

Hydrozoning

Do you have the same plants in two different areas and one is doing great and the other is not growing well? Later you realized that the plant needed full sun and it's planted in the shade. This concept is called hydrozoning. Basically, hydrozoning is the grouping of plants according to their water and sun needs. Mixing shade and sun plants together will not work. For example, marigolds will not grow in the shade and pansies will not grow in the full sun.

California has a Mediterranean climate but we garden with plants from all over the world. All plants in an irrigation zone, hydrozone, should have similar water needs and your irrigation schedule can accommodate that. Plants such as Ceanothus or Rosemary may need water only once or twice a month. Whereas, hydrangeas or a European birch may need irrigation once or twice a week.

Always do some research when selecting plants. Know the sun and shade areas of your garden. Read the plant label. There is a lot of information on the tag. You will save money and have a beautiful garden using hydrozoning.

For more gardening information go to; cecolusa.ucanr.edu