

RUFFIN CANYON is Serra Mesa's natural open space within an urban setting. With more than 84 acres, it extends from the south end of Ruffin Road to Mission Valley. Its native plants provide an outstanding example of Coastal Sage Scrub, a plant community that previously grew from the bluffs above the ocean to the base of the mountains. Encroaching development has destroyed much of this plant community in San Diego County. We are fortunate to have a small part of it preserved in our local canyon.

RUFFIN CANYON offers primitive trails to explore, solitude to restore one's outlook on life and the feeling of being miles from the city. Possible activities include exercise, plant and wildlife identification, bird watching and photography. Access is on the west and east sides of Taft Middle School (9191 Gramercy Drive) or at the southwest end of Shawn Avenue. There are also tributary canyons that lead to Ruffin Canyon.

This unique habitat needs our care. You are invited to join the Friends of Ruffin Canyon, a group of concerned residents who host habitat-improvement activities to restore the natural beauty of the canyon, nurture native plants and maintain a presence on the trails. Our goal is to foster public awareness and community participation in the protection of this remarkable canyon.

For more information visit:  
<http://www.serramesa.org/friends-of-ruffin-canyon/>

Contact Information:  
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Ruffin Canyon is in  
the Community of Serra Mesa  
in San Diego, California

**EXPLORE  
RUFFIN CANYON**



**Serra Mesa's  
Dedicated Open Space**



# Some Native Plants in Ruffin Canyon

## Annuals and Perennials

1. Blue Dicks *Dichelostemma capitatum*
2. Blue-eyed-grass *Sisyrinchium bellum*
3. California Encelia *Encelia californica*
4. California Wood Sorrel *Oxalis albicans*
5. Canchalagua *Centaurium venustum*
6. Checkerbloom *Sidalcea malviflora*
7. Cudweed *Gnaphalium californicum*
8. Mariposa Lily *Calochortus splendens*
9. Nuttall's Snapdragon *Antirrhinum nuttallianum*
10. Parry's Phacelia *Phacelia parryi*
11. Purple Nightshade *Solanum xanti*
12. San Diego County Sunflower *Viguiera laciniata*
13. Wishbone Bush *Mirabilis californica*

## Shrubs

14. Bladderpod *Isomeris arborea*
15. Chaparral Mallow *Malacothamnus fasciculatus*
16. Deerweed *Lotus scoparius*
17. Flat-topped Buckwheat *Eriogonum fasciculatum*
18. Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry *Ribes speciosum*
19. Holly-leaved Cherry *Prunus illicifolia*
20. Lemonadeberry *Rhus integrifolia*
21. Monkeyflower *Mimulus aurantiacus*

## Vines

22. Dodder *Cuscutaceae californica*
23. Morning Glory *Calystegia macrostegia*
24. Small-leaf Virgin's Bower *Clematis pauciflora*
25. Wild Cucumber *Marah macrocarpus*

