

PLANT CALIFORNIA

IRRIGATION: WHEN & HOW MUCH TO WATER

BY WATERING ONLY WHEN YOU NEED TO & ONLY AS MUCH AS YOUR PLANTS REQUIRE, YOU CAN REDUCE WATER USAGE BY AROUND 25% – AN AVERAGE OF 11,000 GALLONS PER YEAR.



CHECK YOUR SOIL

SOIL CONDITION IS ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO MEASURE WATER LEVELS. STICK YOUR FINGER IN THE SOIL NEAR YOUR PLANT THEN PULL IT BACK A LITTLE BIT & SEE HOW IT LOOKS & FEELS. IF IT IS MOIST SIX TO TWELVE INCHES DOWN – PERFECT; IF IT IS DRY, YOU MAY NEED TO DO SOME ADDITIONAL WATERING.

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE ROOTS

THE ROOTS ARE THE ONLY PART OF THE PLANT THAT NEEDS WATER. IN FACT, WATERING THE LEAVES CAN PROMOTE THE SPREAD OF DISEASE, NOT TO MENTION WASTE UNNECESSARY WATER.

WATER MORE WHEN PLANTS ARE NEW

ALL PLANTS NEED MORE WATER INITIALLY TO HELP ESTABLISH A DEEP ROOT SYSTEM. BUT OVER TIME TOO MUCH WATER CAN BE JUST AS THREATENING TO PLANTS AS TOO LITTLE WATER. WHEN POSSIBLE USE AUTOMATIC TIMERS TO CONTROL THE FREQUENCY & QUANTITY OF YOUR WATERING.

WATER FIRST THING IN THE MORNING

THE BEST TIME TO WATER IS IN THE EARLY MORNING. THIS GIVES THE PLANT TIME TO DRY OUT IF IT GETS WET & HELPS PREVENT PLANT DISEASES,

BENEFITS OF MULCH

NOT ONLY DOES A FRESH LAYER OF MULCH MAKE YOUR HOUSE LOOK WORTHY OF PUTTING ON THE MARKET, IT ALSO HELPS REDUCE RUNOFF & SLOWS EVAPORATION.

DRIP IRRIGATION & SOAKER HOSES

DRIP IRRIGATION OR SOAKER HOSES ARE GOOD OPTIONS FOR EFFICIENT WATERING. ALWAYS REMEMBER TO BASE YOUR WATERING ON PLANT SIZE & VARIETY, SOIL TYPE, & SUN EXPOSURE.

CONSIDER CHOOSING WATER-WISE PLANTS

ALL PLANTS ARE NOT EQUAL IN TERMS OF WATER NEEDS. IF YOU ARE INTENTIONAL ABOUT CHOOSING PLANTS THAT REQUIRE LESS WATER, MAINTENANCE IS EASIER & YOU WILL SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE WATER USAGE. HERE ARE SOME SMART WATER-WISE CHOICES:

EVERGREEN TREES: STRAWBERRY TREE, 'MAJESTIC BEAUTY' OLIVE, COMPACT CHERRY LAUREL, ARIZONA CYPRESS AND AFRICAN SUMAC

DECIDUOUS TREES: EASTERN REDBUD, CHINESE PISTACHE, SCARLET OAK, CRAPE MYRTLE AND CHINESE HACKBERRY
GROUNDCOVERS: COTONEASTER 'LOWFAST', LEMON THYME, VINCA MINOR, AFRICAN DAISIES, TRAILING WHITE LANTANA AND MANZANITA 'EMERALD CARPET'

LARGE SHRUBS: HOLLYWOOD JUNIPER, WILD LILAC 'RAY HARTMAN', POMEGRANATE, SHINY XYLOSMA AND MUGO PINE

MEDIUM SHRUBS: GLOSSY ABELIA, MANZANITA, JAPANESE BARBERRY, FORTNIGHT LILY AND NANDINA

SMALL SHRUBS: ROCKROSE, BUSH MORNING GLORY, LAVENDER AND JAPANESE GARDEN JUNIPER

VINES: LILAC VINE 'HAPPY WANDERER', LADY BANK'S ROSE AND WISTERIA

PERENNIALS: DUSTY MILLER, SANTA BARBARA DAISY, WALLFLOWER AND EUPHORBIA

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