

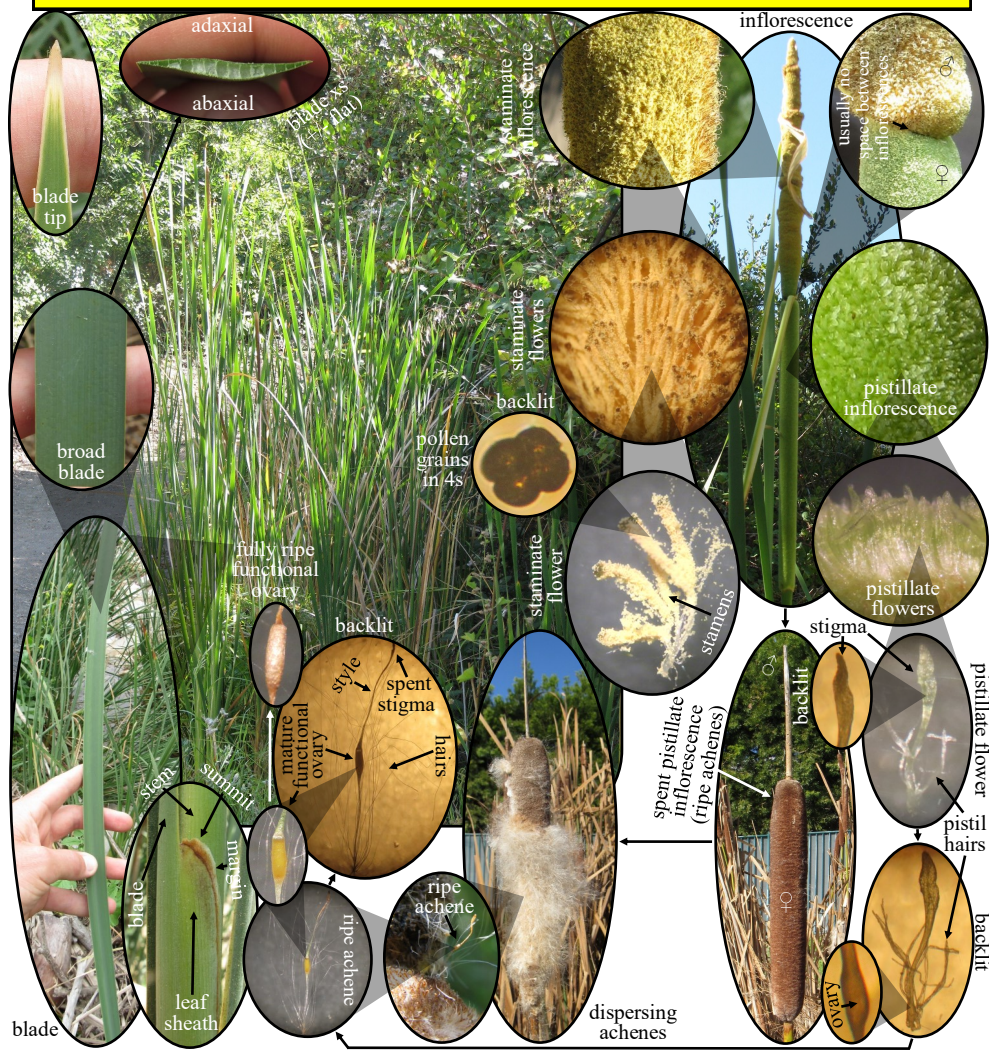
## Broad-Leaved Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)

## Order: Poales

**Family:** Typhaceae (Cattail Family)

**Flowers:** May - August

*Typha latifolia* is a perennial herbaceous plant that is rhizomatous. It is found in a few locations on the peninsula where there is perennial water. The shoots of this plant are erect and tall. The stems are stout. The blade of the leaf is long, broad, generally flat, and the tip comes to a point. The sheath of the leaf has sides that are papery with margins clear (fading to a brownish color in older leaves) and thin. The overall summit (top) of the sheath is usually shouldered or it can sometimes be tapered into the blade. The overall inflorescence (spike) is made up of both a staminate inflorescence and a pistillate inflorescence. The staminate inflorescence is situated at the top and above the pistillate inflorescence. There is usually no space between the staminate inflorescence and pistillate inflorescence. The staminate inflorescence (yellowish when in



## **Broadleaf Cattail** (*Typha latifolia*)

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flower) flowers produce copious amounts of pollen and the pollen grains are in 4s (tetrads). The overall staminate inflorescence disintegrates after the staminate flowers are spent. The pistillate inflorescence (greenish yellow when in flower) flowers have stigmas that are greenish and ovate to lance-ovate. There are numerous hairs that surround the ovary of the pistillate flower. As the pistillate flower matures and is pollinated the style elongates and the stigma fades to a brownish color. The overall pistillate inflorescence fades from a greenish yellow to a brownish red color ("hot dog on a stick") when in fruit. The pistillate inflorescence can contain numerous sterile and fertile fruits within it. The fruits are achenes that are dispersed by the wind.

