

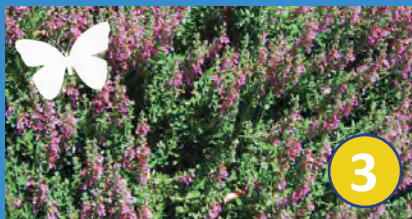
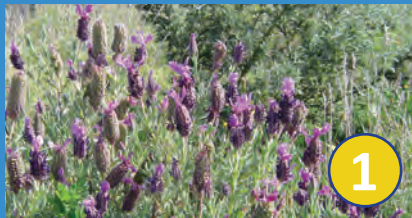


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Family Gathering Spot

Urban Water Group, Inc.

Tough and Beautiful Mediterraneans



1 *Lavandula* (various)
Lavender

2 *Rosmarinus officinalis prostratus*
Creeping Rosemary

3 *Teucrium chamaedrys*
Germander

4 *Cistus skanbergii*
Pink Rockrose

5 *Prunus ilicifolia* ssp *ilicifolia*
Hollyleaf Cherry

Family Gathering Style landscapes take advantage of different garden “zones” that provide places for the entire family to eat, cook, play safely, or sit and enjoy the garden.

Brick, tile, gravel, decomposed granite or fine wood mulch carpet large outdoor patios and furnished garden rooms. Generous tree canopies provide cooling shade and places to rest within the garden.

Patios should be permeable wherever possible, to allow direct rainwater infiltration, or contoured to capture all runoff in adjacent swales (see p. 42).

Laura Morton Design



Vines for Arbors



1 *Hardenbergia violacea*
Purple Vine Lilac



2 *Clytostoma callistegioides*
Lavender Trumpet Vine



3 *Rosa 'Climbing Cecile Brunner'*
Climbing Rose

Plant colorful, flowering vines on arbors, trellises, bare walls and fences to shade garden rooms, patios, and add privacy.



The centerpiece of the **Family Gathering Style** garden is an arbor-covered patio with enough space for dining tables and chairs. With sufficient tree cover, this gathering area provides a physical place within the garden for your family to congregate. Consider both the surrounding view and the view of the nearby garden beds, and make sure there is a clear wide pathway with minimal steps getting you there.

Edible Fruit Trees



1 *Punica granatum*
Pomegranate



2 *Acca sellowiana*
Pineapple Guava



3 *Prunus salicina*
'Santa Rosa'
Santa Rosa Plum

Many beautiful fruit trees thrive in Southern California, creating bountiful orchards and singular patio trees.

Tips For Family Gathering Style Gardens

1. **Explore the Senses** with plants that have great color contrast, strong fragrance or are soft to the touch.

2. **Edibles and Perennial Herbs** can be planted right in the garden to provide garnishes and additions to meals year round, connecting everyone with the outdoors, even in the rainy season.

3. **Raised Beds, Accessible On All Sides** make it easy to get around the entire planter without bending over. Raising a bed to 48" (waist height) allows for standing gardening, and 18" - 24" (knee height) allows you to sit on the edge of the bed.

4. **Wide Paths, No Steps** allow everyone to enjoy the garden without worrying about tripping and falling.

5. **Covered Dining Area** should be located closer to the home, near any outdoor cooking areas. As is the case inside the house, the cooking/dining area of the garden will become the natural heart of the site.

6. **Kids' Safe Play Area** should be visible from the cooking/dining area so adults are able to watch over kids without having to wander throughout the garden.

7. **Trees or Shade Coverings** should be used throughout the garden to protect the family from weather extremes and to provide a sense of enclosure or protection.

8. **Vertical Growing Surfaces** such as trellises or arches make gathering of fruit and flowers accessible to everyone.

9. **Garden Resting Spots** provide vantage points for enjoying the garden while watching kids, and talking to neighbors. Spend some time in thrift stores looking for unusual chairs and benches to decorate the garden!

