

Native Plantings - getting ready for planting season

This is a pretty exciting time of the year – just before the native plant sales. October is a good month to plan to revitalize your front yard. Since turf removal is all the trend, a well-designed multi-benefit, drought-tolerant garden that is visually intriguing and provides habitat for birds and butterflies is crucial.

Things to keep in mind:

- Landscape designers/architects are invaluable resources for eye-catching, visually-pleasing design that enhances curb appeal for your home.
- Information to design is available on line at bewaterwise.com
- Remember to include plants of varying heights to create visual intrigue.
- Always check the water needed for each plant. Zoning is crucial to efficiently use an existing irrigation system.
- Water can be conserved by capturing rainwater in gutters and diverting it through a series of swales to give our drought-tolerant plants the water they want when they want it.
- Remember fire season is now year round so develop your plant list with those that offer the best defensible space as well as enhancing aesthetic appeal.
- List of plants - Visit gardens and web sites: bewaterwise.com
theodorepayne.org/education/plant-guides/
www.laspilitas.com/
<http://www.californianativeplants.com/>
<http://www.matilijanursery.com/>
- When construction begins, install hardscape first; plants enhance the hardscape elements.
- Include plants that attract and support pollinators: bees, butterflies & hummingbirds.