

Water Conserving Plants

Water conservation in California is a way of life. Planning for potential future drought when planning our landscapes is practical and sustainable. A drought-tolerant landscape does not have to be dull or arid looking. There are many plants that offer interest with flowers, fruits and colorful foliage. Plants adapted to a Mediterranean climate whether they be Australian, South African, European or native can combine to create a successful whole. Here is a partial list to help you get started. All will do well with little to moderate water. (Moderate meaning less than average). Highly flammable plants such as juniper, pine and eucalyptus and rosemary (though drought-tolerant) have been omitted.

* Indicates from Firesafe Marin plant list.

TREES

Aesculus sp. (Buckeye)
Albizia julibrissin (Mimosa)
Almond
Arbutus 'Marina' (Strawberry Tree)
Cedrus deodora (California Christmas Tree)
Ceratonia siliqua (Carob)
Chitalpa tashkentensis (Desert Willow)
Cinnimomum camphora (Camphor)
Ficus carica (Fig)
Ginkgo biloba (Maidenhair Tree)

Jacaranda mimosifolia
Lagerstroemia indica (Crape Myrtle)
Melaleuca quinqueveria (Paperbark)
Metrosideros (New Zealand Christmas Tree) *
Olea europa (Olive)
Pistacia chinensis (Chinese Pistache) *
Quercus sp. (Oak)
Robinia sp. (Locust)
Schinus molle (California Pepper) *
Umbellaria californica (Pacific Bay)

SHRUBS

Acacia latifolia and redolens
Adenanthos sp (Woollybush)
Alyogyne huegglei
Arbutus unedo (Strawberry Tree)
Arctostaphylos sp. (Manzanita) *
Astartea
Banksia sp.
Buddleja sp. (Butterfly Bush)
Buxus sp. (Boxwood) *
Callistemon sp. (Bottlebrush) *
Capparis spinosa (Caper)
Carpentaria californica *
Caryopteris sp.
Ceanothus sp (California Lilac) *
Chamelaucium sp. (Waxflower)

Dendromecon harfordii (Island Bush Poppy)
Dodonaea viscosa (Hopseed) *
Eleagnus sp. (Silverberry) *
Eremophila (Emu Bush)
Eriogonum sp. (Buckwheat) *
Euryops pectinatus
Fallugia (Apache Plume)
Feijoa sellowiana (Pineapple Guava) *
Fremontodendron (Flannel Bush)
Grevillea sp.
Hakea suaveolens
Halimicistus
Halimium sp (Rockrose relative)
Heteromeles arbutifolia (Toyon) *
Isopogon



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Cistus sp. (Rockrose)
Coprosma sp. (Mirror Plant)
Corokia
Correa sp. (Australian Fuchsia)
Cotinus coggygria (Smoke Bush)
Cotoneaster sp.
Luma apiculata (Chilean Guava)
Melaleuca sp. (Paperbark)
Melianthus major (Honeybush)
Myoporum sp. *
Myrsine africana (African Box)
Myrtus communis (Myrtle)
Nandina domestic (Heavenly Bamboo)
Nerium oleander (Oleander) *
Osmanthus sp. (Sweet Olive)
Plumeria
ProteaPrunus laurocerasus (English Laurel)

PERENNIALS

Agapanthus (Lily of the Nile) *
Allysum saxatile (Basket of Gold)
Aloysia triphylla (Lemon Verbena)
Anacyclus (Atlas Daisy)
Anagallis
Armeria sp. (Sea Thrift) *
Artemesia sp.
Asteriscus sp. (Gold Coin)
Ballota sp.
Bulbine *
Cactus and succulents *
Carex sp.
Centranthus rubber (Jupiters Beard)
Dasyilirion
Dietes sp. (Fortnight Lily) *
Dudleya *
Sedum sp. *
Echinops (Globe Thistle)
Echium sp. (Pride of Madiera)
Erigeron sp (Fleabane) *
Eryngium sp. (Sea Holly)
Festuca sp. *
Gailardia sp (Blanket Flower)

VINES

Bougainvillea
Campsis radicans (Orange Trumpet Vine)
Hardenbergia violacea (Lavender Pea Vine)

Kerria sp.
Kunzea sp.
Lavandula sp. (Lavender)
Laurus nobilis (Sweet Bay)
Leonothus leonaurus (Lion Tail)
Ligustrum ovalifolium (California Privet)
Pyracantha sp (Firethorn)
Raphiolepis sp. (Hawthorne)
Rhamnus alaternus (Italian Buckthorn) *
Pittosporum sp. *
Plumbago sp. *
Rhamnus alaternus (Italian Buckthorn)
Rhus integrifolia (Lemonade berry) *
Ribes sanguineum
Symphoricarpus (Snowberry) *
Teucrium sp. (Germander) *
Vitex agnus castus (Chaste Tree)
Xylosma congestum *

Gypsophila sp. (Baby Breath)
Gaura lindheimeri
Helianthemum (Rockrose)
Hemerocallis (Daylily) *
Helichrysum sp. (Licorice plant)
Hesperaloe parvifolia *
Kniphofia uvaria (Red Hot Poker)
Lantana sp.
Limonium sp. (Sea Lavender)
Lychnis sp.
Malvastrum
Nassella sp (Needle grass)
Oenothera (Evening Primrose) *
Origanum sp. (Oregano)
Penstemon sp. (Beard Tongue) *
Perovskia (Russian Sage)
Phormium (Flax)
Phygelius rectus (Cape Fuchsia)
Romneya coulteri (Fried Egg Plant)
Senecio (Dusty Miller)
Solidago (Goldenrod)
Stachys byzantina (Lambs Ears) *
Trichostema (Woolly Blue Curls)

Lonicera sp. (Honeysuckle) *
Wisteria