



California Poppy
(*eschscholzia californica*)



Trail of Trees

April in the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden

The winter rains have really given us a wonderful spring wildflower show. If you haven't walked the Trail of Trees this spring, you are missing a wonderful display of California Poppies. The California Poppies you see along the Trail of Trees are the ones most of us recognize as the California State wildflower. But California Poppies come in a multitude of dazzling colors, including cream, pink, purple, lavender, burnt-orange and red. You can see a great slide show of California wildflowers at <http://www.anniesannuals.com/>.

Annie's is in northern California, so you probably can't grow everything you see, but it sure is worth a look. Just remember, a wonderful wildflower show takes a bit of preparation. Buying a six pack of California Poppies now, just won't do the job. You are better off to enjoy the show in Conejo Valley Botanic Garden this year and decide what you want to incorporate in your garden next year. Wild flowers do much better when grown from seed. There are many good sources for quality California wildflower seeds. Sow them next fall, just before some rain, then kick back and wait for your own Spring wildflower show.