



## NEWS RELEASE

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**BACK TO NATIVES REGINALD DURANT WILL PROMOTE NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPING AT  
*LANDSCAPE EXPOS IN SACRAMENTO AND LONG BEACH***

*Local non-profit will offer sustainable alternatives to traditional landscape plants that will help save water and provide habitat for butterflies and birds.*

SANTA ANA, CA: August 25, 2016 - Back to Natives (BTN) Executive Director Reginald Durant will present two seminars at both the Sacramento and Long Beach Landscape Expos in the coming months.

On September 28 at 10:30AM at the Sacramento - Cal Expo State Fairgrounds and on October 19 at 10:30AM at the Long Beach Convention Center, Reginald will present “Going Native: Selecting and designing with regionally appropriate native plants”. On September 29 at 10:30AM (in Sacramento) and on October 20 at 10:30 AM (in Long Beach) he will present “Rainwater Harvesting in Native Plant Landscapes”.

Participants attending “Going Native” will learn why and how to select native plants appropriate for their geographic region, as well as the best practices for designing with locally native plants. Participants will also learn which method of irrigation is most beneficial for native plants, resulting in healthy specimens while requiring the least amount of water.

“California is experiencing a record drought and we’re all feeling the pinch,” said Back to Natives Executive Director Reginald Durant. “Watering is restricted – but with native plants and the correct irrigation, any landscape can be more beautiful than ever!”

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In “Rainwater Harvesting in Native Plant Landscapes” participants will learn the best practices for designing rainwater harvesting systems while landscaping with native plants. They will see BTN’s step by step method for creating a beautiful and functional rainwater harvesting dry creek bed in a lovely native plant landscape where rainwater percolates through the soil to the aquifer below. Participants will see examples of native plants that look great incorporated into and around a dry creek bed.

“50% or more of the water we use daily goes on lawns and outdoor landscaping,” said Durant. “Planting natives is one of the best ways for homeowners and businesses to help solve the crisis brought on by one of California's worst droughts.”

### **About Back to Natives**

Back to Natives Restoration, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization connects the community to habitat restoration through service learning and native plant education. The Back to Natives Nursery at Santiago Park in Santa Ana, staffed by community volunteers, grows plants for habitat restoration and to raise funds for service learning and environmental education programs. The Back to Natives Native Plant Reserve provides habitat for birds and butterflies in Dana Point. For more information, please visit [www.backtonatives.org](http://www.backtonatives.org) or call 949-509- 4787.

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