









#### 1. Turf Alternatives

Gardeners hoping for sustainable ground covers will learn about eight different kinds of ground covers/grasses that take little water or mowing and are disease resistant and amenable to foot traffic. And they look good, too! These grasses may be mowed to resemble lawn or left unmown for easy care. All provide attractive alternatives to a conventional lawn. Fall is the best time to plant these new ground covers.



#### ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

Grasses provide a dynamic element to a garden. In slight breezes they sway back and forth, providing movement to a garden. They lend a lush green look to drought tolerant landscapes in the spring and summer, while in the fall, turn shades of cream, orange, and pink. There are a variety of sizes to choose from that provide dramatic effects as solo specimens or in mass drifts.



#### 3. Decorative Hardscape **INERT MATERIALS**

The garden also incorporates the use of inert materials such as decomposed granite, boulders, and decorative hardscape such as permeable pavers to allow for infiltration of water. Mulch also provides a natural protective layer allowing the soil to remain cool and moist. The use of inert materials and mulch also reduces the likelihood of weeds.

These nearly 'self-sufficient' landscapes provide the homeowner with significant advantages which benefit everyone. Creating a 'waterwise' garden simply "makes sense". Reducing water costs and caring for the environment never looked so good!

#### 4. California Friendly or Mediterranean Garden

DROUGHT TOLERANT SHRUBS AND GROUNDCOVER

Drought tolerant gardens consist of colorful perennial plants, shrubs, groundcovers and limited turf areas or lawn substitutes. Utilizing the latest irrigation technology, the drought tolerant / 'California Friendly' garden provides effective methods for delivering water directly to the plant root zone, thus eliminating excess water consumption. Reducing the use of lawnmowers is another advantage of the drought tolerant garden.

Plants can readily be found at local nurseries and botanical gardens. When used in combination with one another, year round color in the garden can be achieved. Many bloom throughout the year with only minimal water. They provide vibrant blooms of lavenders, pink, red, orange and



#### 5. California Native Garden

CA NATIVES AND BIRD AND BUTTERFLY **HABITAT** 

The California Natives garden showcases collections of plants native to California to help homeowners rediscover our sense of place while saving water. This garden also showcases a variety of flowering shrubs and perennials that birds and butterflies love. Plants such as Achillea, White Sage and Cleveland Sage are irresistible to butterflies and Hummingbird which equally enjoy the spring and summer flower sprays.

#### 6. Desert Garden

XERISCAPE

Designed specifically for drought-prone areas. Derived from the Greek word "xeros" meaning "dry," xeriscape literally means dry landscape. Xeriscape also uses indigenous plants, plants that have adapted to the local climate and plants that require less water.

- Reduces the amount of fertilizer and pesticide needed.
- Produces fewer clippings and waste.
- Requires less maintenance.



### 7. Sensory Garden

HERBS AND OTHER FRAGRANT **PLANTS** 

This area of the garden demonstrates the use of a variety of plants that not only appeal to the visual senses, but to senses of touch, smell and taste. Herbs used in food such as Sage, Lavender, Rosemary and Thyme put on shows of purple flowers, but if their leaves are rubbed in your fingers, will release their fragrant scents. Thyme is a great low growing groundcover, especially along a pathway where its fragrance is released as your feet brush by. Jerusalem Sage and Santolina provide their own scents and fragrances and compliment the Lavender and Purple Sages.



#### 8. Dry Shade Garden

This area of the garden demonstrates the use of plants for the side of a north facing building or otherwise shady location. Plants such as Coral Bells, Pink-Flowering Currant, and Bush Anenome will thrive in shade to part shade on low water and provide a spectacular color show to brighten shady areas of the garden from spring to summer. Other plants that tolerate shade, like Mahonia species, are very drought tolerant, and with its berries, provide a food source for birds.



## Education Station Learning opportunity kiosks

These kiosks provide an opportunity to interact with the garden and learn about WaterWise topics such as Proper Irrigation Control, Do-It-Yourself Turf Replacement Guide, Composting/Mulching, Water Conservation (Cost savings, water use comparisons), Maintenance Requirement Comparison.



# Streeter Park H20 Wise Garden