

Arboretum

The late Ray Williams, a Watsonville nurseryman, designed the landscape to be consistent with its surroundings. He incorporated sustainable, drought-tolerant native and non-native plants. He was especially interested in Australian plants, many of which were grown at his own nursery.



The arboretum, where trees and perennial plants are identified by labels, is a small part of the campus,

but the plantings of Ray Williams are found throughout the campus. The arboretum gives viewers the opportunity to see mature plants that thrive in our local climate. Some specimens are among the largest of their species in California. One tree, an Omeo Gum (*Eucalyptus neglecta*), is the current national champion tree. This means that it is the largest known example of its species in the United States. This tree can be seen at the southeast corner of the administration parking lot.

The arboretum is an on-going project. There is continuing identification of existing plants as well as new plantings. Students use the arboretum in their classes and assist in the development of a plant database. The arboretum is open to the public whenever the campus is open.

Future plans include a garden devoted to California Natives.

www.gavilan.edu/arboretum

How to experience the arboretum

The arboretum includes areas in the southern part of the campus. The area that is included in the arboretum is highlighted on the map on the back of this page. Much, although not all of the area is accessible to persons with disabilities. You can start your arboretum tour anywhere within the arboretum, although it is probably easiest to begin in Parking Lot H (the lot closest to the tennis courts).



We hope you enjoy your visit. Please direct questions to mmckenna@gavilan.edu

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following principles guide the intent and objectives of the campus Arboretum:

EDUCATIONAL

- Utilize the campus plants in formal classes
- Support the student learning experience
- Identify & label all trees and perennial plant species
- Support visitor experience with opportunities to learn about campus plants

STEWARDSHIP

- Advocate respect for the campus landscape as a whole
- Safeguard and showcase heritage trees
- Collaboration with Gavilan College Facilities and Grounds Department

SUSTAINABILITY

- Display plants that reflect California's climate
- Plant native plants to sustain local native wildlife
- Advocate for increased use of climate appropriate plants to reduce water usage, erosion, & storm water runoff



Omeo Gum (*Eucalyptus Neglecta*)

Welcome to the Gavilan College Arboretum. Our mission is to promote public awareness of the unique and sustainable landscape at Gavilan College through fostering of educational, research and conservation opportunities.

The arboretum was opened in 2013, although most plantings date back to 1966, when the Gilroy campus opened. The landscape at the Gilroy campus of Gavilan College has long been recognized as unique.

Gavilan College Arboretum



Welcome to the
Gavilan College Arboretum!

The Arboretum is divided into
areas to help you to locate plants.
The plant identification number
includes an abbreviation
referring to the areas below:

- TC= Tennis Courts
- DP= Duck Pond
- SB= Science Buildings
- AD= Administration parking lot
- GS= Gavilan Creek (Streambed)
- UP= Upper Pond
- UL= Upper Parking Lot
- SC= Student Center
- GC= Golf Course



Poison Oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*)
"Leaflets of three let it be."

Charles J. ...