

City of Santa Barbara Addendum to the WUCOLS Plant List

Below are plants that have low water needs for the Santa Barbara area but are listed as medium water needs in WUCOLS. Please contact the City's Water Conservation Program at 564-5460 to discuss adding additional plants.

Note that we accept San Marcos Growers plant database information as a local, authoritative resource on many plant species water needs, referred to below as "SMG"

Type	Botanical Name	Common Name	Region 3	Notes
T	<i>Acacia cognata</i>	River wattle	L	SMG- Low water needs
GC/S	<i>Arctostaphylos "Emerald Carpet"</i>	Emerald Carpet Manzanita	L	Only Manzanita varieties listed in Wucols as M, all others as L. Low water using, per SMG
S	<i>Araganthus</i> spp.	Lily of the Nile	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S	<i>Knigazanthus</i>	Kangaroo Paw	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
T	<i>Archontophoenix cunninghamiana</i>	King Palm	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established. Commonly lives off irrigation as street tree (Chapala), will need supplm. h2o in foothills
S	<i>Asparagus densiflorus "Myers"</i>	Myers Asparagus	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S	<i>Astelia chathamica "Silver Spear"</i>	Silver Spear	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S	<i>Bambusa multiplex "Alphonse Karr" &amp; Golden Goddess</i>	Alphonse Karr Bambusa, Golden Goddess Bambusa	L	Occasional watering - SMG
S	<i>Berberis aquifolium (formerly Mahonia a.)</i>	Oregon grape	L	Occasional watering - SMG
S	<i>Bergenia crassifolia</i>	Winter Blooming Bergenia	L	Low water per SMG
GC	<i>Bidens frullifolia</i>	Gold Marie, Carpet Tickseed	L	SMG- occasional to infrequent once established
T/S	<i>Bocconia frutescens</i>	Tree Poppy	L	Low water per SMG - can be given no to little water in coastal gardens.
GC	<i>Buchloe dactyloides "UC Verde"</i>	UC Verde Buffalo grass	L	Water wise lawn alternative
S	<i>Buxus japonica</i>	Japanese Boxwood	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
G	<i>Calamagrostis foliosa</i>	Mendocino reed grass / leafy reed grass	L	Occasional watering - SMG
S	<i>Calliandra haematocephala</i>	Powder Puff	L	Per Wildscaping.com, LA/Santa Monica Mtn area nursery, 1x/week to less
T	<i>Callistemon</i>	Bottle Brush	L	Drought tolerant per USDA plant database
G	<i>Carex glauca (AKA C. flacca)</i>	Blue Sedge	L	Water wise lawn alternative
S	<i>Carissa</i> spp.	Natal Plum	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S	<i>Carissa Tuttle</i>	Tuttle Natal Plum	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
T	<i>Cassia leptophylla</i>	Gold medallion tree	L	Low water user, SMG and multiple other sources agree. Succeeds as street tree all over Santa Barbara.
S	<i>Coprosma</i> spp.	Mirror Bush	L	Low water, per SMG, most varieties, Once established... once a week to once every other week" watering.
S	<i>Cuphea "David Verity"</i>	Large Firecracker Plant	L	Occasional watering - SMG
T/S	<i>Cycas revoluta</i>	Sago palm AKA King Sago Palm AKA Sago cycad	L	Drought tolerant once established, California Palm Nursery (Costa Mesa), Jungle Music Palms (Encinitas), Daves Garden (LA.)
P	<i>Dianella caerulea "Cassa Blue"</i>	Cassa Blue Flax Lily	L	Once established, low water using / drought tolerant, via SMG and other wholesalers
P	<i>Dianella caerulea "King Alfred"</i>	King Alfred Flax Lily	L	Low water using, very tough and forgiving, drought tolerant, via SMG
G	<i>Dianella prunina utopia</i>	Flax Lily	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
V	<i>Distictis buccinctoria</i>	Trumpet vine (red trumpet vine, coral trumpet vine)	L	SB landscape expg., many indiv. survive off irrigation around SB/Gate. SMG "Occasional water in summer."
T/S	<i>Dracaena draca</i>	Dragon tree, Dracaena trees/shrubs	L	SB landscape experience, SMG
S	<i>Escallonia</i> spp.	Escallonia	L	Water wise once established- SMG and other sources
T	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Coppertone loquat	L	Water wise once established- SMG and other sources
S	<i>Eugenia</i>	Eugenia hedge	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
V	<i>Ficus pumila</i>	Creeping fig	L	Only requires occasional irrigation once established per SMG and num. local off-irrig specimens. Prefers east and north walls.
S	<i>Hardenbergia</i> spp.	Australian lilac "Happy Wanderer"	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
G	<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>	Blue oat grass	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established; Occasional watering - SMG
S	<i>Hemerocallis</i> spp.	Daylilies	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
GC	<i>Heuchera (specific varieties allowed, see note)</i>	Coral Bells	L	"Wendy", "Santa Ana Cardinal", "Canyon Melody", "Firefly" and "Lillian's Pink" varieties only (SMG)
T	<i>Hymenocallis florum</i>	Sweet Shade	L	Low per SMG - requires infrequent watering once established
S	<i>Iris Pacific Coast Hybrid</i>	Iris PCH	L	Occasional watering - SMG
T	<i>Jacaranda</i> spp.	Jacaranda	L	Low water use once established- SB landscape experience, street trees, SMG
S	<i>Jasminum</i> spp.	Jasmine	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S	<i>Juncus patens</i>	California Gray Rush	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S/T	<i>Juniperus scopularum</i>	"Skyrocket" Juniper	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established; Monrovia (breeder) - occasional watering once established
T	<i>Lagerstroemia cvs.</i>	Crape Myrtle	L	Low water using once established- CalPoly Selectree website, Monrovia Nursery/Nicholas Staddon
S	<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	New Zealand Tea Tree	L	Low water and drought tolerant genus per SMG, WUCOLS for other Lepto spp, additional sources online
G	<i>Leymus condensatus "Canyon Prince"</i>	Canyon Prince Wild Rye	L	Can be extremely drought tolerant and care must be taken not to over-water this species as it can rot from the center.
S	<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i>	Privet	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
G/GC	<i>Lomandra confertifolia</i>	Seascape mat rush	L	SMG- occasional to infrequent once established
P/GC	<i>Lomandra hystrix</i>	Mat rush	L	Low once established, per SMG
V	<i>Lonicera hildebrandiana</i>	Giant Burmese Honeysuckle	L	SM Growers recommends watering deeply and infrequently (once every 2 weeks)
T/S	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brisbane Box	L	Once established, low water using / very drought tolerant, via SMG
S	<i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	Fringe Flowerer	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
T	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	Melaleuca	L	Occasional watering - SMG
T	<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	New Zealand Christmas Tree	L	Low water user; SMG and multiple other sources agree. Succeeds as street tree all over Santa Barbara.
GC	<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	Asian Muhly	L	Drought tolerant per USDA plant database
V/GC	<i>Parthenocissus "Hacienda Creeper"</i>	Rancho Viejo Creeper, Hacienda Ivy	L	Low water using once established- via SMG, Hacienda Creeper varietal, only
V	<i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>	Boston Ivy	L	Occasional watering - SMG
G	<i>Pennisetum spathulatum</i>	Slender veldt grass	L	"Requires little, responds well to occasional" - SMG
G	<i>Pennisetum "airy tails"</i>	Evergreen Fountain Grass	L	Low water needs - SMG
P	<i>Penstemon heterophyllus "Margarita BOP"</i>	Blue Bedder "Margarita BOP"	L	Low water using and drought resistant from SMG (originals excelled off irrigation at Las Pilitas Nursery in Santa Margarita)
S	<i>Phormium</i> spp.	New Zealand Flax	L	All flax species are Water Wise in SB
HS	<i>Philodendron bipinnatifidum (selloum)</i>	Philodendron	L	WW once established when planted in appropriate area (part sun/shade) - SMG
T	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese pistache	L	Low water using - CalPoly Selectree, UC, Sonoma County Master Gardeners
S	<i>Pittosporum</i> spp.	Dwarf Karo, Tawhiwhi, Mock Orange, tenuifolium, spp	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established; Occasional watering - SMG
S	<i>Polygala fruticosa</i>	Sweet Pea Bush	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
GC	<i>Potentilla indica</i>	Mock Strawberry	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S	<i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	Carolina laurel cherry	L	SMG: Drought tolerant once established, noted for wind/heat/drought tolerance, water occasionally, SFGate: Drought tolerant.
V	<i>Pyrostegia venusta</i>	Flame vine	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S	<i>Rhaphelepis</i> spp.	Rhaphelepis	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
S	<i>Rosa Cl. "Cecile Brunner", "Lady Banks", Iceberg</i>	Climbing Roses Cecile Brunner/Lady Banks & Iceberg shrub	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
T	<i>Schefflera pueckleri</i>	Schefflera	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established
T	<i>Spathodea campanulata</i>	African Tulip Tree	L	SMG: "Plant in full sun to light shade and give it occasional deep watering." Many street tree specimens exist in Santa Barbara, off or nearly off irrigation entirely.
T	<i>Stenocarpus sinuatus</i>	Firewheel Tree	L	SMG: "Plant in full sun to light shade and give it occasional deep watering." Many street tree specimens exist in Santa Barbara, off or nearly off irrigation entirely.
S	<i>Streitzia</i> spp.	Bird of Paradise	L	Low water use once established
T	<i>Syagrus romanzoffiana</i>	Queen Palm	L	SB landscape experience-water wise once established. Commonly survives off irrigation as street tree. Per Pittenger et al 2009, 25% EtO results in best visual and productivity
S	<i>Tecomaria capensis</i>	Cape honeysuckle	L	Low water per local experience and SMG; S. African; establishes easily with limited water.
V	<i>Thunbergia gregorii</i>	Orange Clock Vine	L	Occasional watering, once established- SMG
P	<i>Tibouchina urvilleana</i>	Princes Flower	L	Occasional watering, once established- SMG
GC/S	<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	Star Jasmine	L	Low water use once established
T	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>	Chinese windmill palm	L	Requires little water, drought tolerant, per multiple palm nurseries such as Cal Palms, Jungle Music, and Monrovia
T	<i>Tristanopsis laurina</i>	Little-leaf Myrtle, AKA water gum	L	Many individuals survive off irrigation as street trees in SB. SMG says occasionally to regularly, other sources confirm drought tolerance and need of 1x weekly or less summertime water and no winter water
T	<i>Washingtonia filifera</i>	California fan palm	L	As per Pittenger et al 2009. SB experience- can survive off irrigation easily in Santa Barbara; common street tree.
V	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Wisteria	L	Occasional watering - SMG

Symbol Used in WUCOLS List	Vegetation Type
G	grass
GC	groundcover
P	perennial*
S	shrub
T	tree
V	vine