EXPLORE THE SAN DIEGO RIVER IN MISSION VALLEY

Mission Valley is home to the San Diego River, which means it's teeming with life and offers abundant opportunities to connect to nature!



Choose from trails, bike paths, native plant gardens, and more!

- 1. MISSION VALLEY PRESERVE
- 2. FIRST SAN DIEGO RIVER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (FSDRIP)
- 3. COMING SOON... SAN DIEGO RIVER DISCOVERY CENTER!
- 4. SAN DIEGO RIVER GARDEN



GET INVOLVED TODAY!

VOLUNTEER

Help care for the river as a volunteer!

STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter or follow us on social media to stay up to date!

DONATE

Donations help support our many programs to create and conserve the San Diego River.

WHAT WE DO

The San Diego River Park Foundation is dedicated to fostering stewardship and appreciation of the San Diego River.



HABITAT RESTORATION

We restore habitat along the San Diego River in Mission Valley by removing harmful invasive plants that would otherwise disrupt natural ecosystem processes and create flooding or fire hazards.

PARTNERS

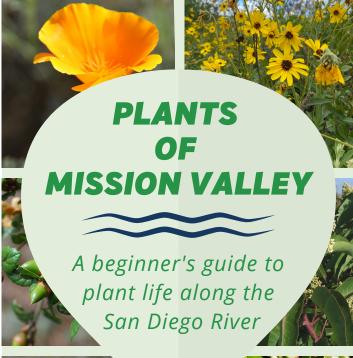
We believe that restoration must include watershed-wide efforts, so we work with many different landowners, volunteer groups, and stakeholders.

Thank you to Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, and partners like the San Diego River Conservancy for supporting our efforts to improve habitat along the San Diego River in Mission Valley through reducing invasive plant species.

CONTACT US

San Diego River Park Foundation PO Box 80126 San Diego, CA 92138 (619) 297-7380 volunteer@sandiegoriver.org

www.sandiegoriver.org











Connect.
Create.
Conserve.

COMMON NATIVE PLANTS

The San Diego River in Mission Valley is home to over 100 different species of plants that provide valuable food and shelter to a variety of wildlife!

Here are a few of the most common native plants that can be found in Mission Valley:



Fremont Cottonwood Populus fremontii

This tall tree is a trademark plant of riparian habitats. On a windy day, you can enjoy the gentle sounds of its leaves quaking in the wind.



Lemonade Berry *Rhus integrifolia*

This evergreen shrub has thick, waxy leaves, pale pink flowers, and red seeds coated in a white goo that tastes sour like lemon.



Coast Live Oak *Quercus agrifolia*

Adapted to survive in warm, dry climates, this evergreen tree has small, cupped leaves that hold onto moisture and limit exposure to the sun.



California Sagebrush Artemisia californica

This light green shrub has long, feathery leaves that will leave a sage smell on your hands if you rub them.



Laurel Sumac *Malosma Laurina*

Nicknamed "taco plant," this large shrub has leaves that fold like a taco shell to reduce exposure and evaporation from the hot, drying sun.



Bush Sunflower *Encelia californica*

This perennial shrub brightens our landscape with bright yellow flowers from February through June.



Arroyo Willow *Salix lesiolepis*

This large, sprawling tree can only grow near a freshwater source, like the San Diego River!



Black Sage Salvia mellifera

This aromatic shrub produces whitish purple flowers that grow upright in whirls, rising above the rest of the plant.



California Bulrush *Schoenoplectus californicus*

This dense, upright sedge can be found along the water's edge and provides food and shelter for many animals.



California Buckwheat Eriogonum fasciculatum

This low, spreading shrub bears clusters of white to pinkish flowers, which turn to a vibrant rust color in the fall.

INVASIVE PLANTS

In some areas of Mission Valley, you will encounter invasive plants. These are plants from outside out region that cause harm to the local ecosystem.



Black Mustard Brassica nigra

This colorful herb spreads easily and produces a chemical that prevents native plants from germinating.



Wild Radish *Raphanus raphanistrum*

This plant is common in disturbed areas where it can quickly cover large areas, preventing native plants from re-establishing.



Crown Daisy *Glebionis coronaria*

This ornamental wildflower may look nice in your garden, but when in the wild, it can take over entire ecosystems.



Giant Reed *Arundo donax*

This bamboo-like invader grows in thick stands that degrade habitat and create flood and fire hazards.

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE PLANTS BY:

Replacing invasive plants in your yard with native plants!



Volunteering with the San Diego River Park Foundation!