

# Suggested Water-Efficient Plants

*A list of common plants that don't require frequent watering, saving you time and lowering your water usage.*

*part of the City of Hayward's*  
**Environmentally Friendly  
Landscape Guidelines  
for Single-Family  
Development**

Water-efficient landscaping can help save money, water, and promote a healthier yard and environment.

For more information on water-efficient landscaping, visit the City's Sustainable Hayward information at [www.hayward-ca.gov](http://www.hayward-ca.gov)

*The images on the cover are of Hayward gardens using native or water-efficient plants.*



*Photos of the Wright-Mendala Residence by Antonio Mendala*



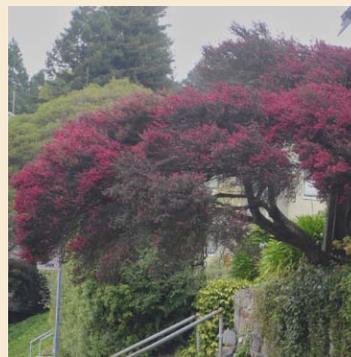
*Photos of the Senturia-Cooper Residence*

# City of Hayward's Suggested Water-Efficient Plants

	Characteristics	Flowers	Height <i>in feet unless noted</i>	Width	Sun	Water
<b>TREES</b>						
California Buckeye <i>Aesculus californica</i>	multi- or single-trunk; large, pear-shape fruit	 cream color in spring	30	30		
Arbutus <i>Arbutus 'Marina'</i>	multi- or single-trunk; cinnamon-red bark	 rosy-pink color in fall	30	35		
Atlas Cedar <i>Cedrus atlantica</i>	Wide-spreading, large tree; blue-green foliage		60-80	30-40		
Deodar Cedar <i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Medium to light green foliage with a pendulous top		80	40		
Common Hackberry <i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	yellow fall color		50	50		
Chinese Hackberry <i>Celtis sinensis</i>	yellow fall color		40	40		
Western Redbud <i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	single-trunk; yellow to red fall color; seedpods in winter		15-18	15-18		
Bronze Loquat <i>Eriobotrya deflexa</i>	new leaves bright copper color		10-15	15-20		
Pineapple Guava <i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	multi-trunk shrub or tree; glossy leaves with silvery-gray underneath; edible fruit		10-25	10-25		
Maidenhair Tree <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	messy, ill-smelling fruit on female trees; brilliant, yellow fall color		35-50	25-50		
Jacaranda <i>Jacaranda</i>	multi- or single-trunk; flat, roundish seed capsules		25-40	15-30		
Glodenrain tree <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	yellow-orange fall color		20-40	20-35		
Crape Myrtle <i>Lagerstroemia indica 'Muskogee'</i>	multi- or single-trunk; red fall color		25	12		



Crape Myrtle



New Zealand Tea Tree



Fruitless Olive Tree

Sunlight Preferences:  Full  Partial  Shade

Water needs:  Moderate  Occasional  Infrequent

 Evergreen  Deciduous

# City of Hayward's Suggested Water-Efficient Plants

	Characteristics	Flowers	Height in feet unless noted	Width	Sun	Water
<b>TREES</b>						
Crape Myrtle <i>Lagerstroemia indica 'Natchez'</i>	multi- or single-trunk; orange-red fall color	 white	25	12		
Crape Myrtle <i>Lagerstroemia indica 'Tuscarora'</i>	multi- or single-trunk; orange-red fall color	 pinkish red	22	12		
New Zealand Tea Tree <i>Leptospermum</i>		 white, pink or red in spring	10-30	10-30		
Paperbark <i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	creamy, white peeling bark	 creamy-yellow to pinkish flowers in summer and fall	20-40	15-25		
Fruitless Olive Tree <i>Olea europaea 'Swan Hill' or 'Wilsoni'</i>	multi- or single-trunk		25-30	25-30		
Pistacia Tree <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	bright, yellow-orange to red fall color		30-60	30-60		
London Plane Tree <i>Platanus acerifolia 'Columbia'</i>	yellow-brown fall color; creamy new bark		40-80	30-40		
Flowering Plum Tree <i>Prunus cerasifera 'Atropurpurea' or 'Krauter Vesuvius'</i>	copper-red fall color	 white to pink in spring	30	30		
Coastal Live Oak <i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	majestic as it matures; acorns		25-80	20-70		
California Pepper <i>Schinus molle</i>	gnarled, twisted trunk as it matures; lacy, weeping branches		25-40	25-40		
Redwood <i>Sequoia semperviron</i>	fast-growing, pyramidal tree; thick, reddish, fibrous bark with green to bluish-green foliage		60-100	25-30		



Pistacia Tree



Flowering Plum Tree



Coastal Live Oak

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<b>SHRUBS</b>						
Glossy Abelia <i>Abelia grandiflora</i>	glossy, green leaves with graceful, arching branches	☞ white to pink in summer and fall	4-6	4-6	☉☾	💧💧
Agave <i>Agave</i>	rosettes of green to grayish-green	☞ Creamy-white to greenish-yellow flowers on a massive stalk		varies	☉	💧💧
Aloe <i>Aloe spp.</i>	succulent shrub; pointy, green-to-gray-green, fleshy leaves and spikes	☞ yellow-to-red flowers		varies	☉	💧💧
Blue Hibiscus <i>Alyogyne huegelii</i>	Dark-green leaves; tropical looking	☞ white or lilac blue to deep purple intermittently year-round	5-8	5-8	☉	💧💧
Dwarf or Compact Strawberry Tree <i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Dwarf or Compact; cinnamon-red bark	☞ rosy-pink color in fall	5-10	5-10	☉	💧💧
Manzanita <i>Arctostaphylos spp.</i>	red fruits in late summer for fall	☞ white to pink in late winter and early spring		varies	☉	💧💧
Wormwood or Artemisia <i>Artemisia spp.</i>	silver-gray, green foliage	☞ light white to yellow		varies	☉	💧💧
Barberry <i>Berberis spp.</i>	orange or red berries in fall and winter	☞☞ bright yellow to orange in spring and summer		varies	☾	💧💧
Bush Anemone <i>Carpenteria californica</i>	Refined multi-stemmed shrub with glossy green leathery leaves	☞ lightly-fragrant, white with yellow center in late spring	4	6	☾	💧💧
Wild Lilac <i>Ceanothus spp.</i>		☞ white to blue in spring	3-15	3-15	☉☾	💧
Western Redbud <i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	multi-trunk; yellow to red fall color; seedpods in winter	☞ magenta color in spring	12-20	12-20	☉☾	💧💧
Flowering Quince <i>Chaenomeles</i>	thorny branches	☞ white or peach-pink to coral red in late winter	3-8	3-6		💧
Mexican Orange <i>Choisya ternata</i>	Bright, green leaves	☞ white in late winter or early spring, fragrant	6-8	6-8	☉☾	💧💧



Agave



Aloe (photo by Stan Shebs)



Breath of Heaven

Sunlight Preferences: ☉ Full ☾ Partial ● Shade

Water needs: 💧 Moderate ☞ Occasional ☞ Infrequent

☞ Evergreen ☞ Deciduous

# City of Hayward's Suggested Water-Efficient Plants

	Characteristics	Flowers	Height <i>in feet unless noted</i>	Width	Sun	Water
<b>SHRUBS</b>						
Rockrose <i>Cistus spp.</i>	Informal, mounding shrub; good drainage required	☐ white, pink or crimson spot in spring and early summer	3-5	2-5	○	☹
Breath of Heaven <i>Coleonema spp.</i>	fragrant, needle-like foliage	☐ tiny white or star-shaped pink in winter and spring	3-5	3-5	○◐	☹
Australian Fuchsia <i>Correa pulchella</i>	graceful, branching with grayish-green to glossy, dark-green leaves	☐ small tubular white, rose to crimson in winter	4-5	2-3	○◐◑	☹☹
Smoke Tree <i>Cotinus coggygria</i>	multi-stem tree-like; yellow to red fall color	☐ tiny, greenish-white to pink-purple clusters in spring and summer	10-15	10-15	○◐	☹
Contoneaster <i>Cotoneaster spp.</i>	orange or red berries in fall or winter	☐☐ white to pink in spring		varies	○	☹
Hop Bush <i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	bronze- or wine-colored leaves; papery seedpods	☐ insignificant flowers	10-15	10-15	○◐	☹
Pride of Madeira <i>Echium fastuosum</i>	dependable shrub with glossy, dark green leaves	☐ spike-like, violet blue in spring	6-10	4-6		☹
Escallonia <i>Escallonia spp.</i>	neat, dense, fast-growing with glossy leaves	☐ white, pink and red	3-15	2-15	○◐	☹☹
Evergreen Euonymus <i>Euonymus japonicus</i>	dependable shrub with glossy, dark green leaves	☐☐	2-8	2-10		☹☹
Pineapple Guava <i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	multi-trunk shrub or tree; glossy leaves with silvery-gray underneath; edible fruits	☐ white with red stamens in spring	10-25	10-25	○	☹☹
Toyon <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	masses of bright, red-orange berries in fall and winter	☐ white in early summer	10-15	10-20	○◐	☹☹
Lantana <i>Lantana</i>	mounding or trailing shape	☐ white, yellow, orange, or lilac in summer	3-5	2	○	☹
Lavender <i>Lavandula</i>	many varieties; fragrant; gray-green to green color	☐ white or lavender to purple in summer	2-6	1-4	○	☹



Pineapple Guava



Lantana



Lavender

Sunlight Preferences: ○ Full ◐ Partial ● Shade

Water needs: ☹ Moderate ☹ Occasional ☹ Infrequent

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<b>SHRUBS</b>						
Tree Mallow <i>Lavatera</i>	gray-green to green color	light to deep rose in summer	3-12	3-12	○	💧
Mahonia <i>Mahonia</i>	tough, spiny, glossy, dark green to grayish green holly-like leaves with orange, red or blue berries	yellow to yellow-orange in spring	4-6	4-6	◐	💧
Heavenly Bamboo <i>Nandina</i>	red to bronze color in winter with bright orange to red berries for months		2-6	2-6	◐	💧
Osmanthus <i>Osmanthus</i>	shiny, dark green color	tiny, fragrant, and white in spring	6-20	6-20	◑	💧
Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus</i>	soft-green color	large, fragrant, and white clusters in late spring	6-12	4-10	◑	💧
Photinia <i>Photinia fraseri</i>	copper-red new leaves; dark green older leaves	white in early spring	10-15	10-15	◐	💧
Pittosporum <i>Pittosporum spp.</i>	green to variegated leaf color	creamy white in spring	4-15	2-25	◐	💧
Indian Hawthorn <i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	dark green color with bronze stems	white to pink	3-6	3-6	◐	💧
Currant <i>Ribes</i>	pendant flowers; dark green color	clusters of yellow to red in spring	3-12	3-12	◐◑	💧💧
Rose <i>Rosa</i>	fragrant climber to shrub shape; shiny green color	masses	3-6	3-20	◐	💧
Sage <i>Salvia spp.</i>	fragrant leaves; silvery gray color	white or pink to deep violet purple	1-5	1-5	○	💧
Santolina <i>Santolina spp.</i>	yellow-green to gray-green, rosemary-like leaves	bright yellow, botton shape in summer	2-3	2-3	○	💧
Coast Rosemary <i>Westringia fruticosa</i>	wide-spreading; green to grayish green color	white or lavender in mid-winter to spring	5-10	3-6	○	💧



Mohonia



Pittosporum



Santolina

Sunlight Preferences: ○ Full ◐ Partial ● Shade

Water needs: 💧 Moderate 🍽 Occasional 🌧 Infrequent

🌿 Evergreen 🍂 Deciduous

# City of Hayward's Suggested Water-Efficient Plants

	Characteristics	Flowers	Height <i>in feet unless noted</i>	Width	Sun	Water
<b>PERENNIALS</b>						
Bear's Breech <i>Acanthus Mollis</i>	dramatic plant with large, deeply-lobed, shiny, dark-green leaves	long-lasting spikes of white or rose to purplish in late spring or summer	3-4	2-4	☉●	💧💧
Yarrow <i>Achillea spp.</i>	ground-hugging to upright, silvery-gray to green, feathery, aromatic leaves	creamy-white, yellow or deep pink in summer and early fall		varies	○	💧💧
Stonecress <i>Aethionema</i>	low, mounding with gray-green to bluish-green leaves short-lived, excellent drainage required	pink in spring and early summer	8-12	6-10	○	💧💧
Lily-of-the-Nile <i>Agapanthus spp.</i>	succulent that is a reliable perennial for repeat performance	white or blue in summer	1-5	1-4	○●	💧💧
Agave <i>Agave</i>	succulent with dense compact, symmetrical clumps with strap-like, glossy-green leaves			varies	○	💧💧
Ornamental Allium <i>Allium</i>	grass-like leaves; above-ground plant, withers after flowering	round, compact or spreading clusters of white, pink, or violet blue in spring and summer		varies	○●	💧
Windflower <i>Anemone spp.</i>	summer-dormant plant with finely-divided, green leaves	early spring to fall	3	1-2	○●	💧
Calamint <i>Calamintha nepeta</i>	compact, mounding, bushy herbs with aromatic, mint-like leaves, good drainage	dainty white to blue in late summer	1.5	1.5	○●	💧💧
Clivia <i>Clivia miniata</i>	broad, green, strap-like leaves	orange in spring	2	2	●	💧💧
Cosmos <i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>	somewhat floppy habit but attractive and moundy	white, pink, orange, yellow, or crimson color, daisy-like, in late summer and fall	2	3-6	○	💧💧
Fortnight Lily <i>Dietes</i>	iris-like flowers and leaves	white or yellow in spring and summer	2-3	2-3	○●	💧💧
Purple Coneflower <i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	slowly-spreading clumps of dark green leaves	rosy-pink, daisy-like in summer	2	2-3	○	💧
Euphorbia <i>Euphorbia</i>	bright yellow-green	bright yellow-green	2-4	2-4	○●	💧💧💧



Bear's Breech (photo Wetman)



Lily of the Nile



Fortnight Lily

Sunlight Preferences: ○ Full ● Partial ● Shade

Water needs: 💧 Moderate 🍽 Occasional 🌧 Infrequent

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# City of Hayward's Suggested Water-Efficient Plants

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<b>PERENNIALS</b>						
Iris <i>Iris</i>	summer-dormant, new leaves and flowers late winter or early spring	multiple colors			◐◑	💧
Rose Campion <i>Lychnis coronaria</i>	whitish-gray color, short-lived	magenta in summer	1-1.5	1.5-2	◐◑	💧
Grape Hyacinth <i>Muscari</i>	thin, floppy clumps of grass-like, fleshy leaves	small, fragrant, with blue or white flowers in early spring	8"-1'		◐◑	💧
Catmint <i>Nepeta</i>	short-lived; self-sowing; whitish gray color	blue in late spring to summer	1-3	1	○	💧💧
Mexican Evening Primrose <i>Oenothera speciosa</i>	spreads by rhizomes	fragrant, white to pink in late spring to fall	3	1	◐◑	💧💧
California Poppy <i>Papaver californicum</i>	showy, ephemeral plant with gray-green to bluish-green leaves	orange to brick red in spring or early summer	6"-1'		◐◑	💧
Oriental Poppy <i>Papaver orientale</i>	showy, ephemeral plant with gray-green to bluish-green leaves	mostly orange and red in early summer	1-2	1-4	◐◑	💧
New Zealand Flax <i>Phormium</i>	blade-like leaves; color and size varies	reddish-tubular spikes in late spring and summer	1-12	1-12	◐◑	💧💧
Black-eyed Susan <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	short-lived	yellow-orange with black, central cones in summer	1-2	3-4	○	💧💧
Stonecrop <i>Sedum</i>	afternoon shade	yellow to pink in summer	4"-3'	4-8	◐◑	💧💧
Dusty Miller <i>Senecio cineraria</i>	whitish-gray, lobed leaves	small, creamy white or yellow	2-3	2-3	◐◑	💧
Lamb's Ears <i>Stachys byzantina</i>	spreading; soft, woolly, silvery-gray leaves	small, pink to purplish spikes in summer	3	6-12	◐◑	💧💧
Society Garlic <i>Tulbaghia violacea</i>	narrow, bluish-gray leaves	clusters of pale lavender in spring and summer	1-2	1-2	○	💧
Yucca <i>Yucca</i>	rosettes of sword-shape leaves	creamy-white clusters on tall stalks in early spring	2-5	2-12	○	💧💧



Euphorbia



New Zealand Flax



Society Garlic

Sunlight Preferences: ○ Full ◐ Partial ● Shade

Water needs: 💧 Moderate 🍽 Occasional ☁ Infrequent

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# City of Hayward's Suggested Water-Efficient Plants

	Characteristics	Flowers	Height <i>in feet unless noted</i>	Width	Sun	Water
<b>GRASSES AND GRASS-LIKE PLANTS</b>						
Reed Grass <i>Calamagrostis</i>	cool-season bunchgrasses; upright, graceful with leaves tinged red in fall and winter	narrow plumes of pale pink rise well above leaves	2	2-4	☉◐	💧
Sedge <i>Carex</i>	clumping, grass-like plant, best in moist situations		1-2	1-2	☉◐◑	💧
Fescue <i>Festuca</i>	small, dense hummocks of narrow, green to blue to gray leaves; divides occasionally		1-3	1-2	☉◐	💧
Oat Grass <i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>	clumping, cool-season grass with spiky mound of narrow blue-gray leaves	straw-colored, upright plums in late spring or early summer	2-3	2-3	☉	💧
Miscanthus <i>Miscanthus</i>	clumping, gracefully arching leaves that turn yellowish in fall		2-4	2-6	☉◐	💧
Mexican Feather Grass <i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	fine-textured, fall grass; green in winter, summer dormant needs well-drained soil	greenish-silvery flowers	2-4	2-6	☉◐	💧
Feather Grass <i>Stipa</i>	dramatic, clumping, cool-season grass; narrow, arching grayish-green leaves	shimmering, golden, flower heads rising high above leaves	2-3	2-4	☉	💧



Fescue



Oat Grass



Mexican Feather Grass

### Promote Healthy Soil by...

Composting food waste and garden debris for a nutrient rich soil additive...  
Laying recycled cardboard or sheet mulching before placing mulch to control weeds...  
Using leaves, chipped plants, branches and garden clippings as mulch.

### Protect the Bay by...

Eliminating or limiting use of synthetic fertilizers or herbicides, and preventing them from running off into the Bay...  
Minimizing impervious paving such as concrete patios and driveways that doesn't allow water to recharge ground water...  
Terracing steep slopes to prevent erosion and reduce run-off.

### Create a Wildlife-Friendly Yard by...

Providing variety of plants with flowers and fruits for birds, butterflies, and other wildlife...  
Providing bird bath, water dish or a small pond...  
Leaving some areas untidy: let flowers go to seed to provide food for birds and dead leaves or stalks to shelter for insects.

Sunlight Preferences: ☉ Full ☉◐ Partial ● Shade

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<b>GROUNDCOVERS</b>						
Monterey Manzanita <i>Arctostaphylos hookeri</i> 'Monterey Carpet'	broad carpets or dense mounds of dark green leaf; good erosion control; large area only	 pinkish white	1'-4'	4'	○●	
Bearberry <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	fine-textured mats of glossy leaves that turn bronzy-red in fall; good erosion control; large area only	 white with tinge of pink	1'-2'	10'-15'	○●	
Common Thrift or Sea Pink <i>Armeria maritima</i>	compact, slowly-spreading mound of narrow, bluish-green, grassy leaves	small round heads of white to rose pink in spring and early summer	8"-8"	6"-1'	○	
Snow-in-summer <i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>	silvery-gray green color	white in early summer	6"	3'	○●	
Silver Carpet <i>Dymondia margaretae</i>	narrow leaves with dark green above and cottony white below	daisy-like in summer	1"-3"	2"	○●	
Fleabane <i>Erigeron</i>	fast-growing, easy-care	pink, lavender, or violet daisy-like shape in spring to fall	8"-2'	8"-2'	○●	
Clumping Gazania <i>Gazania</i>	dark-green, lobed leaves with gray-wooly undersides	 white, yellow, orange, rose-pink, or multi-colored in spring to fall	6"-12"	3'	○	
Rosemary <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> 'Prostratus'	attracts birds, bees, butterflies; leaves used for seasoning, marrow leaves	 light blue fall thru spring and repeats in fall	2'	4'-8'	○	
Woolly Thyme <i>Thymus pseudolanuginosus</i>	gray color leaves	 pink in summer	2"-3"	3'	○●	
Dwarf Periwinkle <i>Vinca minor</i>	trailing, arching, shiny, dark, green, oval leaves	 pinwheel-shaped, deep blue in spring and fall	2'	4'-6'	○●●	



Sea Pink



Fleabane



Clumping Gazania

## Water Smart with Less Water by...

Choosing plants that are California-native or drought-tolerant from local nurseries...

Minimizing or eliminating water-consuming lawn areas...

Grouping plants with similar watering needs...

Installing an efficient irrigation system with a rain or moisture sensor...

Reducing rain and irrigation run-off by installing a rainwater collection or a recycled, gray-water system.

Sunlight Preferences: ○ Full ● Partial ● Shade

Water needs:  Moderate  Occasional  Infrequent

 Evergreen  Deciduous

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<b>VINES</b>						
Bougainvillea <i>Bougainvillea</i>	needs support; stiff, needle-like thorns	☛ white to deep magenta spring to fall	15-30		○	☹☹
Violet Trumpet Vine <i>Clytostoma callistegioides</i>	climbing tendrils, needs support	☛ trumpet-shaped, lavender in spring and summer	25		○◐	☹
Lilac Vine <i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	needs support	☛ deep violet, rosy-pink, or white in late winter to spring	10-12		○◐	☹
Pink Jasmine <i>Jasminum polyanthum</i>	twining stems; needs support; pink buds	☛ intensely fragrant, clusters of star-shaped white in late winter and spring	20		○◐	☹☹
Boston Ivy <i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>	no vine support necessary; orange or red fall color	☞	25-30		○◐	☹
Potato Vine <i>Solanum jasminoides</i>	needs support to twine as it grows	☛ white, all year around	30		○◐	☹☹☹
Cape Honeysuckle <i>Tecomaria capensis</i>	needs support	☛ orange to red-orange in fall to spring	15-30		○◐	☹☹
Wisteria <i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	long seedpods	☞ pendulous clusters of white or lavender in spring	30		○◐	☹



Bougainvillea



Violet Trumpet Vine



Wisteria

## Save Energy by...

Planting deciduous trees on the west side of the house to provide shade...

Paving less and planting more: greener not grayer...

Using solar-powered or low-voltage lighting, indoors and outdoors.

## Reduce Waste and Promote a Healthy Community by...

Tolerating pests as much as possible...

Growing your own fruits and vegetable organically...

Minimizing pruning...

Allowing enough room for each plant to grow...

Mowing lawn less often and only when it is dry; leaving the clippings on the lawn.

Sunlight Preferences: ○ Full ◐ Partial ● Shade

Water needs: ☹ Moderate ☹☹ Occasional ☹☹☹ Infrequent

☛ Evergreen ☞ Deciduous