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On the Go Garden

Urban Water Group, Inc.

Clean Architectural Plants



1



2



3



4



5

1 Brahea armata
Blue Hesper Palm

2 Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince'
Clumping Wild Rye

3 Aloe arborescens
Torch Aloe

4 Arbutus unedo 'Compacta'
Compact Strawberry Tree

5 Sedum nussbaumerianum
Orange Stonecrop

On the Go Style landscapes are beautiful and functional, so active homeowners can concentrate on making weekend memories and don't have to worry about their garden when they are away from home. The key to this style is to be minimal, but not barren. Instead of mixing lots of different plants in your palette, consider paring down the list to a few, easy-care plant groups surrounded by organic mulch or large swaths of groundcover.

Billowy meadows of native grasses and flowering perennials can both soften and contrast effectively with clean hardscape lines. Structural succulents, bold shrubs, and dramatic trees pull the look together for a stress-free environment.



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Lower Water Sedge Lawns



1 *Carex pansa*
California Meadow Sedge



2 *Achillea millefolium*
Yarrow



3 *Zephyranthes*
Fairy Lily

Clean and contemporary hardscape surfaces are softened with gently wavy Sedge Lawns that include seasonally flowering bulbs. As with the Natural Lawn (see p. 14), evergreen Sedge Lawns can be mown regularly, or left wild and raked annually to freshen/dethatch.

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Leaving enough space between individual plants allows them to grow to their natural size. Fill the space between them with small woodchip mulch, and you are good to go!

Stunning Focal Point Succulents



1 *Agave victoriae-reginae*
Queen Victoria Agave



2 *Agave vilmoriniana*
Octopus Agave



3 *Kalanchoe beharensis*
Felt Plant

Sculptural plants look stunning year-round, alone or massed. Surround sculptural plants with smaller succulent varieties and evergreen or flowering ground covers. Dramatic succulent and sculptural plants add form and color to minimal styles. Plant single plant species in a beautiful container, then group pots or use alone as focal points.

Tips For On the Go Style Gardens

1. **Weather-Based Irrigation Control** is essential for managing irrigation efficiently even when you're only using the garden 2 days a week (see p. 65).

2. **Simple Permeable Hardscape** creates strong lines in the garden and is easy to maintain and keep clean.

3. **Raised Beds and Containers** allow you to highlight seasonal or showy plants while keeping digging to a minimum. These also allow for some seasonal food growing.

4. **Easy-Care Plant Groups** of three to seven or more odd numbered plants keep the eye moving around the garden and adds to the "organized" feel that relieves stress.

5. **Try Succulents** for clean and colorful groundcovers or bold architectural structure. These relatively low maintenance plants work well in the ground or in containers and compliment almost any architectural building style.

6. **Try Ornamental Grasses** to soften the lines of hardscape or buildings. Be sure to mass plant these, creating the sense of a meadow or open space. Alternatively, larger grasses can be used along with succulents as architectural elements.

7. **Edible Perennials and Trees** provide food and work in containers or in the ground. Perennials don't need to be replaced every season like most vegetables. (see p. 19).

8. **Mulch** keeps weeds down, soil moist, and builds a soil sponge that boosts your garden's immune system (see p. 29).

9. **Support Structures** keep things climbing so they are easy to see and even easier to clean up for entertaining guests.



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