

# HELP BRING BACK THE PIPEVINE SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY TO THE EAST BAY HILLS!



The spectacular Pipevine Swallowtail Butterfly looks tropical but it's native to the East Bay hills! It is large- up to 5 inches wide; and once you've seen one, you will never forget it.

The reason we don't see them very often is that its host plant is harder to find. Its caterpillars will only eat the California Pipevine, which grows in riparian areas- near streams. Since we have either covered or developed most areas near creeks, this plant is less common.

If you have the space and the right environment to grow California Pipevine, either in your yard or in a park you steward, please join our effort to restore the habitat for this stunning butterfly, known to scientists as *Battus philenor*.



California Pipevine

This is a project of the "Pollinator Posse", an organization started at Lake Merritt Gardens to encourage pollinator-friendly gardening for bees and butterflies- particularly monarchs. Learn more at: <https://pollinatorposse.org>

The California Pipevine (*Aristolochia californica*) is a deciduous native. It favors but is not limited to riparian environments. It starts out slowly but with the right conditions, will carpet the ground or climb up into trees- growing vines 20' or longer. It likes its roots in shade, and vines in part shade to sun.

## TO PARTICIPATE YOU WILL NEED TO:

- Have the appropriate environment for this large vine
- Buy some plants (usually about \$10 depending on size)
- Be patient- there's no guarantee you'll get butterflies
- Be willing to document and report progress

For more information or to join the effort, contact Wendy Tokuda at: [w.s.tokuda@gmail.com](mailto:w.s.tokuda@gmail.com)