



Natural Landscaping Reduces Runoff

Background Information

Natural landscaping involves both site design and plant selection.

Native plants are adapted to local climate, soil and environmental conditions. Properly placed, they require very little maintenance and water – and that means better water quality because there is less runoff, and less need for pesticides and fertilizers.

Non-native Xeriscape™ plants also require less water and chemical support, and may be good landscape choices as long as they are not on the state's noxious weeds list.

Community Strategies

- As a key part of site planning, preserve and enhance existing natural areas such as prairies, wetlands and floodplains.
- Encourage the use of native species and/or Xeriscaping™ in your community's landscape design criteria.

Examples

Please see backside for examples.

At a Glance

- Low maintenance plants that require little water result in better water quality because there is less runoff, and less need for pesticides and fertilizers.
- Native plants, which are adapted to local climate, soil and environmental conditions, are often used in natural landscaping design.
- Non-native Xeriscape™ plants may be good choices as long as they are not on the state's noxious weeds list.

Natural Landscaping Reduces Runoff



For More Information

[EPA – A Sourcebook on Natural Landscaping for Public Officials
www.epa.gov/glnpo/greenacres/toolkit/chap1.html#WHAT%20IS](http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/greenacres/toolkit/chap1.html#WHAT%20IS)

[California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks by the California Stormwater Quality Association\(CASQA\) http://www.cabmphandbooks.com/Documents/municipal/sc-73.pdf](http://www.cabmphandbooks.com/Documents/municipal/sc-73.pdf)

[Greenbuilder Sourcebook http://www.greenbuilder.com/sourcebook/Xeriscape.html](http://www.greenbuilder.com/sourcebook/Xeriscape.html)

[USDA Invasive and Noxious Weed List http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious](http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious)

Monique Myers, D.Env
Coastal Community Development Advisor
California Sea Grant
UC Cooperative Extension
669 County Square Dr, Ste 100
Ventura, CA 93003-5401
(805) 645-1482
nicmyers@ucdavis.edu

Photo Credits

Monique Myers