



NURSERY & FLORIST

Because Life Should Be Beautiful™

Our Favorite Water-wise Plants

Here in the Bay Area we enjoy a Mediterranean climate typically characterized by cool rainy winters and hot dry summers. However, drought years with very low rainfall are part of our natural climate cycle. Since half of our residential water is used on landscapes, it makes sense to keep water use in mind when planting your garden. By choosing water-wise plants, watering correctly, and applying a generous layer of mulch, you can have a beautiful garden without breaking your watering budget.

Our list of water-wise plants will help you get started. Once established, these plants should thrive with weekly deep watering. Many of them will need a deep watering only every other week during warm weather. Some, especially California natives such as Ceanothus, Manzanita or Redbud will even survive with no supplemental summer water at all, although to keep them looking their best you may want to water them deeply once a month.

When newly planted, even water-wise plants need frequent monitoring and regular water. Your goal is to gradually reduce the frequency while always watering deeply so that your plant will develop deep roots and become more self-sufficient over time. For detailed information on proper planting and watering, please refer to our *Watering 101 & Saving Water in the Garden*.

After planting, spread a one to three inch layer of mulch around the plants keeping the mulch a few inches away from trunks and stems. A three inch layer of mulch can save up to 30% on water use by cooling the soil, reducing evaporation and preventing weeds which compete for moisture.

Look for this symbol on our plant signs for water-wise plants.



Botanical Name

Common Name

Trees

Acacia spp.	Acacia
Arbutus 'Marina'	Marina Strawberry Madrone
Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'	Ray Hartman California Lilac
Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca'	Blue Atlas Cedar
Chilopsis linearis	Desert Willow
Chionanthus retusus.....	Chinese Fringe Tree
Crataegus phaenopyrum	Washington Hawthorne
Eucalyptus spp.	Gum
Garrya elliptica	Coast Silktassel
Geijera parviflora.....	Australian Willow
Ginkgo biloba	Ginkgo
Koelreuteria paniculata	Goldenrain Tree
Lagerstroemia indica.....	Crape Myrtle
Olea europaea	Olive
Pinus spp.	Pine
Pistacia chinensis	Pistache
Rhus lancea	African Sumac
Robinia x ambigua 'Purple Robe'	Purple Robe Locust
Schinus molle.....	California Pepper Tree
Umbellularia californica	California Laurel
Quercus spp.	Oak

Botanical Name

Common Name

Shrubs

Arbutus unedo	Strawberry Shrub
Arctostaphylos spp.	Manzanita
Baccharis pilularis.....	Coyote Bush
Buddleia spp.	Butterfly Bush
Callistemon spp.	Bottle Brush
Carpenteria californica	Bush Anemone
Ceanothus spp.	California Lilac
Cercis occidentalis	Western Redbud
Cotoneaster spp.	Cotoneaster
Cistus spp.	Rockrose
Dodonaea viscosa 'Purpurea'	Purple Dodonaea
Echium fastuosum.....	Pride of Madeira
Elaeagnus spp.	Silverberry
Euryops spp.	Euryops
Feijoa sellowiana	Pineapple Guava
Fremontodendron.	Flannel Bush
Grevillea spp.....	Grevillea
Heteromeles arbutifolia.	Toyon
Juniperus spp.	Blue Point, Blue Carpet and others
Leonotis leonurus.....	Lion's Tail
Mahonia spp.	Oregon Grape

Shrubs (cont.)

Melaleuca spp.	Honey Myrtle
Metrosideros excelsa	New Zealand Christmas Tree
Myrica californica	Pacific Wax Myrtle
Myrtus communis	Myrtle
Nandina domestica	Heavenly Bamboo
Nerium oleander	Oleander
Osmanthus delavayi	Delavayi Osmanthus
Phormium spp.	Flax
Pittosporum spp.	Pittosporum
Punica granatum	Pomegranate
Pyracantha spp.	Firethorn
Rhamnus alaternus	Italian Buckthorn
Ribes aureum	Yellow Currant
Ribes viburnifolium	Evergreen Currant
Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemary
Rhus spp.	Sumac
Sollya heterophylla	Australian Bluebell
Tecoma capensis	Cape Honeysuckle
Teucrium fruiticans	Germander
Westringia rosmariniformis	Westringia
Xylosma congestum	Shiny Xylosma

Perennials

Acanthus mollis	Bear's Breech
Achillea spp.	Yarrow
Agapanthus spp.	Lily-of-the-Nile
Agastache spp.	Hyssop
Anigozanthos spp.	Kangaroo Paw
Arctotis hybrids	African Daisy
Artemisia spp.	Wormwood
Bergenia crassifolia	Winter Blooming Bergenia
Centaurea cineraria	Dusty Miller
Clivia miniata	Clivia
Convolvulus cneorum	Bush Morning Glory
Coreopsis spp.	Coreopsis, Tickseed
Correa spp.	Australian Fuchsia
Epilobium spp. (Zauschneria)	California Fuchsia
Erigeron spp.	Fleabane
Eriogonum spp.	Buckwheat
Erysimum spp.	Wallflower
Euonymus spp.	Euonymus
Euphorbia spp.	Spurge
Gaillardia spp.	Blanket Flower
Helianthemum spp.	Sunrose
Iris douglasiana	Pacific Coast Iris
Kniphofia	Red Hot Poker
Lantana spp.	Lantana
Lavandula spp.	Lavender
Lavatera spp.	Mallow
Limonium perezii	Statice
Nepeta spp.	Catmint
Perovskia atriplicifolia	Russian Sage
Penstemon spp.	Penstemon
Phlomis fruticosa	Jerusalem Sage
Rudbeckia spp.	Gloriosa Daisies
Salvia spp.	Sage
Stachys byzantina	Lamb's Ear
Teucrium chamaedrys	Germander
Tulbaghia violacea	Society Garlic

Ground Covers

Acacia redolens	Creeping Acacia
Arctostaphylos spp.	Manzanita
Calylophus drummondii	Sundrops
Ceanothus griseus var. horizontalis	Carmel Creeper
Cerastium tomentosum	Snow-in-summer
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides	Dwarf Plumbago
Cotoneaster spp.	Cotoneaster
Dymondia sp.	Dymondia
Euonymus spp.	Euonymus
Gazania spp.	Gazania
Hypericum calycinum	St. John's Wort, Aaron's Beard
Lantana montevidensis	Trailing Lantana
Myoporum parvifolium	Myoporum
Rubus calycinoides	Bramble
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus'	Creeping Rosemary
Thymus spp.	Thyme
Verbena peruviana	Verbena

Vines

Aristolochia californica	California Pipevine
Bougainvillea	Bougainvillea
Clytostoma calystegioides	Violet Trumpet Vine
Distictus buccinatoria	Blood-red Trumpet Vine
Gelsemium sempervirens	Carolina Jessamine
Hardenbergia violacea	Lilac Vine
Macfadyena unguis-cati	Cat's Claw
Parthenocissus spp.	Virginia Creeper/Boston Ivy
Rosa banksiae	Lady Banks Rose
Vitis californica	California Grape
Wisteria sinensis	Wisteria

Ferns

Asparagus densiflorus	Asparagus Fern
Cheilanthes spp.	Rock Fern
Dryopteris arguta	California Wood Fern
Polystichum munitum	Western Sword Fern
Woodwardia fimbriata	Giant Chain Fern

Succulents

Aeonium spp.	Aeonium
Aloe spp.	Aloe
Agave spp.	Agave
Bulbine frutescens	Star Flower
Crassula spp.	Jade Plant
Dasyliirion longissimum/wheeleri	Mexican Grass Tree
Delosperma cooperi	Cooper's Ice Plant
Echeveria spp.	Hens & Chicks
Hesperaloe parvifolia	Coral Yucca
Sedum spp.	Stonecrop
Yucca	Yucca

Grasses

Festuca spp.	Fescue
Calamagrostis acutiflora	Feather Reed Grass
Carex flacca	Blue Sedge
Helictotricon sempervirens	Blue Oat Grass
Pennisetum spp.	Fountain Grass
Stipa arundinacea	New Zealand Windgrass