

These plants have been selected because they are attractive, often available in nurseries, non invasive, easy to maintain, long term performers, scaled for residential landscapes, and of course, once established — drought tolerant.

The Nifty-50 plants thrive in California's semiarid climate. Become environmentally aware of what makes our region distinctly beautiful!

The Nifty-50 plants are labeled and on display at the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College. The five acre public garden is an excellent place to get ideas for a new or retrofitted landscape that looks beautiful and saves water, time, and money.

The Garden is open every day from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Call for sum mer hours.) Tours are offered each Saturday morning and by appointment. There are classes, workshops, and gardening festivals for the entire family.

Go to www.thegarden.org or call 619-660-0614 x10 for further information.

10 Water-Saving Tips for your Garden



Cut summer watering to 2 or 3 days per week for grass, and 1 to 2 days per week for other plants.

In winter, irrigate only if needed, to maintain some moisture in the soil.



Check soil moisture using your finger or shovel and wait until the soil is dry 2 or 3 inches deep before watering.

Create a schedule of how much and how often to water with the landscape watering calculator at www.bewaterwise.com/ calculator.html



Water only before dawn and after dusk to reduce water loss due to evaporation and wind.







Fix leaking sprinklers, valves and pipes. A broken spray sprinkler wastes 10 gallons per minute or 100 gallons in a typical 10 minute watering cycle.

Place a 2- or 3-inch layer of mulch over bare dirt to reduce water evaporation, improve the soil, and help control weeds.

Replace lawn areas with water smart groundcovers, trees and shrubs whenever possible.

Check with your water agency for water use surveys and rebates on irrigation equipment.

Attend classes on water smart landscaping. Visit the Water Conservation Garden or contact your local water agency.

Plants for Water Smart Landscapes

These plants have been selected because they are attractive, often available in retail nurseries, non invasive, easy to maintain, long term performers, scaled for residential landscapes, and of course, once established — drought tolerant. In some cases, there are so many excellent water smart plants in a particular group, like salvias, that we chose the group, and gave several examples. and N = Native Plant

San Diego County Water Authority

Bougainvillea

Bougainvillea

20 Yellow Orchid Vine





Arctostaphylos species & hybrids, N



Ceanothus species and hybrids, N

Grevillea



Cercis occidentalis, N



Chamelaucium uncinatum



Texas Ranger



Leucophyllum species



Succulents

Aloe species and hybrids

Live Forever

Dudleya species and

hybrids, N

24 California Sunflower

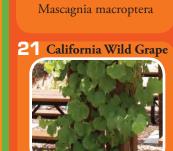
Aeonium



Calandrinia grandiflora

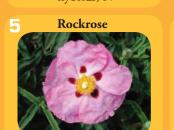
18 Hens-and-Chickens

35



Echeveria species and hybrids

Monkey flower



Cistus species

Oregon Grape

Mahonia aquifolium, N



Grevillea species and hybrids

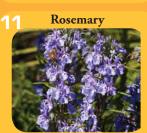
1 ☐ Common Myrtle

Myrtus communis

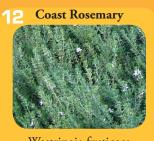
Silver Carpet

Dymondia margaretae

23



Heteromeles arbutifolia, N

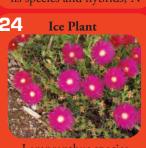


Westringia fruticosa





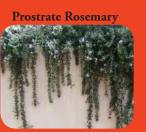
Ceanothus griseus horizontalis species and hybrids, N





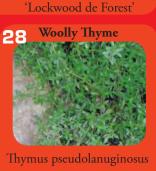


Rosmarinus officinalis 'Huntington Carpet'





Sedum species and hybrids



4.5 Crape Myrtle



Pink Muhly Grass

Muhlenbergia capillaris

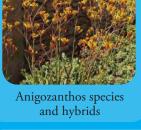


'Rubrum'



species and hybrids





SALVIA SPECIES

Cleveland Sage

Salvia clevelandii, N

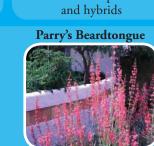
38





Encelia californica, N

Penstemon heterophyllus, N



Lavender

Lavandula species

Penstemon parryi, N



Mimulus, Native species

and hybrids

Penstemon spectabilis, N

TAGETES

PERENNIAL

39





Salvia leucantha

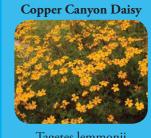


Salvia chamaedryoides



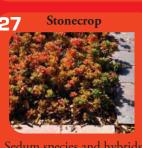
Salvia greggii

Peruvian Verbena



Tagetes lemmonii

Mexican Tarragon







Sweet Bay

46

42 Pindo Palm Butia capitata











Quercus agrifolia, N



Geijera parviflora



THE WATER CONSERVATION



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