

Wild Plants of Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline

Common Name Version

A Photographic Guide

Sorted by Form, Color and Family
with Habitat Descriptions and Identification Notes

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New Revised and Expanded Edition - Includes the latest
scientific names, habitat descriptions and identification notes

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A Photographic Guide to the Wild Plants of Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline

More than 2,000 species of native and naturalized plants grow wild in the San Francisco Bay Area. Most are very difficult to identify without the help of good illustrations. This is designed to be a simple, color photo guide to help you identify some of these plants. This guide is published electronically in Adobe Acrobat® format so that it can easily be updated as additional photographs become available. You have permission to freely download, distribute and print this guide for individual use. Photographs are © 2014 Wilde Legard, all rights reserved.

In this guide, the included plants are sorted first by form (Ferns & Fern-like, Grasses & Grass-like, Herbaceous, Woody), then by most common flower color, and finally by similar looking flowers (grouped by genus within each family). Each photograph has the following information, separated by '-':

COMMON NAME	According to <i>The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition (JM2)</i> and other references (not standardized).
(Scientific Name)	According to <i>JM2</i> and <i>eFlora</i> (ucjeps.berkeley.edu/IJM.html).
Origin & Longevity	Native, Naturalized, or Waif (not reproducing without human care). Annual, Biennial, Perennial, or a combination.
Family Name	Common family name according to <i>JM2</i> .
(Bloom date range)	Period during the year when the plant blooms, according to <i>JM2</i> and other sources. '-' if plant does not bloom (ie. Ferns).
Habitat	Habitat description according to <i>JM2</i> and other sources.
ID Characteristics	Plant description with identification characteristics and other notes, based on multiple sources including: <i>Annotated Checklist of the East Bay Flora, Second Edition</i> (2013), <i>JM2, Plants of the San Francisco Bay Region (Revised Edition)</i> , and <i>Weeds of California and Other Western States</i> .
Additional notes	Occasionally, an additional note may appear (ie. NOXIOUS weed, INVASIVE weed, Fed & Calif. ENDANGERED, etc.).

Revision: 3/2/2014

Grass-like - Green/Brown

Wild Plants of Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline - Sorted by Form, Color and Family

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BROAD-LEAVED CATTAIL (*Typha latifolia*)
Native Perennial - Cattail Family - (Jun-Jul) - Unpolluted to nutrient-rich freshwater (brackish) marshes - Plant 4.9-9.8' tall. Widest leaves 0.4-1.1" wide. Flower cluster with no gap between flower types.



SLENDER WILD OAT (*Avena barbata*)
Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Mar-Jun) - Disturbed sites - Plants gen 24-32". Spikelets 0.8-1.2" long. Awns 0.8-1.8" long. Lemma tip bristles >= 0.1" long. Seeds EDIBLE whole or ground for flour. INVASIVE weed.



RIPGUT GRASS (*Bromus diandrus*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Jul) - Open, gen disturbed areas - Plant 6-40" tall. Spikelet 1-2.8" long. Lemma body 0.8-1.2" long, awn > 1.2" long. Barbed seeds can stick in flesh of animals. INVASIVE weed.



SOFT CHESS (*Bromus hordeaceus*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Jul) - Fields, disturbed areas - Plant 4-26" tall. Leaf hairy. Flower cluster 1-5" long, dense, some stalks > spikelet. Spikelet 0.5-0.9". Lemma 0.26-0.4", awn 0.16-0.4". INVASIVE weed.



FOXTAIL CHESS (*Bromus madritensis* subsp. *madritensis*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr–Jan) - Disturbed areas, roadsides - Plants 4-20" tall. Stem and sheaths smooth. Flower cluster branches visible, lower spikelets erect, > stalk.



RED BROME (*Bromus madritensis* subsp. *rubens*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Mar–Jun) - Disturbed areas, roadsides - Plant 4-20". Flower cluster condensed, branches obscure, < spikelets. Stem & sheaths hairy. **INVASIVE weed.**



BROME FESCUE (*Festuca bromoides*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (May–Jun) - Uncommon. Dry, disturbed places, coastal-sage scrub, chaparral - Stem < 20". Inflorescence 0.6-6" tall, dense, lower branches erect. Spikelet 0.2-0.4" long, awn 0.1-0.3" long.



RYE GRASS (*Festuca perennis*) Naturalized Perennial - Grass Family - (May–Sep) - Dry to moist disturbed sites, abandoned fields - Stem 20-40" tall. Spikelet 0.2-0.9" long, > glume, awned or awnless. Sterile shoots at base. **INVASIVE weed.**



NORTHERN BARLEY (*Hordeum brachyantherum* subsp. *brachyantherum*) Native Perennial - Grass Family - (May–Aug) - Meadows, pastures, streambanks - Stem 1-3' tall, gen robust. Leaf sheaths gen smooth, blade < 7.5" long. Lemma awn < 0.25".



MEDITERRANEAN BARLEY (*Hordeum marinum* subsp. *gussoneanum*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr–Jun) - Dry to moist, disturbed sites - Stem 4-20". Leaf blades to 32" long, auricles < 0.08". Central lemma awn 0.25-0.7" long. **INVASIVE weed.**



HARE BARLEY (*Hordeum murinum* subsp. *leporinum*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Feb–May) - Moist, gen disturbed sites. Common - Stem 12-43" tall. Central spikelet stalk ~0.06" long. Central floret << lateral florets. **INVASIVE weed.**



RABBITFOOT GRASS (*Polypogon monspeliensis*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr–Aug) - Moist places, along streams - Stem 8-39". Leaf 0.4-8" long, 0.16-0.24" wide. Flower cluster 0.4-6.7" long, plume-like. Lemma awn > 0.14". Lemma awn gen < 0.1". **INVASIVE.**



PURPLE NEEDLE GRASS (*Stipa pulchra*) Native Perennial - Grass Family - (Mar-Jun) - Oak woodland, chaparral, grassland - Stem 14-39" long. Leaf blade 4-8" long. Glumes 0.5-0.8" long, ~equal. Awn 1.6-4" long, last segment straight.



SEACOAST BULRUSH (*Bolboschoenus robustus*) Native Perennial - Sedge Family - (Summer) - Brackish to saline coastal marshes - Plant 20-60" tall. Stem sharply triangular. Flower cluster dense, stemless, just above bracts. Spikelets 5-25, 0.4-1.2" long.



MEDITERRANEAN LINSEED (*Bellardia trixago*) Naturalized Annual - Broom-rape Family - (Apr-Jun) - Disturbed grassland. - Plant sticky-hairy. Stem 6-32" tall. Leaves lance-shaped, toothed. Flowers 0.8-1" long, 2-lipped: upper lip pink, lower lip white. **INVASIVE.**



ALKALI HEATH (*Frankenia salina*) Native Perennial - Frankenia Family - (Apr-Sep) - Salt marshes, alkali flats - Matted subshrub, to 1' tall. Leaf blade 0.16-0.6" long, <= 0.24" wide. Petals white to pink or blue-purple, 0.24-0.55" long; gen 6 stamens.



MONTEREY CENTAURY (*Zeltnera muelenbergii*) Native Annual-Biennial - Gentian Family - (Jun-Aug) - Moist coastal bluffs, forest openings - Plant 1.2-12" tall. Leaf 0.6-1" long. Flowers pink, 0.5-0.75" mm long, lobes 0.08-0.28" long; flower stalk < 0.0" long.



CUT-LEAVED GERANIUM (*Geranium dissectum*) Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family - (Mar-Jul) - Open, disturbed sites - Stem 3-28" tall, rough-hairy. Leaf blades deeply divided. Petals violet-red, 0.1-0.25" long w/notched tips. Flower stalk sticky. **INVASIVE.**



GRASS-POLY (*Lythrum hyssopifolia*) Naturalized Annual-Perennial - Loosestripe Family - (Apr-Oct) - Marshes, drying pond margins, disturbed ground - Stem 4-24". Leaves 0.2-1.2" long, ~elliptical. Petals pink, 0.1-0.2" long. 2 awl-like appendages. **INVASIVE weed.**



MINIATURE LUPINE (*Lupinus bicolor*) Native Annual - Pea Family - (Mar-Jun) - Abundant. Open or disturbed areas - Plant 4-16", hairy. Flower 0.16-0.4" long, banner longer than wide, upper keel ciliate near tip, pedicel < 0.12". Fruit 0.12-0.24" wide.



STRAWBERRY CLOVER (*Trifolium fragiferum*) Naturalized Perennial - Pea Family - (Late spring) - Roadsides, gen in saline soil - Head bracts 0.08" long, green. Flowers pink, 0.2-0.24" long, quickly hidden by hairy inflated flower bracts.



ROSE CLOVER (*Trifolium hirtum*) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family - (Apr-May) - Disturbed areas, roadsides - Head with 1-2 bract-like leaves imbed below. Flowers pink, 0.4-0.6" long, densely-bristly in fruit. **INVASIVE weed.**



SMALL-HEAD CLOVER (*Trifolium microcephalum*) Native Annual - Pea Family - (Apr-Aug) - Streambanks, moist, disturbed areas, roadsides, serpentine, conifer forest - Hairy. Head bract cup-like. Flowers pink to lavender, calyx lobes smooth-edged, > flowers.



SPRING VETCH (*Vicia sativa* subsp. *sativa*) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family - (Mar-Jun) - Roadsides, disturbed areas, grassland, open areas in oak and riparian woodlands - Flowers 1-2 at leaf bases, pink-purple to white, 0.7-1.2" long. Leaflets 0.16-0.4" wide.



PERSIAN SPEEDWELL (*Veronica persica*) Naturalized Annual - Plantain Family - (Feb-May) - Wet, disturbed areas, fields - Stem 2-24" long, crawling. Flowers on 0.6-1.2" long stalks. Flowers blue, purple-lined with a white center.



FAT-HEN (*Atriplex prostrata*) Native Annual - Goosefoot Family - (Apr-Oct) - Wet places, marshes - Plant 4-48" tall, branched at base. Leaves alternate, blades 0.4-3.5" long, triangular, green, not dense-scaly underneath.



PACIFIC PICKLEWEED (*Salicornia pacifica*) Native Perennial - Goosefoot Family - (Jul-Nov) - Salt marshes, alkaline flats - Plant 4-28" tall, branching from base, branches opposite. Flower clusters 0.8-3.3" long, 0.1-0.2" wide.



RUSSIAN THISTLE (*Salsola tragus*) Naturalized Annual-Perennial - Goosefoot Family - (Jul-Oct) - Common. Disturbed places - Plant < 5' tall. Stem gen red-striped, widely branched. Leaves succulent, 0.3-2" long, upper spine-tipped. **NOXIOUS.**



CUT-LEAF PLANTAIN (*Plantago coronopus*) Native Annual-Biennial - Plantain Family - (Apr-Jul) - Coastal bluffs, salt marshes, trampled places, chaparral, grassy flats - Leaves 1.6-10" long, tooth-like lobes. Flower: stems 1-6, 2-20" tall, cluster 0.8-8" long.



SCARLET PIMPERNEL (*Anagallis arvensis*) Naturalized Annual - Myrsine Family - (Mar-May) - Common. Disturbed places, ocean beaches - Plants 2-16" tall. Flowers 0.2-0.3" long, salmon or occasionally blue. Leaves TOXIC, can cause dermatitis.



SEASIDE HELIOTROPE (*Heliotropium curassavicum* var. *oculatum*) Native Perennial - Borage Family - (Feb-Oct) - Moist to dry, saline to alkaline soils, gen near water - Plant fleshy. Leaf 0.4-2.4 cm long. Flowers white w/ yellow center, 0.12-0.2" long.



ENGLISH PLANTAIN (*Plantago lanceolata*) Naturalized Annual - Plantain Family - (Apr-Aug) - Common. Disturbed areas - Leaves basal, hairy, 2-10" long, <= 1" wide. Flowers + stem 8-31" tall, flower cluster 0.8-3" long. INVASIVE, lawn weed.



BIRD'S-FOOT TREFOIL (*Lotus corniculatus*) Naturalized Perennial - Pea Family - (Jun-Sep) - Open, disturbed areas - Leaflets 5, 0.16-0.9" long. Flower cluster 3-7 flowered on 0.6-4.7" stalk. Flowers bright yellow, 0.4-0.55" long, banner often reddish.



CALIFORNIA BURCLOVER (*Medicago polymorpha*) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family - (Mar-Jul) - Common. Chaparral, oak woodland, streambanks, roadsides, disturbed areas - Stem 4-20". Flower yellow, 0.14-0.24" long. Spiny spiral fruits. INVASIVE.



SOURCLOVER (*Melilotus indicus*) Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Pea Family - (Apr-Oct) - Open, disturbed areas - Stem 4-24" long. Leaflets 3, 0.4-1" long. Flowers yellow, ~0.1" long.



HOP CLOVER (*Trifolium campestre*) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family - (Apr-May) - Disturbed areas, roadsides - Flower heads 0.3-0.5" wide, bright yellow, brown w/age, quickly reflexing. Flowers with lengthwise ridges.



BRASS-BUTTONS (*Cotula coronopifolia*)
Naturalized Perennial - Sunflower Family -
(Mar-Dec) - Common. Saline and freshwater
marshes, mud flats - Plant 2-16"+ tall, smooth, ±
fleshy. Leaves linear to lance-shaped w/linear
teeth or lobes. **INVASIVE**.



BRISTLY OX-TONGUE (*Helminthotheca echioides*)
Naturalized Annual-Biennial -
Sunflower Family - (All year) - Common.
Disturbed areas - Stem 1-6.5' tall, bristly. Leaf
2-8" long, covered with prickly bumps. Flower
heads 0.8-1.6" wide. **INVASIVE weed**.



COMMON DANDELION (*Taraxacum officinale*)
Naturalized Biennial-Perennial - Sunflower Family
- (All year) - Abundant. Esp disturbed areas -
Stem hollow. Leaves bright green with sharp
down-pointing lobes. Outer head bracts reflexed.
Fruit ~ brown.



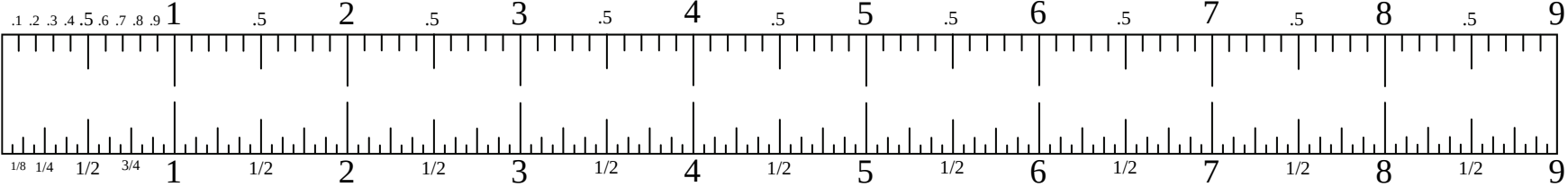
COYOTE BRUSH (*Baccharis pilularis* subsp.
consanguinea) Native Perennial - Sunflower
Family - (Jul-Dec) - Coastal bluffs, woodland,
grassland, disturbed sites, occ on serpentine -
Shrub < 15' tall, brittle, common. Leaves gen
0.6-1.6" long.



FRENCH BROOM (*Genista monspessulana*)
Naturalized Perennial - Pea Family - (Mar-Jun) -
Common. Disturbed places. - Shrub < 10' tall,
evergreen. Stems 8-10 ridged, leafy. Flowers
yellow, 4-10 at branch tips, banner 0.4-0.6" long.
NOXIOUS.

Notes:

Decimal Inches



English Inches

Notes: