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Bay-Friendly Landscaping Checklist



BAY-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING CHECKLIST

1 Landscape Locally



- 1. Evaluate climate, exposure and topography
- 2. Assess the soil and test drainage
- 3. Survey and protect flora & fauna
- 4. Consider the potential for fire
- 5. Use local, natural plant communities as models

2 Landscape for Less to the Landfill



- 1. Select appropriate plants:
 - A. Choose plants to match the microclimate & soil conditions
 - B. Choose plants that can grow to their natural size in the space allotted them
 - C. Replace sheared hedges with plants that can grow to their natural shape & size
 - D. Do not plant invasive species
- 2. Keep plant debris on site:
 - A. Grasscycle
 - B. Produce mulch from plant debris
 - C. Compost plant debris
- 3. Prune selectively and properly
- 4. Water and fertilize judiciously
- 5. Use goats for controlling weeds and creating firebreaks
- 6. Use salvaged items & recycled content materials
- 7. Reduce and recycle construction waste
- 8. Separate plant debris for clean green discounts

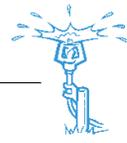
3 Nurture the Soil



- 1. Remove and store topsoil during construction
- 2. Protect soil from compaction
- 3. Defend against erosion
- 4. Amend the soil with compost before planting
- 5. Grasscycle
- 6. Mulch regularly
- 7. Aerate compacted soils
- 8. Feed soils naturally
- 9. Avoid synthetic, quick release fertilizers
- 10. Minimize the use of chemical pesticides

• See chapter 4, Summary of Bay-Friendly Landscaping Benefits to view list of practices categorized by Design, Construction and Maintenance.

4 Conserve Water



- 1. Create drought resistant soils with compost & mulch
- 2. Grow California natives or Mediterranean plants
- 3. Minimize the lawn
- 4. Implement hydrozoning - group plants by water needs
- 5. Design for on-site rainwater collection, recycled water and/or graywater use
- 6. Design and install high efficiency irrigation systems
- 7. Install a dedicated meter to monitor landscape water use
- 8. Manage irrigation according to need
- 9. Maintain the irrigation system so every drop counts
- 10. Request an irrigation audit

5 Conserve Energy



- 1. Plant and protect trees to moderate building temperatures
- 2. Reduce the heat island effect: shade paved areas
- 3. Shade air conditioners
- 4. Design lighting carefully
- 5. Choose and maintain equipment for fuel conservation
- 6. Specify local products & suppliers

6 Protect Water & Air Quality



- 1. Use Integrated Pest Management:
 - A. Prevent pest problems
 - B. Train your staff to identify and monitor pest & beneficial populations
 - C. Educate your clients
 - D. Control pest problems with physical & mechanical methods
 - E. Control pest problems with biological controls
 - F. Control pest problems with the least toxic pesticide as a last resort
- 2. Eliminate high input decorative lawns
- 3. Keep soil covered
- 4. Choose and maintain your materials, equipment & vehicles carefully
- 5. Keep organic matter where it belongs
- 6. Minimize impervious surfaces
- 7. Plant trees
- 8. Maintain and manage the irrigation system carefully
- 9. Design a system to capture and treat water

7 Create & Protect Wildlife Habitat



- 1. Diversify
- 2. Choose California natives first
- 3. Provide water & shelter
- 4. Eliminate the use of pesticides
- 5. Conserve or restore natural areas & wildlife corridors