

Because of the high density of native plants, this is a great place to botanize, learn, and observe – not only species, but how they behave and associate in plant communities. As a result of invasive removals (Eucalyptus, thistles, hemlock, etc.) in the area, natives are regenerating in amazing numbers. (Nature loves a vacuum). Plants not catalogued in 100 years are popping up. The restoration work involves removing invasives before they go to seed, and letting the natives gradually reoccupy liberated space through natural dispersal. This is sometimes called the Bradley method.



We hold workdays twice weekly, Wednesday late afternoons (after work) and Sunday mornings for three hours each. Since May 2016, 55 volunteer workdays have been held, involving 74 people in some 311 volunteer shifts totaling over 900 hours on site.



Each outing combines botany and restoration. For the first portion, we botanize & observe, learning together. Then we shift into restoration and weeding for two hours. The project is open to anyone with interest and commitment, regardless of background. Because of the nature of our permit from EBMUD, each outing is limited to 15 persons, so RSVP is mandatory. Larger groups can be coordinated for special events. Water, hats, gloves, boots, and long pants and shirts are a necessity; a hand lens is also helpful. Hand tools are provided.

The project is led by naturalist Glen Schneider, an East Bay native. He grew up in a local nursery family and has been a native plant garden landscape designer/builder for over 40 years. His own garden in Berkeley is on the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour every year.

The Skyline Gardens Project is an ongoing, multi-year project dependent upon a regular core of volunteers. Please join us and help love this beautiful land back to wholeness!

To volunteer or for more information, contact: skylinegardens@ebcnps.org