

Checklist for First Day of Fall 2026 at Lake Cunningham

Loons and other water bird species

Vultures, Hawks, Falcons, Pigeons, Songbirds, Owls,
Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers, and Pheasants

American Coot	American Crow
California Gull	Anna's Hummingbird
Canada Goose	Bewick's Wren (pronounced "buick"!)
Double-crested Cormorant	Black Phoebe
Green Heron	Bushtit
Killdeer	California Towhee
Mallard	Common Raven
Mallard (Domestic type)	Common Yellowthroat
Pied-billed Grebe	Cooper's Hawk
	Eurasian Collared-Dove
	Great-tailed Grackle (very much moulting!)
	House Finch
	Lesser Goldfinch
	Mourning Dove
	Northern Mockingbird
	Northern Yellow Warbler
	Rock Pigeon
	Turkey Vulture
	Western Flycatcher
	Western Warbling Vireo

Welcome back, Birders! Migrants are arriving tired and hungry! Juvenile residents are dispersing and moulting! Sometimes "teenaged" birds do not even resemble their parents making identification pretty interesting! Occasionally, a Vagrant shows up to delight the senses and challenge your bird identification skills! To keep up with your bird lists, eBird app can be downloaded from ebird.org or your favorite app store. There is a tutorial on the website and most birders will be more than happy to answer your questions. In the native garden, we will be watching out for the big, green fig beetle (*Cotinis mutabilis*).

Fall is an exciting time to birdwatch; it's like another Spring! Come join us on a SCVBA field trip at scvbirdalliance.org/fieldtrips!

Lake Cunningham Plant List

Sorted by Form, then Common Name
September 20, 2026, Arvind Kumar

Seen today?	Item	Form	Common Name	Scientific Name	Origin	Location	Height
	1	Tree	Aleppo pine	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Mediterranean	Throughout	60'
	1a		Black walnut	<i>Juglans hindsii</i>	California	Native garden	60'
	2		California buckeye	<i>Aesculus californica</i>	California	Native garden	15'-40'
	3		Coast live oak	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	California	Native garden	80'
	3a		Crepe Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	S/SE/E Asia	Marina	10'
	4		Fremont cottonwood	<i>Populus fremontii</i>	California	Lakeside	100'
	4a		Honey locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Mississippi watershed	Marina	10'
	5		London plane	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	American-Asian hybrid	Marina	100'
	6		Peruvian pepper	<i>Schinus molle</i>	Peru	Peninsula	50'
	6a	Large Shrub	Red or green ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Eastern & Central USA	Marina	40'
	7		Tasmanian blue gum	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	Australia	Marina	150'
	8		Valley oak	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	California	Native garden	150'
	9		Western sycamore	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	California	Native garden	110'
	10		Bladderpod	<i>Peritoma arborea</i>	California	Native garden	5'
	11		Blue elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra caerulea</i>	California	Native garden	20'
	12		California sagebrush	<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California	Native garden	5'
	13		Chamise	<i>Adenostoma fasciculatum</i>	California	Native garden	10'
	14		Chaparral mallow	<i>Malacothamnus fasciculatus</i>	California	Native garden	8'
	15	Small Shrub	Coast silktassel	<i>Garrya elliptica</i>	California	Native garden	10'
	16		Coffeeberry	<i>Frangula californica</i>	California	Native garden	10'
	17		Coyote bush	<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	California	Native garden	8'
	17a		Dark Star ceanothus	<i>Ceanothus 'Dark Star'</i>	California	Native garden	5'
	18		Golden currant	<i>Ribes aureum gracillimum</i>	California	Native garden	8'
	19		Holly-leaved cherry/Islay	<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i>	California	Native garden	20'
	19a		Nevin's barberry	<i>Berberis nevinii</i>	California	Native garden	5'
	20		Pink-flowering currant	<i>Ribes sanguineum glutinosum</i>	California	Native garden	8'
	21		Purple sage	<i>Salvia leucophylla</i>	California	Native garden	5'
	22	Perennial	Salt bush	<i>Atriplex lentiformis</i>	California	Throughout	6'
	23		Toyon	<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	California	Native garden	6'-15'
	24		Bee's Bliss sage	<i>Salvia x 'Bee's Bliss'</i>	California	Native garden	2'
	25		Black sage	<i>Salvia mellifera</i>	California	Native garden	4'
	25a		Brandegee's sage	<i>Salvia brandegeei</i>	California	Native garden	3'
	25b		Bush sunflower	<i>Encelia californica</i>	California	Native garden	4'
	26		California buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	California	Native garden	3'
	26a		Pt Sal sage	<i>Salvia leucophylla 'Pt Sal'</i>	California	Native garden	3'
	27		St Catherine's Lace	<i>Eriogonum giganteum</i>	California	Native garden	5'
	28	Annual	Cleveland sage	<i>Salvia clevelandii</i>	California	Native garden	3'
	29		Yankee Point ceanothus	<i>Ceanothus thyrsiflorus griseus</i>	California	Native garden	3'
	29a		Alkali heath	<i>Frankenia salina</i>	California	Throughout	6"
	30		Alkali mallow	<i>Malvella leprosa</i>	California	Throughout	6"
	30a		Century plant	<i>Agave americana</i>	Mexico	Marina	25'
	31		Curly dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Eurasia	Throughout	2'
	32		Douglas iris	<i>Iris douglasiana</i>	California	Native garden	1'
	33		Great valley gumplant	<i>Grindelia camporum</i>	California	Native garden	1.5'
	34		Hummingbird sage	<i>Salvia spathacea</i>	California	Native garden	2'
	35	Vine	Narrowleaf cattail	<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Europe	Lakeshore	6'
	36		Narrow-leaved milkweed	<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>	California	Native garden	4'
	37		Whitetop/Hoary cress	<i>Lepidium draba</i>	Eurasia	Throughout	18"
	38		Perennial pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	Eurasia	Throughout	2'
	39		Russian knapweed	<i>Rhaponticum repens</i>	Eurasia	Throughout	1.5'
	40		Sacred datura	<i>Datura wrightii</i>	California	Native garden	18"
	41		Salt heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>	California	Throughout	6"
	42		Salt marsh goldenrod	<i>Euthamia occidentalis</i>	California	Native garden	4'
	42a		Turkey tangle frogfruit	<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	California	Native garden	1"
	43	Bulb	Wood mint	<i>Stachys bullata</i>	California	Native garden	1'
	44		Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	California	Native garden	1'
	45		Zauschneria	<i>Epilobium canum</i>	California	Native garden	2'
	45a		Birdsfoot trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Eurasia/North Africa	Throughout	3"
	45b		Spikeweed	<i>Centromadia pungens</i>	California	Throughout	1'
	46		Chaparral clematis	<i>Clematis lasiantha</i>	California	Native garden	15'
	46a		Hairy honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera hispidula</i>	California	Native garden	5'
	47		Soap lily	<i>Chlorogalum pomeridianum</i>	California	Native garden	4'
	48	Grass	Deergrass	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	California	Native garden	5'
	48a		Nodding needlegrass	<i>Stipa cernua</i>	California	Native garden	1.5'
	49		Purple needlegrass	<i>Stipa pulchra</i>	California	Native garden	1.5'
	50		Common rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	California	Native garden	4'
	50a		Tall flatsedge	<i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>	California	Native garden	3'

Origin "California" indicates that the plant is native to California