

Architectural Review Committee Drought & Freeze Tolerant Plant List

Because of the recent drought conditions and the increase in water rates, many homeowners have been looking for information about how they can reduce water consumption and still maintain healthy-looking, esthetically pleasing landscapes. There are a number of ways to accomplish these goals — plant selection, watering techniques and correctly applying the right kind of bark. The following pages discuss these techniques.

Plant Selection

Our climate is referred to as Mediterranean. There are a few of these throughout the world — Australia, Chile, South Africa, California and, of course, around the Mediterranean Basin. The Mediterranean Climate is characterized by hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters. There are a number of plant types which are particularly suited for this climate and these are included on the plant lists on pages 2 through 5. Our low-water, freeze-tolerant plant selection includes plants from regions having this Mediterranean climate.

Another factor to consider is the freeze tolerance of plants. Here in Lincoln, record temperatures have been in the teens in December, January and February and some plants can perish when subjected to these extremes. The plant lists only include plants which are hardy to these low temperatures. If your plants shows damage from low temperatures, they might not have died and may develop new growth later in the season — wait until spring, remove only the dead wood and leaves.

All plants on this list have low water needs. We also have indicated that some of these plants are drought tolerant — these are plants which can withstand long periods with little or no water and still survive. They might not look so good during these dry spells, but they will quickly revive when watered again.

It is important to remember that any newly planted plant, including those which are drought tolerant, must be watered regularly until it is established. See the Planting Tips section.

Watering Techniques

Water during cool temperatures. This allows your plants to absorb water through their roots with minimal water lost to evaporation through their leaves.

- The ideal time to water regularly is in the early morning before 7:00 AM.
- Use two watering events shorter watering times with a break in between. Separating watering times allows plants to better absorb water before more water is added. This technique is especially important for the more impervious soils and plantings on slopes.
- When planning a new landscape area, group plants that have similar needs for water, sun and nutrients. This will be helpful in maintaining them.

For more water-wise plant and lawn watering tips, see the Section on irrigation.

Landscape Bark

A top dressing of landscape bark helps maintain healthy plants during hotter, dryer days and greatly improves the appearance of your landscaping. The bark should be layered 2 to 3 inches deep over the soil and keep it 6 inches away from the base of plants and trunks of the trees.

Use caution when purchasing bark. The check list #15 states no shredded or chipped wood, gorilla hair sawdust-like material or rubber bark can be used. If someone offers you free bark, be careful — the source might be from diseased trees.



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Large Shrubs (> 8')

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Arbutus unedo	STRAWBERRY MADRONE
Ceanothus 'Frosty Blue'	WILD LILAC 'FROSTY BLUE'*
Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'	WILD LILAC 'RAY HARTMAN' *
Ceanothus 'Victoria'	WILD LILAC 'VICTORIA' *
Cotoneaster lacteus	PARNEY COTONEASTER *
Elaeagnus x effingei 'Gilt Edge'	ELAEAGNUS 'GILT EDGE'
Feijoa sellowiana (Acca sellowiana)	PINEAPPLE GUAVA
Fremontodendron californicum	FLANNEL BUSH
Grevillea 'Canberra Gem'	GREVILLEA 'CANBERRA GEM'
Juniperus chinensis 'Torulosa'	HOLLYWOOD JUNIPER
Osmanthus fragrans	SWEET OLIVE / TEA OLIVE
Phormium tenax	NEW ZEALAND FLAX
Rhamnus	ITALIAN BUCKHORN
Rhamnus crocea ilicifolia	HOLLYLEAF REDBERRY *

Medium Shrubs (4' to 8')

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Agapanthus praecox, A. africanus	LILY-OF-THE-NILE
Artemisia schmidtiana 'Silver Mound'/ 'Nana'	ANGEL'S HAIR
Arctostaphylos ssp	MANZANITA
Berberis thunbergii f. atropurpurea	RED JAPANESE BARBERRY
Ceanothus 'Julia Phelps'	CALIFORNIA LILAC
Ceanothus 'Frosty Blue'	WILD LILAC 'FROSTY BLUE'
Ceanothus 'Joyce Coulter'	WILD LILAC 'JOYCE COULTER'
Ceanothus thyrsiflorus 'Skylark'	WILD LILAC 'SLYLARK'
Cistus purpureus	ORCHID ROCKROSE
Elaeagnus pungens 'Fruitlandi'	SILVERBERRY, RUSSIAN OLIVE
Feijoa sellowiana (Acca sellowiana)	PINEAPPLE GUAVA
Juniperus chinensis 'Sea Green'	SEA GREEN JUNIPER *
Juniperus horizontalis 'Icee Blue'	JUNIPER 'ICEE BLUE'
Juniperus sabina 'Tamariscifolia'	JUNIPER 'TAM'
Mahonia aquifolium	OREGON GRAPE HOLLY *
Photinia x 'Fireball Red' DWF	PHOTINIA 'FIREBALL RED' DWF
Pinus mugo P. mugo cultivars 'Mops,' 'Sherwood Compact'	MUGO PINE / DWARF MOUNTAIN PINE
Rhamnus californica 'Eve Case'	COFFEEBERRY *
Rhaphiolepis indica 'Clara' / 'Spring Rapture'	INDIAN HAWTHORN *



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Small Shrubs (< 4')

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Artemisia schmidtiana 'Silver Mound'/ 'Nana'	ANGEL'S HAIR *
Artemisia spp.	ARTEMISIA *
Coleonema pulchellum	GOLDEN BREATH OF HEAVEN
Euryops pectinatus Viridis	BUSH DAISY GOLDEN
xHalimiocistus sahucli	HYBRID ROCKROSE
Mahonia aquifolium	COMPACT OREGON GRAPE HOLLY *
Myrtus communis L. 'Compacta'	TRUE MYRTLE *
Nandina domestica Harbor Dwarf	HEAVENLY BAMBOO *
Perovskia	RUSSIAN SAGE *
Phormium tenax Tiny Tim	NEW ZEALAND FLAX
Phormium Black Rage	FLAX BLACK RAGE
Phormium Bronze Baby	FLAX BRONZE BABY *
Phorium Duet	FLAX DUET *
Punica granatum	DWARF POMERGRANATE
Rosmarinus officinalls 'Roman Beauty'	ROSEMARY 'ROMAN BEAUTY'
Rosmarinus officinalls Trailing	ROSEMARY, TRAILING
Salvia leucantha	MEXICAN SAGE
Salvia greggii	AUTUMN SAGE
Santolina virens	GREEN SANTOLINA *

Woody Ground Covers

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Arctostaphylos hookeri 'Monterey Carpet'	MONTEREY MANZANITA
Ceanothus griseus horizontalis 'Yankee Point'	CALIFORNIA WILD LILAC
Cistus salviifolius 'Prostratus'	SAGELEAF ROCKROSE
Cistus x hybridus	WHITE ROCKROSE
Cotoneaster dammeri 'LowFast'	BEARBERRY COTONEASTER
Juniperus chinensis 'Gold Coast'	GOLD COAST JUNIPER
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Lockwood de Forest'	PROSTRATE ROSEMARY *

Herbaceous Ground Covers

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Gazania rigens var. leucolaena 'Mitsuwa Yellow'	GAZANIA 'MITSUWA YELLOW' *
Hypericum calycinum	ST. JOHN'S WORT *

Vines

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Hardenbergia violacea 'Happy Wanderer'	VINE LILAC / PURPLE CORAL PEA
Rosa banksiae	LADY BANKS' ROSE *



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Perennials

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Achillea spp	YARROW *
Agapanthus orientalis	LILY OF THE NILE *
Agapanthus africanus 'Peter Pan'	DWARF LILY OF THE NILE *
Aloe saponaria Succulent	SOAP ALOE / AFRICAN ALOE
Buddleja	BUTTERFLY BUSH *
Campanula spp.	BELLFLOWER *
Erigonum	BUCKWHEAT
Euphorbia	RIGIDA
Euryops pectinatus	YELLOW BUSH DAISY *
Gaillardia	BLANKETFLOWER
Gaura	LINDHEIMERI
Hesperaloe	PARVIFLORA
Kniphofia uvaria	RED HOT POKER / TORCH LILY
Lavandula angustifolia	ENGLISH LAVENDER
Lavandula dentata	FRENCH LAVENDER
Leonotis leonurus	WILD DAGGA / LION'S EAR
Liriope muscari	LILY TURF / BIG BLUE LILYTURF
Mimulus	MONKEY FLOWER
Nepeta	CATMINT
Oenothera berlandieri 'Siskiyou'	MEXICAN PRIMROSE *
Origanum	DWARF ORGANO
Penstemon spp.	BEARDTONGUE *
Rudbeckia	GLORISA DAISY
Santolina chamaecyparissus	LAVENDER COTTON *
Scaevola	MAUVE CLUSTERS
Sedum	AUTUMN JOY
Stachys	LAMBS EAR
Stachys	SILVER CARPET
Zauschneria	CALIFORNIA FUSHIA

Ferns

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Polystichum munitum	WESTERN SWORD FERN *

Accent Grasses

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Muhlenbergia rigens	MEXICAN DEERGRASS