

Appendix E - Plant Species Native to CFE#7

Plant Species Native to Catalina Foothills Estates #7

*Plants are organized by trees, cacti, bushes, and flowers.
This document is available with pictures on the CFE7.org website.*

Preservation of our native landscape and terrain is one of the primary goals of the Association. In general, it is desirable to enhance the presence of native plants and remove invasive and non-native species. The following is a list of vegetation found in Catalina Foothills Estates #7 as a reference for our homeowners.

TREES	
Common Plant Name <i>Scientific Plant Name</i>	Description
Catclaw Acacia <i>Acacia greggi</i> -Gray <i>Senegalia greggii</i>	Catclaw is a low-water-use deciduous tree. Densely-clustered, cylindrical-shaped flowers appear spring through fall. Flowers are followed by 6-inch-long, flat, curled, green seedpods. Branches have sharp, curved cat-claw-like thorns that scratch skin and snag clothing.
Whitethorn Acacia <i>Acacia constricta</i>	This variety of acacia is deciduous with green oval leaflets. Grown as a tree or shrub, it reaches 10 feet tall or more. Branches have straight white 2-inch-long thorns. Flowers are clustered in fuzzy 1/2 inch diameter balls that are sweet and intensely fragrant. The flowers are followed by long, narrow, green- to red-tinged seedpods that dry to a dark-brown color.
Desert Ironwood <i>Olneya tesota</i> -Gray	Ironwood is one of the largest and longest-lived trees in the Sonoran Desert. A slow-growing, semi-deciduous tree, ironwood grows 15 to 30 feet in height, spreading 20 to 30 feet in diameter. Thick oval leaflets are gray-green. During a short bloom period in early spring, lavender flowers 1/2 inch wide cover the tree. Dark seed pods 2 inches long follow the flowers. Gray trunks can grow to 24 inches in diameter with thorny stems. Wood is extremely hard. Only natural rainfall is required.
Honey Mesquite <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> <i>Torreyana</i>	A graceful tree with shiny green leaves, the honey mesquite grows 15 to 40 feet in height with equal spread. Creamy-white flowers bloom in spring. Seed pods are 3 to 9 inches long. Tree is drought-tolerant.
Screwbean Mesquite <i>Prosopis pubescens</i>	Screwbean mesquite grows 25 to 40 feet with equal spread and is deciduous. The dark bark on the trunk and older stems sheds in long, stringy pieces. Stems have sharp spines. In May and June, 1 to 2 pendulous yellow spikes appear. Corkscrew-curved bean pods develop during the summer.
Velvet Mesquite <i>Prosopis velutina</i>	Velvet mesquite has low, broad, spreading branches that are gnarled and twisted with dark green leaves. This deciduous tree grows to be 30 feet tall with equal spread. White or pale yellow catkin flowers 2 to 3 inches long hang downward in early summer. Slender brown pods 3 to 9 inches long and 1/2 to 1/4 inches wide are edible.

TREES	
Common Plant Name Scientific Plant Name	Description
Ocotillo <i>Fouquieria splendens</i>	<p>Ocotillo is thought by many to be a cactus but is actually a tree. This plant has an open vase shape with long slender gray to greenish stems rising from a common base. Stems are covered with 1-inch grayish thorns. Ocotillos grow slowly to 5 to 25 feet tall and spread to 15 feet. Giant varieties grow greater than 30 feet. Plant is generally leafless most of the year. With good rainfall, plant produces bright green leaves that turn yellow and red in the fall. On branch terminals, showy clumps of tubular red to orange flowers appear. Clusters can be up to 1 foot long. Ocotillo is drought- and cold-tolerant.</p>
Blue Palo Verde <i>Parkinsonia (Cercidium) floridum</i>	<p>Blue palo verde is named for the bluish-green bark and foliage. A deciduous rounded tree, the blue palo verde grows faster than the foothills palo verde but requires more water to support its speedy growth. It grows 15 to 30 feet with equal spread. Bright yellow flowers are pea-like and cover the entire tree in early spring. Leaves are 1/2 inch long comprised of 1/8 to 1/4 inch leaflets, but the tree is leafless most of the year. Flat brown pods 1-1/2 to 3 inches turn white with age.</p>
Foothills Palo Verde <i>Parkinsonia microphylla</i>	<p>The slow-growing deciduous foothills palo verde grows 10 to 20 feet with equal spread. It has an irregular shape with low branches. In late spring, solitary pale yellow flowers cover the tree. Tan pods cling to the branches and split open when they ripen in July. The green photosynthetic trunk is covered with smooth bark with dense, twiggy, and spiny stems.</p>
Desert Willow <i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	<p>Desert willow is a graceful deciduous tree growing 6 to 30 feet with equal spread. Linear leaves 1/2 inch to 3 inches long and 1/4 to 1/2 inch wide hang willow-like. Terminal clusters of attractive bell-shaped flowers bloom May to June. Flowers are white, burgundy, or pink in color with distinctive yellow throat. The smooth trunk develops rough fissures with age.</p>
CACTI	
Common Plant Name Scientific Plant Name	Description
Fishhook Barrel Cactus <i>Ferocactus wislizeni</i>	<p>The fishhook barrel cactus is a cylindrical-shaped cactus that grows 2 to 5 feet tall and 8 to 24 inches in diameter. Along the vertical ribbed portion of the cylinder are reddish spines just over 2 inches in length. The flat spine curves inward resembling a fishhook. Fiery orange flowers about 2 to 3 inches long circle around the crown of the cactus. Yellow pineapple-shaped fleshy fruit 2 inches long follows the flower.</p>
Desert Christmas Cactus <i>Cylindropuntia leptocaulis</i>	<p>The desert Christmas cactus, also known as Christmas cholla, has the most slender stems of all southwestern chollas. Thin spiny branches have many tangled 1/4-inch stems forming a bush 3 to 6 feet high. One long gray or tan spine up to 2 inches long grows from each small cluster of reddish bristles. Greenish-yellow to bronze flowers up to 1 inch wide bloom along the stems in May and June. Fleshy, bright red, 1/2-inch long globular fruits remain on the stems throughout the winter.</p>

CACTI	
Common Plant Name Scientific Plant Name	Description
Cane Cholla <i>Cylindropuntia spinosior</i>	Cane cholla grows to 8 feet tall in the form of a bush. Bumpy green stems are branched and spiny. Showy flowers are 3 inches wide and are bright pink, red, orange, or yellow. Blooms appear late spring to summer followed by tubular bright yellow fruit.
Jumping Cholla <i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i>	This variety of cholla can grow to 10 to 12 feet in height. The stems are bumpy and spiny with many straw-colored spines. The spiny-stem segments easily detach from the plant, almost seeming to "jump" on you if you accidentally brush against them. The spines are covered in micro-barbs and can be very difficult to pull out of your skin. The flowers are up to 1 inch wide. The flowers emerge at the tips of the old fruit. The fruit is smooth and green. New fruit grows out of old fruit, forming long, widening fruit chains.
Fishhook Cactus <i>Mammillaria grahamii</i>	This cactus, also known as pincushion cactus or Arizona fishhook, has a low, cylindrical shape with one or many thick-clustered stems and grows to 6 inches high. Many hooked spines 1/2 inch long surround numerous straight, tan-to-pink ones. Bright pink 1-inch flowers composed of many petals bloom April to May. The fishhook cactus has smooth, red fruit 1/2 to 1 inch long. This cactus is not to be confused with the fishhook barrel cactus.
Hedgehog Cactus <i>Echinocereus triglochidiatus sp.</i>	This cactus has many species, but all form a bulbous pile or mound of spherical to cylindrical stems. It is densely spiny and somewhat woolly. The funnel-shaped flower is bright scarlet red to orange and flowers April to May. Fruit develops May to June.
Beavertail Cactus <i>Opuntia basilaris</i>	This low, spreading cactus with short bristle spines grows 6 to 12 inches high and up to 6 feet wide. The green, jointed stems are wide and flat, resembling the tail of a beaver. Oval in shape, the stems are 1 inch to 6 inches wide and 2 to 13 inches long. The stems grow in clumps with flowers from the top edge of the joints. Flowers are followed by a brownish-gray, oval fruit more than an inch long with many seeds.
Prickly Pear <i>Opuntia sp.</i>	Prickly pear cactus represents about a dozen species of the <i>Opuntia</i> genus in the North American deserts. All have flat, fleshy pads that look like large leaves. The pads are actually modified branches or stems. This cactus has two kinds of spines. One set is large, smooth, fixed spines, and another set is smaller clusters of fine, tiny, barbed spines that detach easily. Most prickly pear have yellow, red, or purple flowers, even among the same species. They vary in height from less than a foot to 6 feet. Pads can vary in width, length, shape, and color. The fruits of most prickly pears are edible.
Purple Prickly Pear <i>Opuntia violaceae santa rita</i>	A member of the prickly pear family, it is most notable for its purple pigmentation in the stem. Purple prickly pear is an upright-spreading shrub consisting of several joined segments called pads. This cactus produces large colorful yellow and red blooms and dark red edible fruits.

CACTI	
Common Plant Name <i>Scientific Plant Name</i>	Description
Saguaro <i>Carnegiea gigantea</i>	<p>The trunk-like stem has prominent, accordion-like folds. Wooden ribs support this tree-sized cactus that grows 15 to 50 feet tall. It is covered in bright green flesh and lined with spines. After 65 to 75 years or so, the columnar main stem can develop side arms. White flowers are 3 inches across and appear in May to June. The flowers crown the stem tips and are followed by plump, red fruit filled with black seeds. The fruits split open into red star-like shapes that can be mistaken for flowers when seen from a distance. The saguaro bloom is the state flower. Saguaros are protected.</p>
BUSHES	
Common Plant Name <i>Scientific Plant Name</i>	Description
Brittle Bush <i>Encelia farinosa</i>	<p>Brittle bush is a round, almost herbaceous shrub 3 feet tall and wide. Simple triangular leaves are silvery gray to white. Plant is evergreen or perennial depending on water supply. Lower stems are semi-succulent, storing water. Yellow flowers are daisy-like, held on stalks above the foliage. The brittle bush blooms in spring and sporadically in response to rain.</p>
Triangle-leaf Bursage <i>Ambrosia deltoidea</i>	<p>A rapid-growing, small, rounded shrub with brittle stems, triangle-leaf bursage grows to 3 feet tall spreading to 3 feet. Triangular leaves have a hairy underside. New foliage is greenish and ages to a gray-silver color. Spikes of off-green flowers appear on branch terminals but are not ornamental.</p>
White Bursage <i>Ambrosia dumosa</i>	<p>White bursage is a shrub with many branches. The stems are covered with dense, greyish-white fine hairs and teardrop-shaped leaves. The plant has both male and female flowers. During drought, the plant loses all of its leaves. Spherical-like fruit ranges in color from golden to purple to brown.</p>
Canyon Ragweed <i>Ambrosia ambrosioides</i>	<p>This perennial plant may reach 5 feet tall and wide. The dark-green, wrinkled, triangular leaves produce an irritating smell when rubbed or crushed. Inconspicuous flowers are dull yellow to yellowish-green. Fruit is a small burr with spines and hooks. Flowering season is March to May.</p>
Condalia <i>Condalia</i>	<p>Condalia is a very thorny, densely-branched, compact shrub with tiny leaves. This medium evergreen shrub grows to be 5 feet tall and wide. The ends of the branches are thorn-tipped. The mature round-shaped fruit is a reddish-black.</p>
Creosote Bush <i>Larrea tridentata</i>	<p>Creosote bush is a mostly evergreen shrub growing 3 to 15 feet tall. Growth rate is highly dependent on a consistent water source. Small leaves are very aromatic when wet. This shrub tends to be straggly in form but becomes more dense and spreading with consistent water. Small yellow flowers appear in the spring followed by rounded fruit covered with white hair.</p>

BUSHES	
Common Plant Name <i>Scientific Plant Name</i>	Description
Desert Broom <i>Baccharis sarothroides</i>	Desert broom is a vertical evergreen shrub. This densely-branched plant generally grows 3 to 6 feet tall. Narrowly-elliptic green leaves shed with drought or frost leaving bright green, broom-like stems. White-tasseled seeds are produced by the female plants in abundance. Nearby plants and ground appear to be snow-covered when these seeds are spread by the wind. Plants bloom mid-October to January.
Desert Hackberry <i>Celtis pallida</i>	Desert hackberry is a large- or medium-size semi-evergreen leafy shrub with dark gray or brown bark. Stems are gray-green with sharp thorns. Desert hackberry grows at a slow rate from 8 to 10 feet tall with an 8 to 10 foot spread. Small dull green leaves are coarsely-toothed. Inconspicuous yellow-green flowers appear April through October depending on rainfall. Tiny bright orange berries ripen July through December.
Native Fairy Duster <i>Calliandra eriophylla</i>	The native fairy duster is a low-growing evergreen shrub. This slow-growing shrub ranges from 1 foot to 3 feet tall with a 3 to 4 feet spread. Ferny leaflets are 1 inch to 1-1/2 inches long and 1/2 inch across. Leaves drop in response to cold or drought. Red or pink loose puff-shaped blooms appear early spring.
Hopseed Bush <i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	An evergreen shrub, the hopseed bush grows 12 to 15 feet tall with equal spread. Shiny, dark green, narrow linear leaves are glossy with lighter underside. Small clusters of greenish-white flowers bloom early spring. A three-sided pod containing three seeds produces flat papery wings and turns from green into tan as it ages. The hopseed bush is an attractive evergreen for landscapes that can be attractively sculptured by pruning.
Jojoba <i>Simmondsia chinensis</i>	Jojoba is a slow-growing, large, irregular evergreen shrub that grows 6 to 8 feet tall with equal spread. Blue-green leathery oblong leaves are 2 1/2 inches long and grow with a stiff upward orientation. Small clusters of yellow flowers appear. Only female plants produce fruit when male plants are also present. Brown fruit 1 inch in diameter is nutlike.
Limber Bush <i>Jatropha cinerea</i>	Limber bush is a woody deciduous shrub that grows 8 to 10 feet with a mature width of 6 feet. Long, brown branches are arching and flexible. Stems contain a clear sap that dries to create a permanent, bloodlike stain on clothing. Glossy, green, heart-shaped leaves grow up to 1 1/2 in wide. Small yellow or cream-colored flowers appear in the summer after monsoon rains.
Range Ratany <i>Krameria parvifolia</i>	Range ratany is a low-growing perennial plant reaching 2 feet tall. This intricately-branched, twiggy shrub has small, green, hairy leaves that are linear-shaped. Stems are branched and sprawling at the base. Five-petal magenta pink to lavender flowers appear spring through fall. A nutlike fruit is covered with fuzzy white hair and reddish spines.

<p>Wolfberry <i>Lycium brevipes</i></p>	<p>A large, evergreen, mounding shrub growing to 12 feet with equal spread, wolfberry has simple, tiny leaves that are green to blueish-green. Small tubular flowers are very pale or whitish-green with slight brown or purple tinge. They tend to hang downwards (pendulant). Showy small red berries are abundant. Woody stems and trunk are gray with not-so-sharp thorns.</p>
FLOWERS	
<p>Common Plant Name <i>Scientific Plant Name</i></p>	Description
<p>Yellow Paper Flower <i>Psilostrophe cooperi</i></p>	<p>This small rounded perennial shrub grows 1 foot to 1-1/2 feet with a 2 foot spread. Hairy stems appear whitish or silvery with slender linear leaves that are 2 inches long and only 1/2 inch wide. Leaves are green on top and have a silver underside. New growth is also hairy. Delicate yellow flowers appear at the stem terminals in early spring and sporadically in response to rainfall. When flowers dry, they become paper-like.</p>
<p>Zinnia <i>Zinnia acerosa</i></p>	<p>A low-branching perennial, zinnia grows 10 inches tall and spreads 2 feet in diameter. This plant survives on very little water but needs rain to bloom.</p>
<p>Owl's Clover <i>Castilleja exserta</i></p>	<p>Owl's clover is an annual shrubby wildflower with ferny leaves. It grows 9 inches high with a 1-foot spread. Spikes of tufted pink to purple blooms appear March to May.</p>
<p>Desert Marigold <i>Baileya multiradiata</i></p>	<p>An herbaceous perennial groundcover, desert marigold produces a showy, bright-yellow solitary bloom. Flower is 2 inches across on long stalks well above white, woolly leaves. Desert marigolds bloom profusely early spring to mid-summer.</p>
<p>Mexican Gold Poppy <i>Eschscholzia mexicana</i></p>	<p>Mexican gold poppy has a bright golden, four-petal flower and grows 4 to 8 inches above the ground. Blue-green leaves are fernlike and grow 2 1/2 inches long. It blooms annually mid-March through May with adequate rainfall in the fall and winter.</p>
<p>Arizona Lupine <i>Lupinus arizonicus</i></p>	<p>Arizona lupine grows to 2 feet tall. The pink to purple pea-shaped flowers are spiraled along hairy flower spikes. The individual flowers are 1/2 inch long. The leaves are comprised of 6 to 10 leaflets. The upper surface of the leaflets is hairless.</p>
<p>Prickly Poppy <i>Argemone platyceras</i> <i>Argemone munita</i></p>	<p>This very branchy, pale-green plant grows to 4 feet high and is covered with yellow prickles. Long, very lobed, spiny leaves resembling thistles grow to 8 inches. All parts of this plant contain alkaloids that are poisonous. White, papery flowers with bright yellow centers bloom year round. Flowers grow 3 inches wide and have six broad, delicate, wrinkled petals.</p>
<p>Desert Sand Verbena <i>Abronia villosa</i></p>	<p>Desert sand verbena has sticky, hairy creepers. Flower stalks grow up to 10 inches long with stems trailing up to 3 feet. Oval leaves are 1/2 inch to 1-1/2 inches long with wavy edges. Sand verbena grows abundantly after winter rains. Bright pink, trumpet-shaped, five-lobed flowers grow 2 to 3 inches wide. Plants are fragrant and bloom February to May.</p>