Caterpillars of concern

Tussock Moth Caterpillar

These fuzzy caterpillars are mainly found on Quercus agrifolia (Coast Live Oak) trees. However, they have been found grazing on Roses and Arctostaphylos (Manzanita) shrubs also. They will usually be found on the back of new, soft, bright green leaves with chunks of leaf edges chewed away. There is often green sawdust-looking dust found under the tree. If you listen closely you can actually hear them chewing.

Oak Moth Caterpillar

These striped caterpillars are mainly found on Quercus agrifolia (Coast Live Oak) trees. They will usually be found on the back of new, soft, bright green leaves with chunks of leaf edges chewed away. Right now their heads are growing large and they are beginning to defoliate (Eat entire leaf leaving nothing behind).

DO NOT WORRY ABOUT THE CATERPILLAR BELOW:

Green Leaf Roller

These bright green caterpillars are found on many trees. They will usually be found rolled into new, soft, bright green leaves like a sleeping bag. Right now they are beginning to drop down along thin string-like threads and hanging down from the trees. These caterpillars do not eat much and are NOT a big concern for the health of the trees. WE DO NOT NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THESE CATERPILLARS. THIS IS JUST INFORMATION TO HELP YOU IDENTIFY THEM.