

Paradise Hills Native Garden Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Report



In Collaboration with the
City of San Diego
Parks and Recreation Department
and our many partners



PARADISE HILLS Native Garden

The Mission of
Paradise Hills Native Garden
is
to discover and share
knowledge about native
plants, native wildlife and
the historical past of the
Paradise Hills area as we
provide a beautiful outdoor
space to exercise and relax.

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**Volunteers Weeding the Western Garden on
one of the Garden's Bi-Monthly Work Days.**



All images are from the
Paradise Hills Native Garden
Photos: W. Janssen

Highlight Calendar

July: Community bird bath installed in Pollinator Garden

August:

Added decomposed granite to desert area

September:

- Kiosk panels printed and installed.
- Received SDGE grant
- Installed 12 boulders in Butterfly Garden
- Mulched the new Butterfly Garden as part of I Love A Clean San Diego Coastal Clean up Day
- Installed two Desert Willows in Butterfly Garden
- Installed bird bath in Pollinator Garden

October:

Plants purchased and installed in Butterfly Garden

November:

117 plants planted from Xerces Society donation

January:

Held Weed to Wildflower Event in Western Garden with Pollinator Partnership donated seeds

February:

- Rains flooded gardens
- Moved gravel and brought in soil to raise the the beds in the Butterfly Garden
- Created a dry stream and planted riparian grasses and rushes to better handle ponding prone areas
- Became a Master Gardener Association Demonstration Garden
- Began twice monthly volunteer days

March:

- Installed Butterfly Garden sign from Master Gardener grant
- Began clearing area for Woodland Garden

April:

Provided Garden tours as part of Pollinator Week with the California Native Plant Society San Diego Chapter

May:

- Participated in the City Nature Challenge with the San Diego Natural History Museum and in coordination with iNaturalist
- Participated in Pollinator Alliance's Pollinator Week tours

June:

Honda Helpers volunteered weeding the gardens.

Volunteer Commitment

We continue our commitment to use only volunteer labor for every aspect of Paradise Hills Native Garden.

To insure our volunteer staff will be available for years to come, the garden has become a Master Gardeners Association of San Diego County Demonstration Garden. Master Gardeners are invited to obtain their required volunteer hours by helping in the garden during our bi-monthly work days.

During the past year, in addition to our core group of Paradise Gardener talented volunteers we have had volunteers join our work days from our community, our Councilmember's office, other garden clubs, local high schools, Honda Helpers, Master Gardeners and others.



Family at Weed to Wildflower event Jan. 3, 2023.

First they cleared an area of stinging nettle and then broadcast wildflower seed donated by Pollinator Partnership.



San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts students weeding among the poppies.



Honda Helpers weeding in the gardens in June.

2022-2023 Expenditures

During this Fiscal year we were fortunate to receive a \$7500 grant from San Diego Gas and Electric, a \$500 grant from the California Native Plant Society and \$261 from the Master Gardeners Assoc.

The garden benefited from these grants through the following major purchases:

• Plant Signs	\$531
• DG & Boulders	\$766
• Mulch	\$1575
• Log Benches	\$500
• Kiosk Signage	\$820
• Butterfly Signage	\$261
• Plants & Trees	\$2400



At the end of the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year the garden had \$5300 in restricted funds carryover to the next fiscal year.



With the reintroduction of native flora to Paradise Hills Native Garden, the birds have become regular visitors.

The garden has become a Cornell eBird Hotspot. Visitors are invited to sit on our eight strategically placed benches and watch Black Phoebes, Cassin's Kingbirds, Western Bluebirds among others, that find their home in Paradise Hills Native Garden.



The garden was in full color in spring when our masses of wildflowers along with the perennials were in bloom. It was a feast to the eyes. And if you stopped and listened, you heard the birds and bees pollinating among the flowers.



Partnerships

We wish to again recognize the organizations that have made the Paradise Hills Native Garden vision a reality:

- City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department
- San Diego City Council District 4
- UCCE Master Gardener Association of San Diego County
- California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter
- San Diego Gas and Electric
- Paradise Hills Foundation
- San Diego Pollinator Alliance
- The Village Garden Club of La Jolla
- Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club
- Poway Valley Garden Club
- Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve
- Yadira Garcia/State Farm Insurance
- County of San Diego, Supervisor District 4
- Metropolitan Water District
- San Diego Canyonlands
- I Love A Clean San Diego
- Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
- Pollinator Partnership
- Friends of Paradise Hills Native Garden
- Native West Nursery
- San Diego Mulch
- Diamond Concrete

Next Steps

Our goals for the next fiscal year:

- **Increase volunteerism through Volunteer Match, Master Gardeners of San Diego and community social networking**
- **Continue advocating with the City of San Diego to improve the center landfill area for a potential expansion of the garden**
- **Eradicate *Tribulus terrestris* with the support of the City of San Diego Integrated Pest Management**
- **Complete the new Woodland Garden with the support of the Master Gardners of San Diego County**
- **Grow some of our own plants from seed and cuttings from the garden to plant in the garden**
- **Continue partnering with like minded agencies to increase science and nature based educational programs at the garden**
- **Create a regular recreational event at the garden: walking club, garden journaling or meditation**