



## Central Valley Friendly Landscape Award- Application

♻️ To qualify for registration, your garden must be at a single-family residential home located in the Fresno/Clovis Metropolitan Area -see map at [ucanr.org/CVFriendlyLandscaping](http://ucanr.org/CVFriendlyLandscaping)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Major cross streets: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own or rent? \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years at this residence: \_\_\_\_\_ Total lot size: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft. Approximate age of the garden? \_\_\_\_\_

How experienced are you at gardening? Beginning \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate \_\_\_\_\_ Experienced \_\_\_\_\_

Who designed the garden? \_\_\_\_\_ Who installed the garden? \_\_\_\_\_

Who maintains the garden? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hire specialized outside help for the garden (e.g., weed control, pest control, tree pruning, etc.)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what do they do? \_\_\_\_\_

Approximately what percentage of your front garden is lawn? \_\_\_\_\_ % What type of lawn? Fescue \_\_\_\_\_ Bermuda \_\_\_\_\_ other: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you use this lawn? recreation \_\_\_\_\_ pets \_\_\_\_\_ entertaining \_\_\_\_\_ appearance only \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

Approximately what percentage of your back garden is lawn? \_\_\_\_\_ % What type of lawn? Fescue \_\_\_\_\_ Bermuda \_\_\_\_\_ other: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you use this lawn? recreation \_\_\_\_\_ pets \_\_\_\_\_ entertaining \_\_\_\_\_ appearance only \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this program? \_\_\_\_\_

On the back of this page, please tell us a little about your inspiration to garden more sustainably. You may include any challenges or reactions from neighbors.

Volunteers from the CV Friendly Landscaping program may make a site visit to your garden. Please indicate:

Best day of the week \_\_\_\_\_ Best time of day \_\_\_\_\_

May we post photos of your garden on our website or in other promotional material related to this program? (Street address will not show). Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be on our mailing list to receive *Central Valley Friendly Landscaping* announcements? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Homeowner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ***Central Valley Friendly Landscape Award- Important Information***

**Mission Statement:** Recognize landscapes that inspire the community to protect and conserve our water and other natural resources.

Landscapes that strive to protect and conserve our water and other natural resources can receive the designation ***Central Valley Friendly***. Central Valley Friendly gardeners can make a real difference in our community. Your garden will inspire others to use environmentally-friendly practices and protect and conserve the resources of the Central Valley region. Registered Central Valley Friendly gardeners provide neighborhood models of what a Central Valley friendly garden can offer – from an edible kitchen garden to a native wildlife habitat to a Mediterranean retreat.

## ***Central Valley Friendly gardeners:***

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  Conserve water     |  Reduce waste in the garden |  Create wildlife habitat           |
|  Build healthy soil |  Save energy                |  Contribute to a healthy community |
|  |  Protect local watersheds   |  Minimize pollution                |

## **To qualify:**

- ☞ Your garden must be at a single-family residential home located in the Fresno/Clovis Metropolitan Area -see map at [ucanr.org/CVFriendlyLandscaping](http://ucanr.org/CVFriendlyLandscaping)
- ☞ Gardens must comply with existing local codes and laws.
- ☞ All of the Required Practices are mandatory and must be adhered to in your entire garden.
- ☞ There are a minimum number of practices that must be met under each Landscape Principle.
- ☞ Your entire garden will be evaluated and considered for an award based on the enclosed checklists, photos, and possible site visit or phone interview. Gardens that most successfully exemplify the Central Valley Friendly Landscaping principles will be selected to receive an award. Preference will be given to those landscapes which are fully installed.

**To Apply:** Send the following items to the address below.

- Completed application
- Required Practices checklist. Please read, and sign if you qualify. Then proceed to the Landscape Principles checklist section.
- Landscape Principles Checklist- Check off only those practices used in your entire garden.
- Photos: Submit a *minimum* of three photos of your front garden *and* three photos of your back garden. You may also include up to six “before” photos, if available. Please note that photos will not be returned to the applicant. You may also choose to email your photos to CVFriendlyLandscaping@gmail.com

City of Fresno Water Division  
CV Friendly Landscape Award  
1910 E. University Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93703-7406

## **Important Dates:**

**Application period:** February 1, 2012- June 1, 2012  
**Evaluations:** June 1, 2012-August 1, 2012  
**Notification of Award Recipients:** by September 1, 2012  
**Award Presentation:** To Be Announced

## **Awards:**

- ☞ Award recipients will receive a ***Central Valley Friendly Landscape*** sign and a large sculpture of a quail by local artist Margaret Hudson.
- ☞ Award recipients will agree to post the provided ***Central Valley Friendly Landscape*** sign in their front yard in a prominent location visible to the street for a minimum of one year.
- ☞ Up to a maximum of 10 awards will be presented in 2012.
- ☞ Award recipients may reapply after five years.

## ***Award Sponsors:***

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
|  Fresno County Master Gardeners,<br>University of California Cooperative Extension |  City of Fresno<br> City of Clovis |  Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District<br> Clovis Botanical Garden |
|---|--|---|

## ***Central Valley Friendly Landscape Award- Checklist***

This application checklist is divided into two sections: ***Required Practices*** and ***Landscape Principles***.  
Please refer to the “Resources” section of our website for additional information on any of the topics on the following pages.  
[ucanr.org/CVFriendlyLandscaping](http://ucanr.org/CVFriendlyLandscaping)

### **Required Practices:**

All of the following practices are required for ***Central Valley Friendly Landscape Award*** recognition.

#### **General Landscaping:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Central Valley Friendly</i> plants are predominately featured in the landscape. <i>Central Valley Friendly</i> plants are acclimated to our unique environment. They require a minimal amount of water to thrive in the Central Valley as classified by Sunset Garden’s climate zone 8 or 9.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grass clippings, fertilizer and soil are <b>not hosed</b> off the driveway and walkways into streets. Those materials are put back into the landscape rather than being washed away. (Washing materials off hard surfaces into the street carries pollutants into the storm drain system and ultimately into our ground water.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If a lawn is present, it is being mowed at an appropriate height based on your lawn type.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If supplemental fertilization is needed, as determined by a soil test or when plants exhibit obvious symptoms such as yellowing, only organic or slow-release fertilizers are used.

#### **Irrigation:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lawns and landscape plants are irrigated only when needed and in compliance with your city’s watering schedule.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	You use a rain sensor or manually turn off your sprinklers during a rain event.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If an automatic irrigation system is used, it is regularly observed while operating (i.e., monthly) to see if repairs or adjustments are needed.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Problems with the irrigation system are repaired promptly.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A timing method, such as a kitchen timer, is used in the following situations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• when watering by hose to assure that the hose is moved to a new location or shut off in a timely manner.</li><li>• when using a manual in-ground sprinkler system so that the irrigation is not unnecessarily left running.</li></ul>

**I have read and acknowledge that I adhere to all of the Required Practices**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant’s signature

**Landscape Principles:** ✓ Check the Practices used in your garden. The Landscape Principles are based on seven principles for protecting the environment. By observing these seven principles, we can see, for example, how plant selection influences garden waste or how soil care and watering practices can impact water quality and waste. The following Landscape Principles are meant to be a starting point but are not meant to be comprehensive. Please note that there are a minimum number of checked practices required for each category.

### LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLE #1 – Conserve Water and Ensure Water Quality

<i>Item</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>✓All That Apply</i>	<i>Item Description</i>
A	Efficient Irrigation & Scheduling ( <i>Minimum of 3 Practices</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>          <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Avoid overspray on hard surfaces, leaking or broken sprinklers, nozzles dispensing water irregularly and run-off from obstructions (mailboxes, lighting, rocks, plants, etc).</p> <p>The irrigation controller’s features are used to your advantage, such as the percentage feature to allow for simple seasonal water adjustments, or the use of multiple start times to allow for irrigation cycling to aid in run-off control.</p> <p>Existing lawn and flowerbed spray heads are converted to low-flow nozzles that apply water at a slower rate so that more water is absorbed into the soil and irrigation runoff is reduced.</p> <p>Irrigation in shrub and perennial beds is converted to drip irrigation or soaker hoses.</p> <p>A Smart Controller is installed. It uses soil moisture or weather data to automatically water to plant needs.</p>
B	Plant Choices ( <i>Minimum of 2 Practices</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>          <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Plants are grouped by water needs (hydrozones) and watered separately from one another. For example, each of the following has a separate valve: lawn, low-water-use shrubs, higher-water-use shrubs.</p> <p>Lawn is minimized or eliminated.</p> <p>Existing lawn is a warm-season grass (Bermuda, Buffalo, Zoysia or St. Augustine)</p> <p>Dormant warm-season grass is not over-seeded with rye grass in winter.</p>
C	Rain Harvesting ( <i>No Minimum</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>          <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Permeable hardscape is used in the landscape to allow infiltration of rainwater into soil.</p> <p>Rainwater and runoff are channeled into swales and kept on site. Downspouts are directed to a rainwater catchment system such as a rain barrel or a rain garden. (Rainwater is kept on site to help recharge groundwater and to keep it from going to the storm water system.)</p>

## LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLE #2 – Conserve Energy and Protect Air Quality

<i>Item</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>✓All That Apply</i>	<i>Item Description</i>
D	Plant Shade Trees ( <i>Minimum of 2 Practices</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Shade trees are planted on the south and/or west sides of the house to shade the house in the summer.</p> <p>Shade trees on the south and/or west exposure are deciduous (lose their leaves in the winter) which allows the sun's rays to warm the house during winter months.</p> <p>Trees shade cement, asphalt or other hardscape to reduce the heat island effect and ozone formation.</p> <p>Trees are planted in your garden's native soil and NOT in holes that have been amended, as this may restrict roots and compromise tree growth.</p> <p>The air conditioning unit is shaded during hot summer months.</p>
E	Use Hand-Powered or Electric Tools ( <i>Minimum of 1 Practice</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>In order to reduce particulate matter in the air, leaf blowers are not used to clean up the garden.</p> <p>Material is swept back into the landscape or picked up and deposited in the green-waste container.</p> <p>Turf and shrubs are maintained with hand-powered or electric equipment rather than using a gas-powered mower or hedge pruner.</p>

## LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLE #3 – Nurture the Soil

<i>Item</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>✓All That Apply</i>	<i>Item Description</i>
F	( <i>Minimum of 2 Practices</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Garden beds are relatively untrodden. Pathways are used to navigate the garden to alleviate soil compaction.</p> <p>Lawn areas are periodically aerated.</p> <p>A ½"-3" layer of soil amendment such as compost, humus, worm castings, etc. is mixed into annual garden beds at least once a year.</p> <p>A 2"-4" layer of organic biodegradable mulch is maintained over tree roots, shrubs and plant beds to smother weeds, retain soil moisture, moderate soil temperature and feed the soil by adding organic matter to it as the mulch breaks down. Mulch is replenished annually or as needed to keep a 2"-4" layer.</p>

**LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLE #4 – Reduce Garden Waste or Send Less Garden Waste to the Landfill**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>✓All That Apply</i>	<i>Item Description</i>
G	(Minimum of 3 Practices. If you don't have a lawn, the minimum is 2)	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For new gardens, plants were selected based on their ultimate size within the space allotted, thus reducing the need to prune, saving time and resulting in less garden waste sent to the landfill.</p> <p>In each mowing, lawn is cut less than 1/3 of the length of the grass blade. This promotes a deeper root system, lowers water use, reduces waste sent to the landfill and requires less fertilizer and time.</p> <p>“Grasscycling” is practiced by leaving grass clippings on the lawn to decompose and return valuable nutrients to the soil.</p> <p>Garden and food waste are added to an on-site compost pile, thus reducing off-site green waste.</p> <p>Items not composted on site are placed in the green-waste container.</p> <p>Food waste is vermicomposted (composting with earthworms).</p> <p>Old sidewalks and other inert construction material are used on-site, (e.g., as cobblestone garden paths, retaining walls and other garden features) in order to reduce, reuse and recycle.</p>

**LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLE #5 – Practice Integrated Pest Management:** A strategic use of environmentally safe and effective ways to keep garden pests and diseases under control. Successful IPM programs combine several methods for long-term prevention and management of garden and home pests.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>✓All That Apply</i>	<i>Item Description</i>
H	Pest ID (Minimum of 1 Practice)	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The landscape is monitored regularly for signs of pest and/or disease infestations.</p> <p>Before taking action, pests or diseases are properly identified, thus minimizing harmful effects to beneficial insect</p>

I	Pest Control through Cultural Methods <i>(Minimum of 1 Practice)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Good sanitation practices are implemented, such as removing old flowers, fruit, or prunings and disposing of weeds and other volunteer plants, thus reducing the environment which can attract unwanted pests.</p> <p>Crop rotation is practiced for annual vegetables and ornamentals. (Avoid planting the same type of annual plant in the same place every year.)</p> <p>Your irrigation system is designed to reduce or eliminate pest and disease problems on garden plants caused by inappropriate application of water (overhead irrigation, over or under-watering, etc.).</p> <p>Pest and disease resistant varieties are planted.</p>
J	Pest and Weed Control Through Physical Methods <i>(Minimum of 1 Practice)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Weeds are hand picked, hoed or cultivated.</p> <p>Weeds are suppressed by use of mulch or permeable landscape fabrics.</p> <p>Garden Pests are trapped or impeded using newspaper rolls, boards, solution attractants, and barriers.</p> <p>Garden pests and/or their egg masses are hand-picked from plants or washed off with a hard stream of water.</p> <p>Soil solarization is used for weed control.</p>
K	Tolerate a Small Number of Pests and Encourage Beneficials <i>(Minimum of 1 Practice)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>   <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>A small number of garden pests is tolerated since control may affect beneficial insects.</p> <p>An environment is provided that encourages beneficial organisms to your garden so they can aid in control of garden pests.</p> <p>Beneficial insects, such as predatory mites, parasitic nematodes, trichogramma wasps, lady beetles, green lacewing, and mealybug destroyer are released into the garden to help control common garden pests.</p>
L	Pesticides <i>(Minimum of 3 Practices)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>   <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Broad-spectrum pesticides are avoided in order to protect garden beneficial organisms.</p> <p>Pesticide instructions are read and followed carefully.</p> <p>Pesticides are properly stored, handled and disposed of.</p> <p>The least toxic pesticides are used to control properly-identified garden pests.</p>

## LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLE #6 – Select Appropriate Plants

<i>Item</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>✓All That Apply</i>	<i>Item Description</i>
M	Using the Right Plant in the Right Place (Minimum of 2 Practices)	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Conditions involving climate, soil type, and sun exposure are considered when planning a garden.</p> <p>Low-growing trees are planted under power lines and solar panels.</p> <p>Low maintenance plants are predominant in the landscaped area, thus reducing water consumption, fertilizer cost, pruning, green waste, etc.</p> <p>Invasive plants are not planted in the landscape as they may grow rapidly and outcompete the native or desired plants, degrade wildlife habitat, and increase fire danger.</p> <p>Buy Local: Most plants in locally owned retail nurseries are purchased from local wholesale nurseries and are, therefore, acclimated to our unique environment and won't go into shock as easily when planted. Energy is saved when plants and garden features are purchased locally and are not shipped here from other areas. Also, our entire community benefits when local businesses are supported.</p>

## LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLE #7 – Create and Protect Wildlife Habitat (Welcome birds, butterflies, lizards, squirrels and bees to encourage pollination, eating of unwanted pests and for visual enjoyment)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Practice</i>	<i>✓All That Apply</i>	<i>Item Description</i>
N	Food, Water, Shelter and Serenity (Minimum of 1 Practice)	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Appropriate native plants are included in the garden to provide natural food for native wildlife.</p> <p>The diversity of plants in the garden provides year-round food.</p> <p>Landscape includes a recirculating pond or water feature, butterfly dish, bird bath or any natural water source that can provide an area for wildlife to drink and bathe. This amenity does not contain chemical additives that are harmful to wildlife and is replenished often to discourage mosquitoes.</p> <p>Natural settings, such as log or brush piles, thickets, ground covers, large natural shaped bushes and trees, wildflower meadows or host plants create shelter and a place for wildlife to raise their young.</p> <p>The use of loud garden equipment such as lawn mowers, chain saws, or blowers is minimized because it discourages wildlife.</p>