

LandUse Learning Center

Learn about sustainable natural resource use.

Open Daily, 8 AM to 4 PM

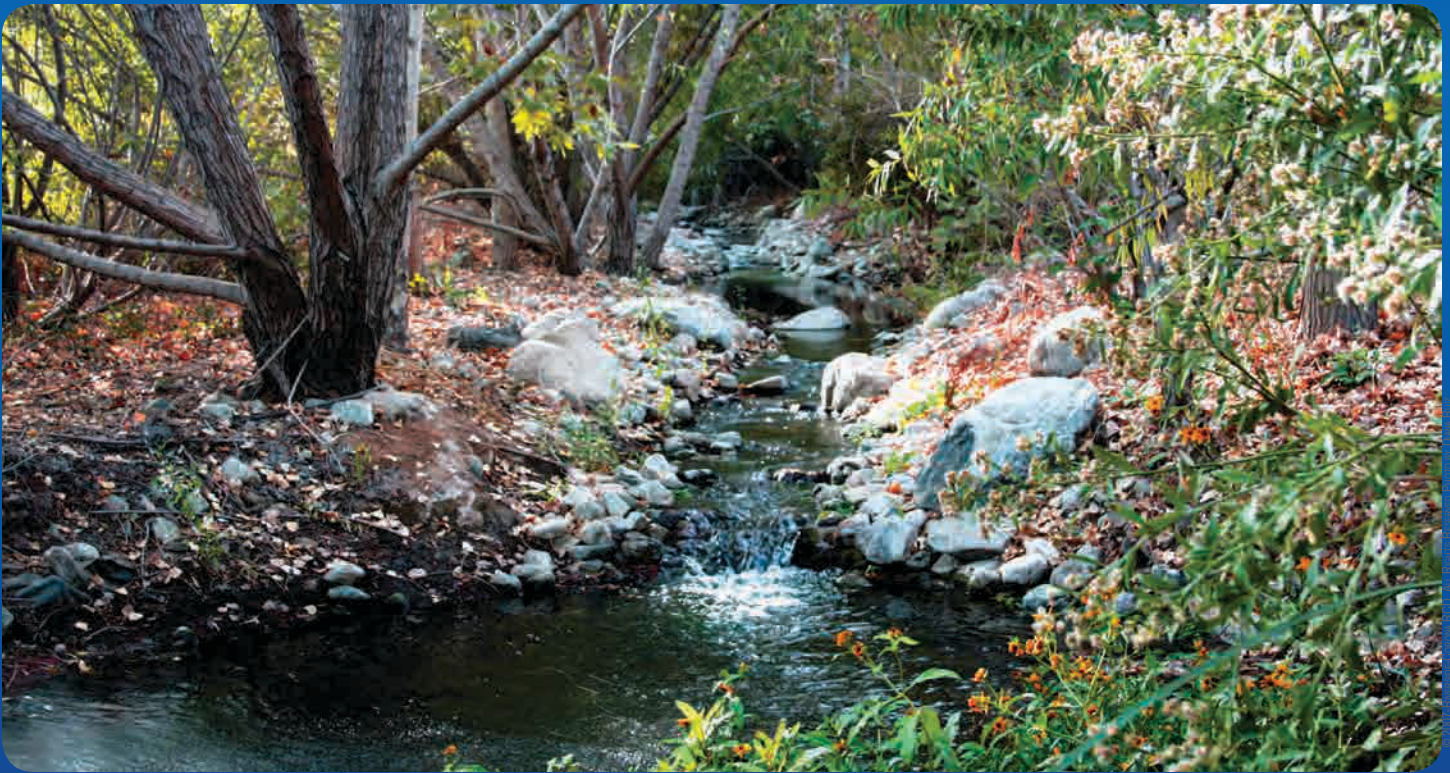
Closed Holidays - Free



The **LandUse Learning Center (LLC)** is a demonstration garden that exhibits sustainable* practices for the three main land uses of southern California: **native habitats**, **urban areas**, and **agriculture**. The LLC is an educational tool for empowering southern Californians to practice natural resource stewardship at home, at work, and in the community. Each area includes labelled plants with accompanying plant lists. The three garden areas demonstrate ways that land management practices, wise land use planning, and retrofits can be used to create urban and agro-ecosystems that function more like healthy natural ecosystems.

Healthy natural systems:

- filter and clean water and air
- reduce runoff and moderate flooding
- infiltrate water for storage in underground aquifers
- decompose wastes and cycle nutrients for new plant growth
- support pollinators, beneficial insects, and biological control of pests.



**Sustainable methods meet our present needs without compromising our ability to provide for the needs of future generations.*



RIVERSIDE-CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
4500 Glenwood Dr., Building A, Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 683-7691 www.rcrcd.org

The **Native Habitat** area depicts four dwindling local plant communities of inland western Riverside and San Bernardino Counties: riparian, coastal-sage-scrub, chaparral, and oak woodland. Learn about the plants and animals of inland southern California. The riparian plant community includes a recycling stream for the study of native fish, including the threatened Santa Ana Sucker. Visitors learn about specific actions that they can take to reduce their impacts on habitat and wildlife, such as by eliminating invasive plant species from landscaping and by preventing storm water pollution.



The **Urban Area** demonstrates ways to steward resources in urban or suburban eco-systems. Four styles of water-wise yards and lawn alternatives demonstrate wildlife-friendly plantings and landscaping with native plants. The "Arbor Trail" includes a variety of tree species that do well in harsh urban conditions of inland southern California. Interpretive signs depict components of urban forestry and the multiple values of trees. Learn how trees moderate for climate change, reduce air pollution, and mitigate the urban heat island effect. Visitors are provided information about proper tree care and planting, placement of trees to reduce energy use, invasive tree species, and more.



The **Agricultural Area** demonstrates crops that are adapted to the climate of inland southern California. Interpretive signs explain sustainable agricultural practices, including irrigation water management, integrated pest management, and the use of a variety of biological controls. Learn practices that sustainable farmers use to build topsoil, control soil erosion, and prevent sediment with attached pollutants from reaching our waterways. Find out how you can use your purchasing power to support sustainable agriculture and local farmers while enjoying foods that are often fresher, more nutritious, tastier and safer. By purchasing locally produced products, we reduce transportation impacts, costs, and fossil fuel use.



The 3-acre demonstration garden is located at the **Resource Conservation Center**, a re-purposed research facility, the former US Salinity Laboratory. The goal of the Resource Conservation Center is to foster community conservation efforts and to serve as a location for information exchange concerning sustainable natural resource management. Conservation agencies and grassroots organizations with complimentary missions utilize the demonstration garden and conference room for programs, training, and meetings.

When visiting the LandUse learning Center, please sign in and pick up plant lists, technical publications and educational materials. Additional assistance is available at Building A.



To arrange for a free group tour, program, or training, please contact Diana Ruiz, ruiz@rcrcd.org, (909) 238-8338 or Erin Snyder at (951) 683-7691, Ext 207.