

PLANTING TIPS:

FIREWISE PLANTING

Fire can provide a beneficial role in our natural landscape by cleaning and revitalizing aging vegetation. The location of your home can impact your risk. Is your home located by canyons, slopes, dense foliage?

Every homeowner should clear a defensible space that will give firefighters a fighting chance against fire. Defensible space and a fire safe landscape doesn't mean a ring of bare dirt around your home. When establishing your landscape, keep trees furthest from our house, shrubs can be closer, and bedding plants and lawns are nearest the house.

The Following Steps to Safeguarding your home can help minimize your risk.

Selective Thinning of Vegetation

Remove highly flammable plants and dense groupings to reduce foliage mass. This reduces the fuel volume and lowers the intensity of any fire that should approach a structure. Maintain some vegetation or you'll create a new problem because bare soil will easily wash away if there aren't plants to maintain its position.

Miscellaneous Tips

On hillsides, plant low growing ground covers and irrigate

Avoid dense vegetation next to houses

Avoid using wood roofs and projecting overhangs

Avoid using bark - This can add fuel to the fire. (Redwood compost is a good top soil)

Remember

All plants and landscaping must be maintained, Plants need watered, Trimmed and fed. Landscape areas must be weeded.

The Landscape for Fire-resistant plants, which usually have high water retention, provide less fuel in fires and contain no oil and leave small amounts of litter in the yard. Among them are:

- **Succulents:** aloe, jade, sticks on fire, African baby toes, tiger jaws, red yucca, Indian fig cactus, prickly pear, starfish flower and agave.
- **Trees:** loquat, flame, peppermint, orange, lemon, carob, Australian willow, California black walnut, ponytail palm, olive and coast live oak.
- **Shrubs:** oleander, quail saltbush, manzanita, bottle brush, California lilac, white rock rose, coast sunflower, poinsettia, pomegranate, toyon, English lavender, India hawthorn and lemonade berry.
- **Perennials:** bird of paradise, kangaroo paw, beach evening primrose, sea dahlia, coastal buckwheat, daffodil, bear grass and society garlic.
- **Flowers:** California poppy, swan daisy and some roses.
- **Ground covers:** ice plant, sage brush, ground morning glory, California fuchsia, ivy geranium, trailing rosemary and thyme.

High fire hazard species:

Adenostoma fasciculatum-Chamise

Adenostoma sparsifolium - Red Shanks

Artemisia californica - California

Sagebrush

Eriogonum fasciculatum - Common
buckwheat

Salvia species - Sage

Valuable water shed species:

Arctostaphylos species - Manzanita

Ceanothus species - Wild Lilac
Comarostaphylis diversifolia - Summer
Holly
Garrya species - Silk Tassel
Heteromeles arbutifolia - Toyon

Juglans species - Walnut
Quercus species - Oak
Rhus species - Sumac
Rhamnus species - Buckthorn

SLOW BURNING PLANTING

Look for low growing plant species. Choose a combination of native and introduced plants with limited foliage mass. These plants will be introduced as seeds or from containers and will require supplemental watering to start its growth. Most plants will burn when exposed to intense heat but the effectiveness of this planting is achieved by slowing fires with plants that have little to burn. A mixture of plant types is a good idea.

Low fuel volume native plants:

Eriophyllum species - Yarrow
Eschscholzia californica - California
Poppy
Lotus scoparius - Deerweed
Lupinus species - Annual lupines
Mimulus species - Monkey flower
Penstemon species - Penstemon
Salvia columbariac - Chia
Salvia sonomensis - Creeping Sage
Trichostema lanatum - Woolly Blue Curls
Zauschneria species - California species

Low fuel volume introduced plants:

Artemisia caucasica - Silver
Artiplex glauca - Saltbrush
Artiplex semibaccata - Creeping
Saltbush
Cistus crispus - Roserose
Cistus salviifolius - Sageleaf Rockrose
Santolina chamaecyparissus - Lavender
Cotton
Santolina virens - Green Santolin

FIRE RETARDANT PLANTING

This category of planting is where you can find the most prevention. The low foliage level combined with high moisture content is key. Nothing over 18" high. The planting here is much more domestic in appearance and provides high soil stabilization and can be developed to mix into parts of the natural vegetation.

High Fire Retarding Plants

Carpobrotus species - Sea Fig
Delosperma 'Alba' - White Trailing Ice
Plant
Lampranthus spectabilis - Trailing Ice
Plant
Malephora crocea - Croceum Ice Plant
Drosanthemum floribundum - Rosea Ice
Plant

Moderate Fire Retarding Plants

Arctotheca calendula - Cape Weed

Baccharis pilularis - Prostrate Coyote
Bush
Coprosma Kirkii - Creeping Coprosma
Gazania regens leucolaena - Trailing
Gazania
Lippia canescens - Lippia
Myoporum parvilolium - Myoporum
Osteopermum fruticosum - African
Daisy
Santolina species - Lavender Cotton
Trifolium fragiferum var. O'Connor's -
O'Connor's Legume
Vinca Species - Periwinkle

DOMESTIC PLANTING

There are instances where homes located deep within a housing development and away from the perimeter housing edge have burned because their wood roofs or domestic plantings have caught fire from the burning embers that are blown during winds. This planting is located around homes and should be placed carefully and consist of species which do not readily catch fire. Limit the amount of tall trees around your home, thin foliage and remove dead branches from large plants next to your home.

Acceptable domestic plant species

Arbutus unedo - Strawberry tree
Arcotostaphylos species - Manzanita
Ceratonia siliqua - Carob tree
Cercis occidentalis - Western Rosebud
Convolvulus cneorum - Blush Morning
Glory
Feijoa sellowian - Pineapple Guava
Metrosideros excelsus - New Zealand
Christmas Tree
Myoporum species - Myoporum
Nerium oleander - Oleander
Pittosporum species - Pittosporum
Prunus species - Evergreen Cherry
Punica granatum - Pomegranate
Pyracantha species - Firethorn

Rhamnus alaternus - Italian Buckthorn
Ribes species - Currant, Goseberry
Shinus terebinthifolius - Brazilian
Pepper
Simmondsia chinensis - Jojoba
Tecomaria capensis - Cape Honeysuckle

Undesirable domestic plant species

Acacia species - Acacia
Cedrus species - Cedar
Cupressus species - Cypress
Dedonaea viscosa - Hosseed Bush
Eucalyptus species - Eucalytus
Juniperus species - Juniper
Pennisetum - Fountain Grass
Pinus species - Pine

RABBIT RESISTANT PLANTING

In general the following plants are usually not preferred by rabbits. Rule of Thumb Rabbits dislike highly aromatic plants. However if nothing else is available for the rabbit to eat they may munch on these plants as well.

ANNUALS:

Amaranthus - Globe Flower
Anemone coronaria -
Dahlia
Helianthus - Sunflowers
Nasturtium
Nicotiana
Papaver - Poppy
Tagetes - Marigold
Verbena -
Vinca/Catharanthus (bedding types)

PERENNIALS:

Achillea - Yarrow
Aconitum - Moonshood
Agastache - Anise Hyssop

Alcea rosea - Hollyhock
Alchemilla mollis - Lady's Mantle
Anemone - Wandflower
Aquilegia - Columbine
Artemisia - Wormwood
Asclepias - Butterfly Weed
Aster
Astilbe - False Spirea
Bergenia
Borago officinalis - Borage
Campanula - Bellflower
Catharanthus - Bedding Vinca
Corydalis
Crocsmia - Montbretia
Cyclamen
Delphinium

Digitalis - Foxglove
Doronicum - Leopard's Bane
Eryngium - Sea Holly
Euphorbia
Geranium - Cransbill
Helianthemum- Sunrose
Helleborus -
Hemerocallis - Daylily
Hosta
Iris
Kniphofia - Red Hot Poker
Leucojum - Snowdrops
Lupinus - lupine
Myosotis - Forget-me-not
Narcissus - Daffodil/Narcissus
Nepeta - Catmint
Penstemon
Polemonium - Jacob's Ladder
Pulmonaria - Lungwort
Salvia - Sage
Santolina - Lavender Cotton
Stachys - Lamb's Ears
Sedum
Teucrium - Germander

SHRUBS:

Acanthus - Bears Breach
Agapanthus - Lily of the Nile
Aucuba japonica
Azalea
Berberis - Barberry
Buddleia - Butterfly Bush
Buxus - Boxwood

Ceanothus - California Lilac
Cistus - Rockrose
Daphne
Eleagnus
Euonymus
Hebe - small leaved
Hydrangea
Ilex - Holly
Lantana
Ligustrum - Privet
Liriope - Lily Turf
Mahonia aquifolium - Oregon Grape
Phormium tenax - New Zealand Flax
Rosemarinus - Rosemary
Syringa Vulgaris - Lilac
Tulbagia - Society Garlic
Viburnum
Yucca

GROUNDCOVERS:

Hedera - Ivy
Hypericum - St. John's Wort
Lamium
Lantana
Mentha- Mint and Peppermint
Ophiopogon - Mondo Grass
Osteospermum - African Daisy
Polygonum - Pink Clover Blossom
Potentilla - Cinquefoil
Rosemarinus - Rosemary
Sedum - Stonecrop
Vinca - Groundcover types

OPTION FOR RABBIT CONTROL

Physical Barriers

A physical barrier between the rabbits and your plants is the only sure way to prevent rabbit damage. Chicken wire is effective as long as it is installed 18" above the ground or higher. It also must be buried at least 8 inches into the soil.

Repellents

Several repellents are available and have varying results. Homeowner must be consistence! Application must be done on a regular basis. Refer to the manufacture instruction. As long as the rabbit continually experience the repellent, with no exceptions, they are likely to change their foraging habits and feed elsewhere. This is only a training device.

Other

Live trapping of rabbits may be successful if the infestation is small. Rabbits like to feed in the early morning hours and evenings. Check to see how many rabbits you have visiting you plant material. Traps can be rented from some Animal Control Department in your city.

Other methods of controlling rabbits in your garden are occasionally used. These include dogs, netting, and the use of blood meal or bone meal. Many gardeners report excellent results from the use of Coyote Urine or Bobcat Urine. Both of these urine Products and dispensers are available at your local Retail Nursery.

GROUND COVER PLANTING GUIDE

SPACING INCH ON CENTER	64 PLANTS PER FLAT	81 PLANTS
4"	7 SQ. FT.	9 SQ. FT
6"	16 SQ. FT.	20 SQ. FT
8"	28 SQ. FT.	36 SQ. FT
10"	45 SQ. FT.	57 SQ.FT
12"	65 SQ. FT.	82 SQ. FT
14"	87 SQ. FT.	110 SQ. FT
15"	100 SQ. FT.	128 SQ. FT
16"	112 SQ.FT.	144 SQ. FT
18"	144 SQ. FT.	164 SQ.FT
20"	180 SQ. FT.	228 SQ.FT
24"	256 SQ. FT.	328 SQ. FT.
30"	400 SQ. FT.	512 SQ. FT
36"	576 SQ. FT.	656 SQ. FT