

# PLANT CALIFORNIA

## HOW TO BE A WATER WISE GARDENER

WITH A LITTLE FORETHOUGHT & SOME SIMPLE TIPS, YOU CAN CREATE & MAINTAIN A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN THAT HAS LOW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT. BY FERTILIZING THE SOIL ORGANICALLY, SELECTING DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTS, USING MULCH AND LEARNING WHEN AND HOW MUCH TO WATER, YOU TOO CAN BE A WATER WISE GARDENER!

### MATERIALS

1. CONTAINERS
2. PLANTS
3. POTTING SOIL
4. MULCH
5. GLOVES
6. TROWEL
7. ORGANIC FERTILIZER
8. DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM



### STEPS

#### SOIL FIRST

FILL YOUR CONTAINER WITH POTTING SOIL 3/4 OF THE WAY UP. \*ORGANIC SOIL RETAINS MOISTURE LONGER.

#### CHOOSE WATER-WISE PLANTS

CHOOSE DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTS TO BEAUTIFY YOUR SPACE. HERE ARE A FEW:

- SMOKE TREE
- HEAVENLY BAMBOO
- MIRROR PLANT
- RED YUCCA
- PENSTEMON PARRYI
- MONKEY FLOWER
- YARROW
- CALIFORNIA POPPY
- SPANISH LAVENDER
- CALIFORNIA WILD LILAC
- SEA THRIFT
- RED FOUNTAIN GRASS

#### GROUP PLANTS

BEFORE YOU START PLANTING, ARRANGE YOUR PLANTS BY WATER NEEDS. A GOOD FORMULA IS TO PLANT THIRSTIER PLANTS TOWARDS THE FRONT OR DOWNHILL TO MAXIMIZE WATER USE. MIX IT UP BY VARYING TEXTURES, COLORS, & SIZES.

#### START PLANTING

BE SURE TO BREAK UP THE ROOT BALL OF EACH PLANT A LITTLE BIT BEFORE PLANTING.

#### FERTILIZE WELL

A LITTLE ORGANIC FERTILIZER AROUND THE CROWN OF YOUR PLANTS WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARD KEEPING YOUR PLANTS HEALTHY AND YOUR SOIL MOIST.

#### MULCH TIME

ADDING MULCH OVER THE SURFACE OF THE SOIL HELPS CONSERVE WATER, PREVENTS WEEDS, FEEDS THE SOIL, & HELPS KEEP TEMPERATURES MODERATE.

#### WATER SMART

WATER THE BASE OF THE PLANT DEEPLY AND LESS FREQUENTLY TO ENCOURAGE LONGER ROOTS. WATER EARLY IN THE MORNING TO REDUCE EVAPORATION. INSTALLING A DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM IS A LOW-COST SOLUTION TO EFFICIENT IRRIGATION.

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