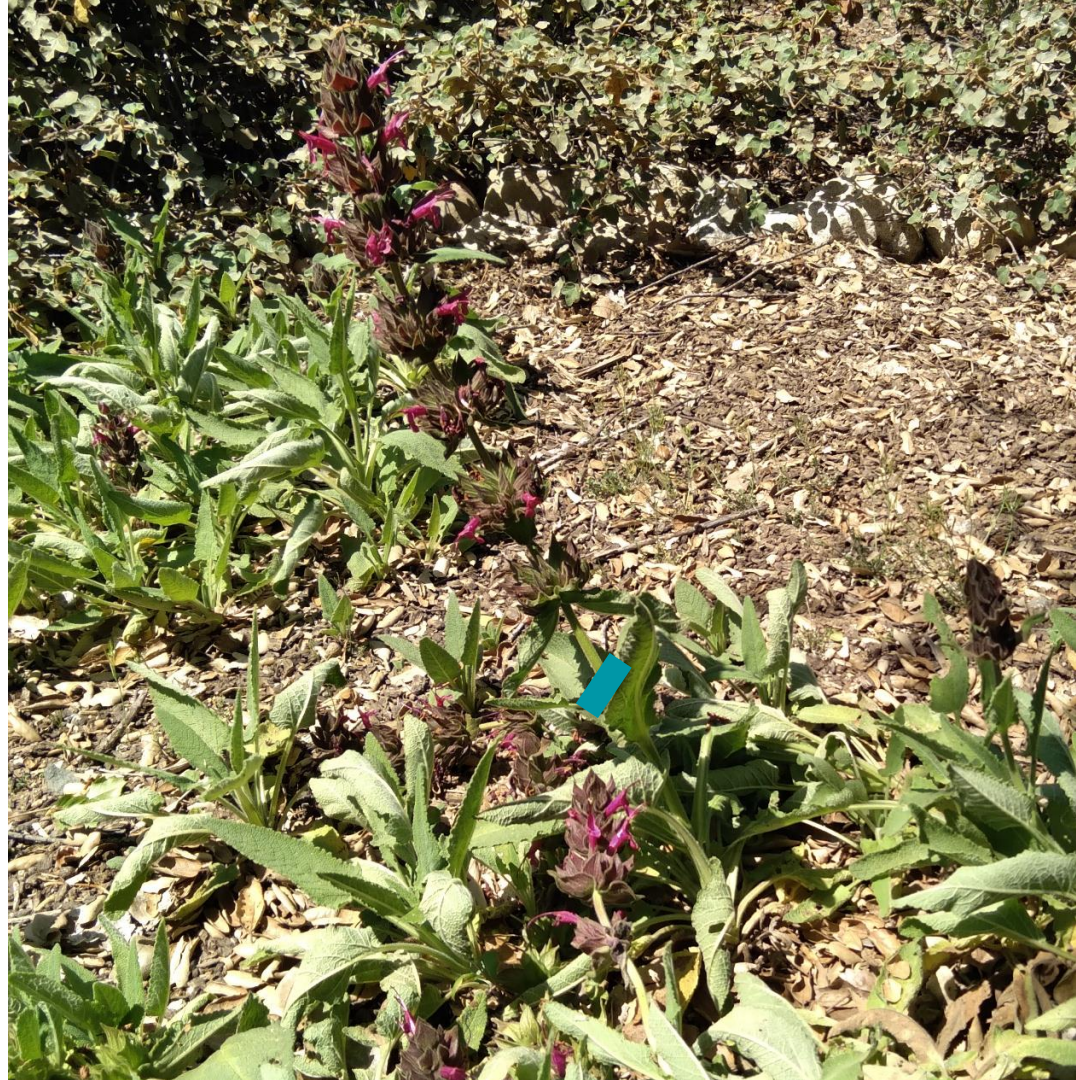
- Deadhead sage species after they bloom
- Try to avoid cutting into woody growth

## Severely overgrown?

- It might be time to get a sage that fits your space!



# Pruning



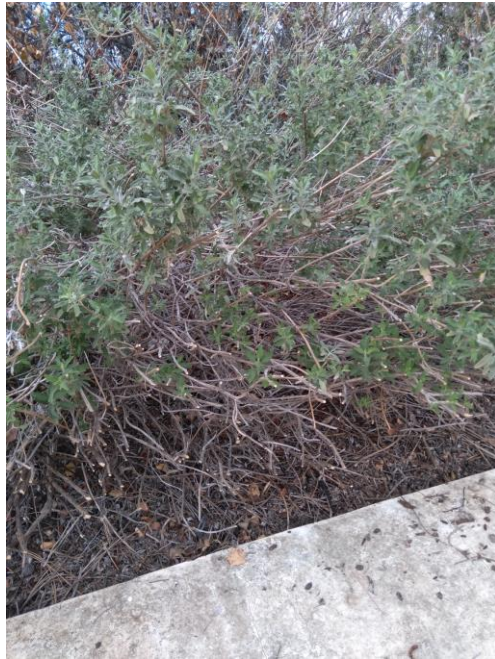


# Pruning





# Pruning



# Watering



## New Plantings

- Once per week for first year, gradually reducing to every other week.

## Established Plantings

- Every other week to every month depending on weather and soil conditions.