

LANDSCAPE FOR LESS WASTE

1. Select appropriate plants

- A. Choose plants to match your micro-climate
- B. Check projected growth and height of any tree or shrub you plant, and choose its location accordingly.
- C. Right place, right plant
- D. Replace sheared hedges with natural shaped plants
- E. DO NOT PLANT INVASIVE PLANTS www.cal-ipc.org

Benefit:

- Plants thrive
- Reduce waste
- Reduce fire hazards
- Save time



2. Keep plant debris on site

- A. . Grasscycling is putting the grass clippings back into the lawn. When you use a mulching mower, you are Grasscycling. Lawn clippings contain 4% nitrogen.
- B. You can produce mulch (mulch is a protective covering left on the ground) from plant debris. An example is leaf litter.
- C. You can also compost (compost is a mixture that consist largely of decayed organic matter) plant debris from your yard and kitchen. Compost is nature's gold. Applying compost can reduce your fertilizer usage but remember to "space the base".

Benefit:

- Reduces waste
- Saves time
- Puts nutrients back into the soil
- Produces healthy plants

3. Prune selectively and properly

- A. Pruning should complement the natural form
- B. Strengthen the structural integrity of the plant
- C. Prune at the proper time of the year.
- D. Do not top a tree. Thin the branches out.



Benefit:

- Healthy plants
- Less waste to the landfill

4. Water and fertilize wisely

- A. Watering and fertilizing wisely prevents excessive growth. Most lawns in California need very little fertilizer!

Benefit:

- Less waste
- More time to enjoy your garden

5. Use salvaged landscape items

- A. Don't throw away material
- B. Broken concrete, called urbanite, can be used

Benefit:

- Less waste to the landfill