



Waterwise Community Center

A program of the Chino Basin Water Conservation District

GARDEN DESIGN DOCUMENT PACKAGE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: INLANDVALLEYGARDENPLANNER.ORG



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Plant shown in image : BLUE EYED GRASS Sisrynchium bellum

Index Meadow GARDEN DESIGN

Online Resources PLAN YOUR GARDEN USING :

Plant finde

Plant finder

Search by plant name

Search by plant name

Q 58 PLANTS FOUND

SHRUBS

Q Login Sign up

Helpful lists

Garden designs

Q

Pease select a filter category or search for a plant to display 📧 🏢 🔳

Botanical Name: Salvia 'Allen Chickering'

Height: 3 ft. - 4 ft. Width: 4 ft. - 7 ft.

otanical Name: Eriogonum cinereum

leight: 4 ft. - 5 ft. Width: 4 ft. - 6 ft.

Allen Chickering sage

Water Needs: Low 1

Exposure: All day sur

Ashyleaf buckwheat

Water Needs: Low 1

Exposure: All day sun

Baja bush-snapdragon

Water Needs: Low 2

Exposure: All day sur

Plant Type: Shrub, Native

Botanical Name: Galvezia juncea

eight: 3ft. - 6ft. width: 3ft. - 6ft.

Plant Type: Shrub, Native

Plant Type: Shrub. Native

Clear Search

inlandvalleygardenplanner.org

Water Community Community Carbon

SEARCH CRITERIA

PLANT TYPE Tree

Ground Cover Grass

California Native

WATER NEEDS

CHARACTER

Evergreen Deciduous

Full Sun

□ Shade

D Partial Sun

AESTHETICS

- Fall Color FUNCTIONS Hedges or Screens Butterfly Plants D Bird, Wildlife Plants

Colorful Flowers

Pleasing Fragrance

Container Plants

Lawn Alternatives Plants for Small Spaces

Plants for Slopes

D Plants for Clay Soil

SUN EXPOSURE

Low Water Needs

Moderate Water Needs

Succulent

Palm Shrub

U Vine Derennial

Plant List FOR MEADOW GARDEN DESIGN

COMMON NAME SCIENTIFIC NAME

ALKALAI SACATON Sporobolus airoides **BERKELY SEDGE** Carex divulsa/Carex tumulicola BLUE EYED GRASS Sisryinchium bellum **CALIFORNIA GOLDENROD** Solidago velutina ssp. californica CANYON PRINCE WILD RYE Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince' **COFFEEBERRY 'EVE CASE'** Frangulia californica 'Eve Case' **DEER GRASS** Muhlenbergia rigens GOLDEN CURRANT Ribes aureum var. gracillium **SHOWY PENSTEMON** Penstemon spectabilis SMALL CAPE RUSH Chondropetalum tectorum

CALIFORNIA COFFEEBERRY Rhamnus californica CALIFORNIA FESCUE Festuca californica CALIFORNIA FUCHSIA Epilobium canum **COMMON YARROW** Achillea millefolium HUMMINGBIRD SAGE Salvia spathacea WESTERN COLUMBINE Aquilegia formosa **WESTERN MEADOW SEDGE** Carex praegracilis **WESTERN REDBUD** Cercis occidentalis

FOR MORE ABOUT GARDEN **DESIGN, PLANT SELECTION, PLANT CARE TIPS & TRICKS AND MORE** VISIT: inlandvalleygardenplanner.org





500 SQ FT.

Includes :

05 Small Front Yard Design 06 Small Front Yard Design (with plant labels) 07 Small Front Yard Design | Plan View 08 Small Front Yard Design (without front grasses) 09 Small Front Yard Design (without front grasses + with plant labels)



Small Yard Design Document Package







MEADOW Small Front Yard Design



1

2

French drain at edge of landscape at sidewalk, to capture water running off - SEE FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL PAGE





MEADOW Small Front Yard Design WITH PLANT LABELS

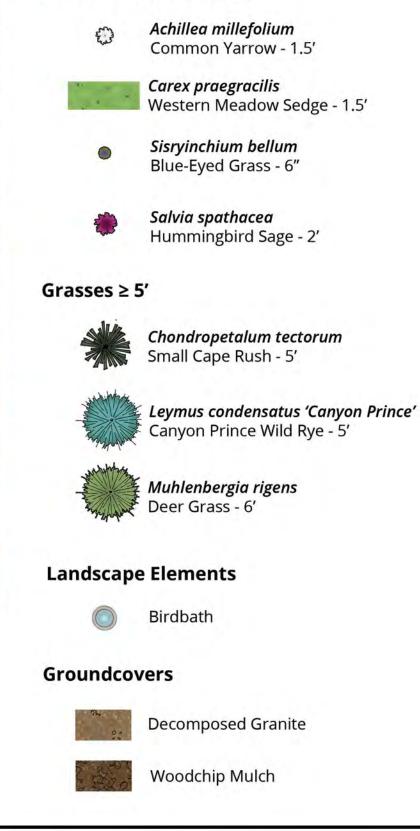


2

French drain at edge of landscape at sidewalk, to capture water running off - SEE FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL PAGE



Perrenials/Grasses ≤ 4'



NOTES :



Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE

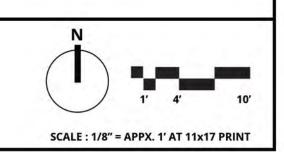


French drain at edge of landscape at sidewalk, to capture water running off SEE FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL PAGE



A program of the Chino Basin Water Conservation District MEADOW Small Front Yard Design PLAN VIEW









MEADOW Small Front Yard Design WITHOUT FRONT GRASSES



(1) r (2) r

French drain at edge of landscape at sidewalk, to capture water running off - SEE FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL PAGE



Waterwise

Community

Center

A program of the Chino Basin Water

MEADOW Small Front Yard Design WITH PLANT LABELS + WITHOUT FRONT GRASSES



French drain at edge of landscape at sidewalk, to capture water running off - SEE FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL PAGE

Medium Yard Design Document Package

1,200 SQ FT.

Includes :

 Medium Front Yard Design Medium Front Yard Design (with plant labels) Medium Front Yard Design | Plan View **14 Medium Front Yard Design** (without trees)

Medium Front Yard Design (with plant labels + without trees)







MEADOW Medium Front Yard Design

NOTES :

1

2



Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE



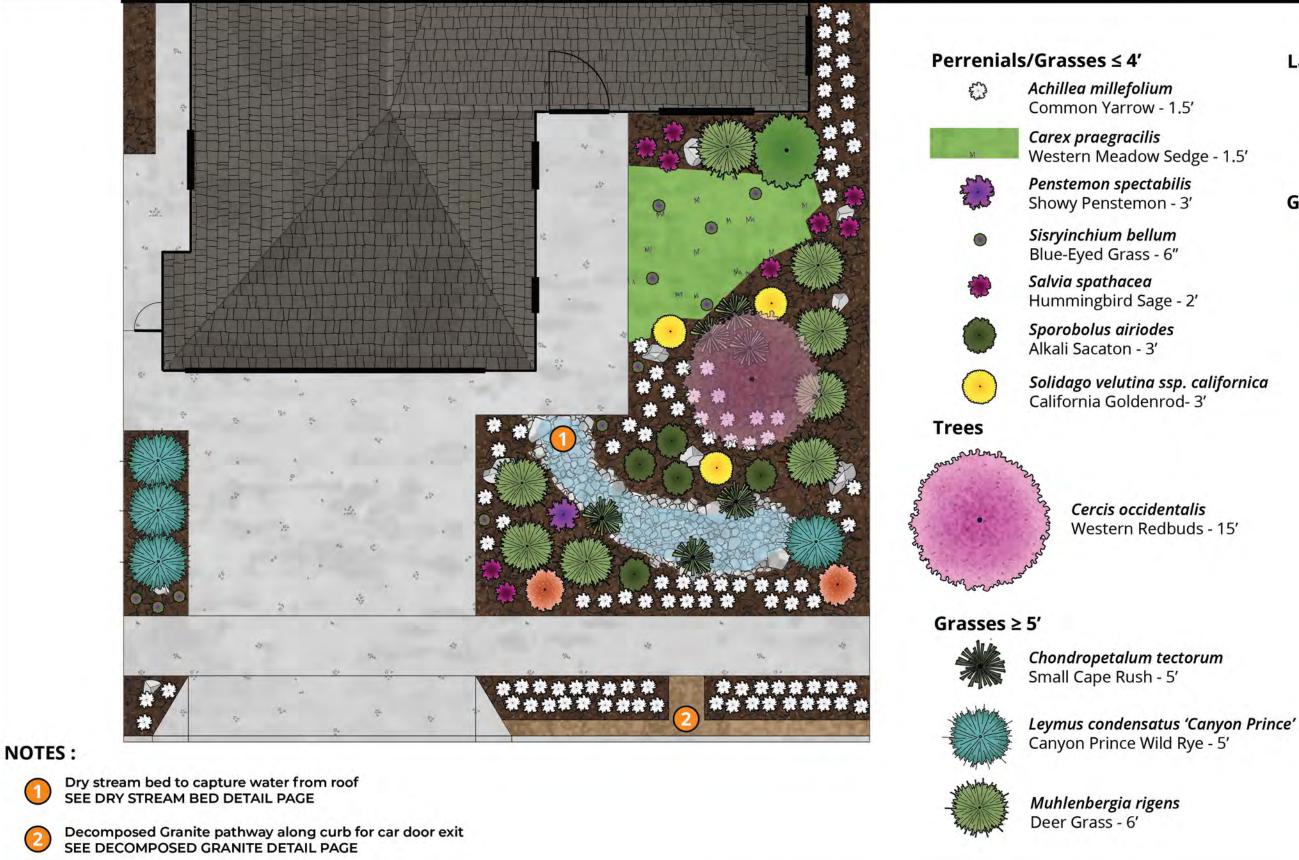


MEADOW Medium Front Yard Design WITH PLANT LABELS





Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE





MEADOW Medium Front Yard Design PLAN VIEW



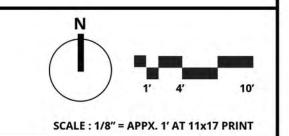
Landscape Elements

Groundcovers

Boulders

Decomposed Granite

Woodchip Mulch







Center

A program of the Chino Basin Water Conservation District Community

MEADOW Medium Front Yard Design WITHOUT TREE

NOTES :

1

2



Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE





Chino Basin Water Conservation District MEADOW Medium Front Yard Design WITH PLANT LABELS + WITHOUT TREE

NOTES :

2



Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE

Large Jard Design Document Package

1,800 SQ FT.

Includes :

17 Large Front Yard Design
18 Large Front Yard Design (with plant labels)
19 Large Front Yard Design | Plan View
20 Large Front Yard Design (without trees)
21 Large Front Yard Design (with plant labels + without trees)



IMAGE IS TAKEN BY ROBERT PERRY, FROM THE INLANDVALLEYGARDENPLANNER.ORG





Center

Waterwise Community A program of the Chino Basin Water Conservation District MEADOW Large Front Yard Design





Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)





Center

Conservation District

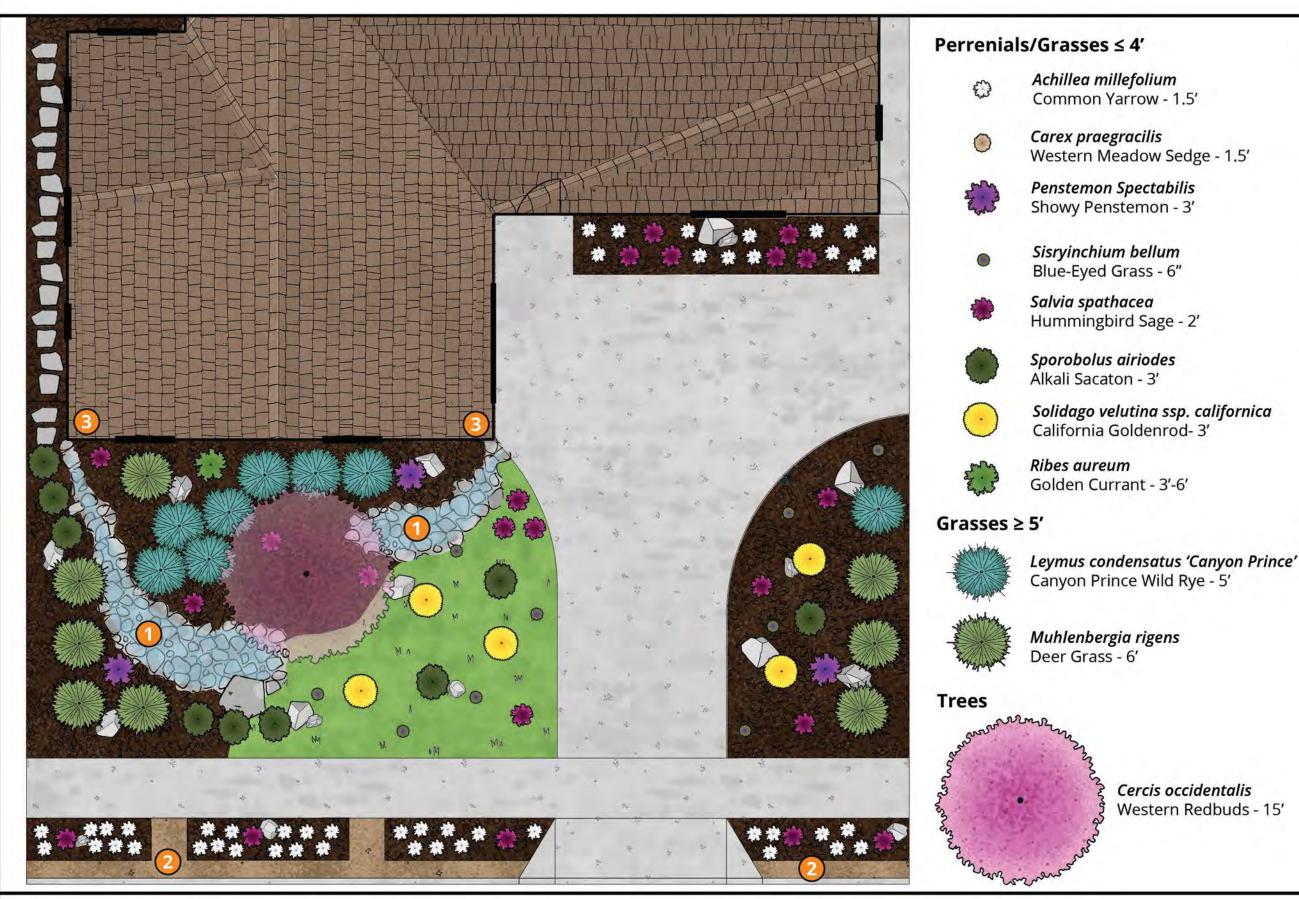
MEADOW Large Front Yard Design WITH PLANT LABELS



Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE

Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)

2





MEADOW Large Front Yard Design PLAN VIEW

Landscape Elements 19



Stepping stones

Boulders

Groundcovers



Decomposed Granite



Woodchip Mulch



Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit SEE DECOMPOSED **GRANITE DETAIL PAGE**

SEE DRY STREAM BED

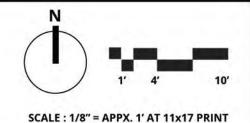
Dry stream bed to capture

water from roof

DETAIL PAGE

Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)

Cercis occidentalis Western Redbuds - 15'







MEADOW Large Front Yard Design WITHOUT TREE



Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE

NOTES :

Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE

Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)





Community

Center

A program of the **Chino Basin Water Conservation District**

MEADOW Large Front Yard Design WITH PLANT LABELS + WITHOUT TREE



Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE

Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE

Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)

Includes :

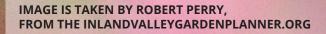
- **23** Extra-Large Front Yard Design
- **24** Extra-Large Front Yard Design (with plant labels)
- **25** Patio Detail
- **26** Patio Detail (with plant labels)
- 27 Extra-Large Front Yard Design | Plan View
- **28** Extra-Large Front Yard Design (*without front tree*)
- **29** Extra-Large Front Yard Design (*with plant labels + without front tree*)
- **30** Extra-Large Front Yard Design (without trees)
- **31** Extra-Large Front Yard Design (with plant labels + without trees)



22

Extra-Large Vard Design **Document Package**

2,500 SQ FT.







Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)



Community Center

MEADOW Extra-Large Front Yard Design WITH PLANT LABELS



Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)

MEADOW Extra-Large Front Yard Design LAWN ALTERNATIVE DETAIL

a. 11 4

Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE

1



MEADOW Extra-Large Front Yard Design

EVE CASE CALIFORNIA COFFEEBERRY

a. 1. 2. a.

Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE

1



DEER GRASS







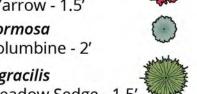


BERKELEY SEDGE





Carex tumulicola Foothill Sedge - 3'



Epilobium canum California Fucshua - 3'

Festuca californica California Fescue - 2'

Muhlenbergia rigens Deer Grass - 4'

Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince' Canyon Prince Wild Rye - 5'



Hummingbird Sage - 2' Penstemon spectabilis Showy Penstemon - 3' Sisryinchium bellum Blue-Eyed Grass - 6" Solidago Velutina ssp. Californica California Goldenrod - 3' Sporobolus airoides Alkali Sacaton - 3'



Chondropetalum tectorum Small Cape Rush - 5'

Deer Grass - 6'



A program of the **Chino Basin Water Conservation District**

MEADOW **Extra-Large Front Yard Design** PLAN VIEW

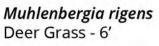
Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE

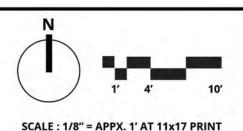
Dry stream bed to capture water from roof

Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout

Stepping stones

Frangulia (Rhamnus) californica 'Eve Case' Eve Case California Coffeeberry - 5'







MEADOW Extra-Large Front Yard Design WITHOUT FRONT TREE

1





Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)

NOTES :





Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)





Chino Basin Water Community

MEADOW Extra-Large Front Yard Design WITHOUT TREES



Decomposed Granite walking strip along curb for car door exit SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)





Waterwise **Chino Basin Water** Community

MEADOW Extra-Large Front Yard Design WITH PLANT LABELS + WITHOUT TREES

NOTES :



Decomposed Granite walking strip along curb for car door exit SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE Dry stream bed to capture water from roof SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)

Detail Pages

Includes :

Bloom Color Calendar 33 Dry Streambed Detail Pages 34 French Drain Detail Pages 39 Mulch Detail Pages 42 Pathways Detail Pages 45 Wildflowers Detail Pages 51 Planting Detail Pages 54



Bloom Color Calendar

Use this chart to understand what time of year these plants bloom in Southern California gardens "Bloom seasons" show the main flower color of the plant, "Off bloom seasons" show the leaf color, which can also be useful in your planting design. We encourage adding value for the birds, butterflies, and pollinators by having blooms throughout the seasons!

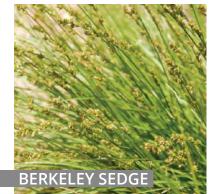
garden style : **MEADOW**

RELAXED, SIMPLE, & BEAUTIFUL CAN REPLACE A TRADITIONAL LAWN

Lush natural areas can create a sense of structure, to make it diverse and beautiful within this style!

PLANT NAME	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
DEER GRASS	•		
WESTERN MEADOW SEDGE			
CANYON PRINCE WILD RYE	(3)		
BERKLEY SEDGE			
SHOWY PENSTEMON			
BLUE-EYED GRASS			
COMMON YARROW	69		
SMALL CAPE RUSH			\$
WESTERN REDBUD			
CALIFORNIA COFFEEBERRY			
CALIFORNIA FESCUE			
CALIFORNIA FUSCHIA			
HUMMINGBIRD SAGE			
ALKALI SACATION			
GOLDEN CURRANT			
CALIFORNIA GOLDENROD			3
COFFEEBERRY 'EVE CASE'			
WESTERN COLUMBINE	\$		

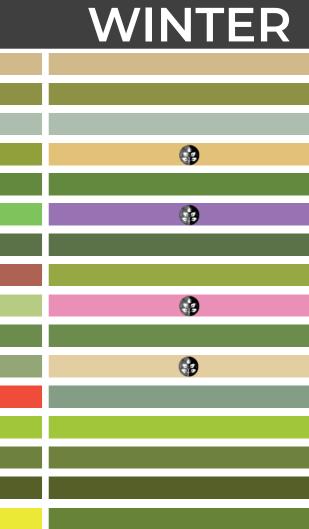


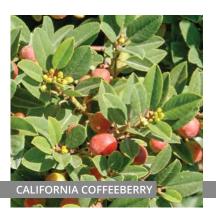


















BOXES WITH ICON:

MEANS IT IS USUALLY IN

Dry Streambed Detail pages

What is a dry streambed?

A DRY STREAMBED IS A SUNKEN AREA OF THE LANDSCAPE DESIGNED TO LOOK LIKE A SMALL, SEASONALLY DRY CREEK OR STREAM.

Why might I need a dry streambed?

THEY ARE BUILT IN A LANDSCAPE TO ACCUMULATE RAINWATER FROM ROOFS, DRIVEWAYS, OR OTHER SURFACES AND ALLOW IT TO ABSORB INTO THE GROUND. THESE FEATURES HELP US TREAT RAINWATER LIKE THE RESOURCE IT IS AND MAY HELP SOLVE PUDDLING OR FLOODING ISSUES CURRENTLY EXISTING ON YOUR PROPERTY.



DRY STREAMBED

BENEFITS include deeper watering of the garden in rain events, potential groundwater recharge, and improving local water quality by holding and cleaning





OR

Water flows in from roof gutter down spout Water flows in over land



Online Workshop

For more information about how to plan & build a dry streambed, swale, or infiltration basin for your landscape, watch our "Rainwater Harvesting for Home Landscapes" Online workshop recording.

YOUTU.BE/SSPWOTWAOL0

DRY STREAMBED WITH **BERM DETAIL BIRD'S EYE VIEW**

Berm created with soil from excavation, to increase pooling depth on slope

Overflow point, slightly lower than top of berm, directs excess water. "Armor" overflow area with gravel / stone to prevent erosion

IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE **PAYNE FOUNDATION** NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgardentour.org]



DRY STREAMBED

A dry streambed features rocks and gravel covering much of its surface and may or may not INFILTRATION BASIN have plants in the part that accumulates water.

The term 'infiltration basin' is used for a landscape feature very similar to a dry streambed or a swale, but it usually refers Dry streambeds do not need to

SWALE

A similar landscape feature, to a feature that is shaped be as large as the ones featured often called a 'swale', is a sunken area that accumulates that holds and infiltrates water, the following pages, but the water, but does not contain any while a dry streambed or swale or many rocks. The term swale, is usually longer and narrower however, can sometimes be a (like a dry stream!). bit confusing because the same word can be used to refer to other types of structures that move water.



CALIFORNIA NATIVE GARDEN WITH A DRY STREAMBED, AND BROKEN CONCRETE BRIDGE [located in POMONA, CA]

For more information about Berms, see next page!

MATERIALS

The gravel, rocks, and boulders used in dry streambeds are usually purchased from landscape material yards or construction materials yards. For a list of businesses that sell this type of material in the western San Bernardino County area, see our :

Local Landscape Suppliers List : cbwcd.org/suppliers

PLANNING

more like a rounded oval basin in the illustrated drawings on depicted scale in the drawings helps to show the relevant information. The photos on this page provide some "real world" examples of residential-scale dry streambeds. The illustrated details on the next page can also be applied to swales without rock and to infiltration basins.

What is a berm?

THE BERM IS THE MOUND OF SOIL **IMMEDIATELY DOWNSLOPE OF THE EXCAVATED AREA.**

BERMS SERVE TO **INCREASE** WATER HOLDING CAPACITY OF DRY STREAM-BEDS, SWALES, AND INFILTRATION BASINS ON SLOPED SITES.

FOR A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF A DRY STREAMBED AND BERM, **REFER TO THE DRAWING ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE.**

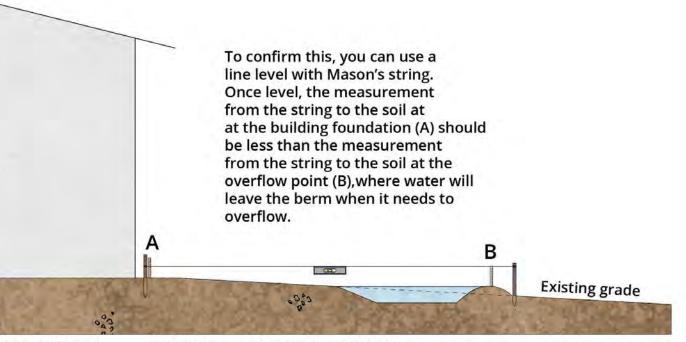
Existing grade

Make sure overflow level is below any building foundations and sends water away from buildings

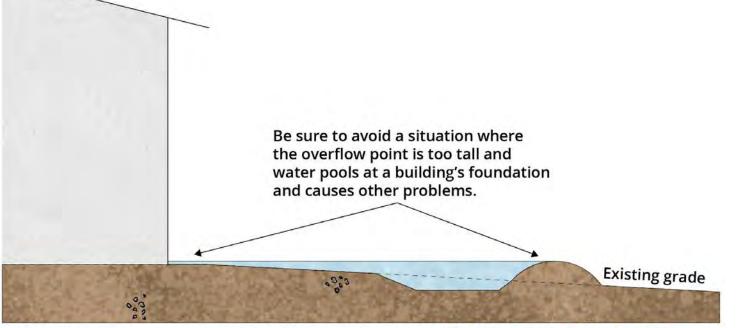
Berm

DRY STREAMBED BERM DETAIL FOR SLOPED SITES

000



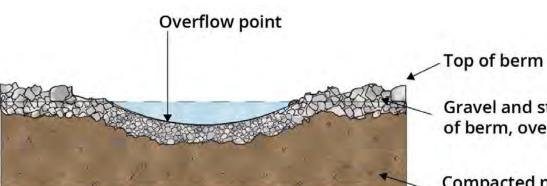
DRY STREAMBED OVERFLOW BERM DETAIL



Dry Streambed

BERM

DRY STREAMBED WITH BERM - TOO TALL - AVOID THIS SITUATION!

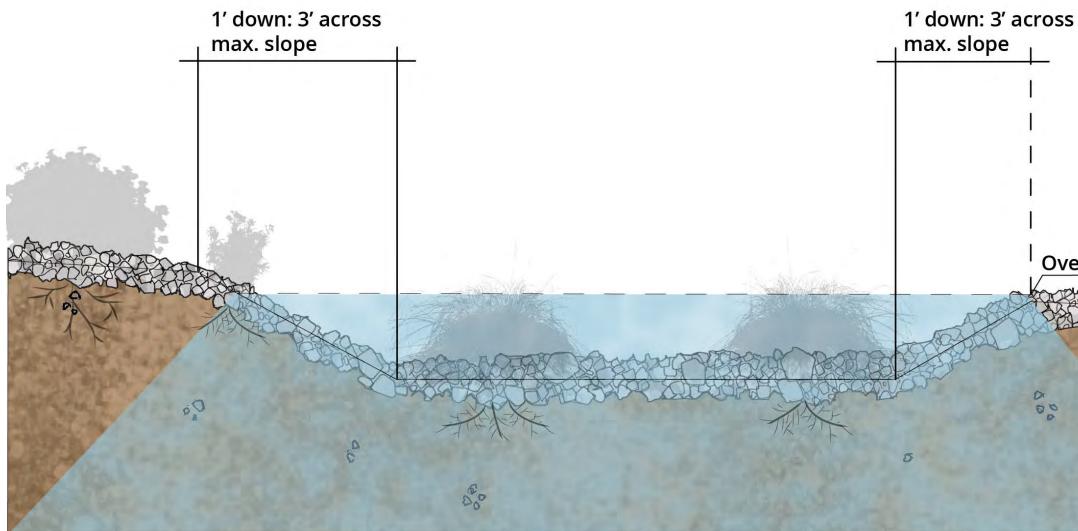


DRY STREAMBED BERM **OVERFLOW POINT "CUT AWAY"**



Gravel and stone to reinforce top of berm, overflow, and spillway

Compacted native soil. Use soil excavated while digging dry stream bed.



DRY STREAMBED TYPICAL DETAIL (WITH NO BERM NEEDED)



MANY CALIFORNIA NATIVE AND WATERWISE PLANTS THRIVE IN THIS AREA. THIS LIST IS SIMPLY SOME OF OUR FAVORITES FOR THAT CONDITION.

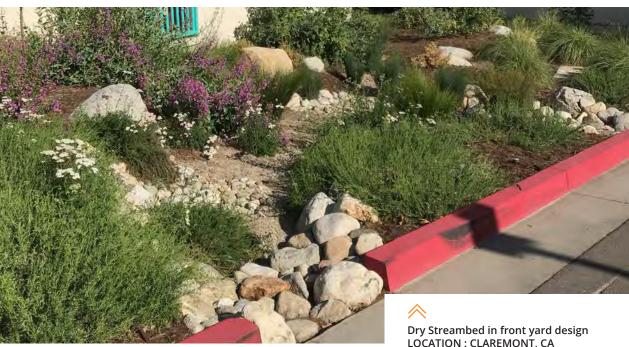
For More Visit :

inlandvalleygarden planner.org/helpful-lists





BERKLEY SEDGE



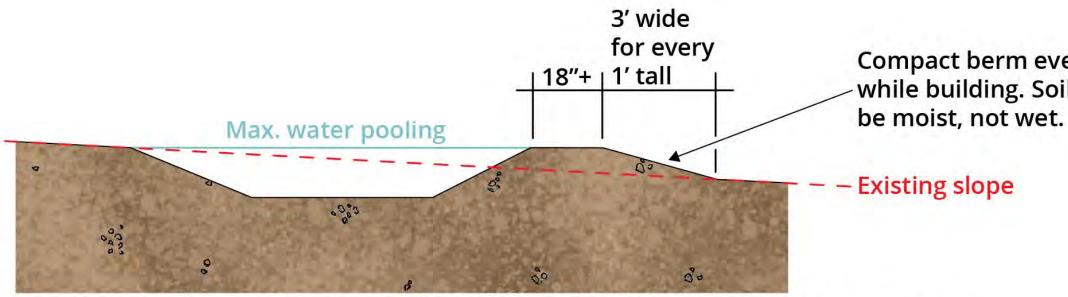
CA GREY RUSH



Overflow point 3" Gravel Mulch 6"-12" Open Water Depth 3"+ Stone and Gravel Depth 0

Dry Streambed in front yard design LOCATION : CLAREMONT, CA

Note: Dry streambeds and infiltration basins should usually only be used in landscape areas w/ less than 8% slope (Approx. 2" over 2' or more accurately 7-3/4" over 8'). To confirm this, you can use a line level, stakes, and a measuring tape, as shown in the "Dry streambed overflow berm detail." Note: The area draining into the dry streambed can be steeper. The area of dry streambed, berm, and immediately downslope are what should be 8% slope or less.



DRY STREAMBED /INFILTRATION BASIN ON GENTLE SLOPE BERM WIDTH DETAIL AND NOTES



Compact berm every 6" while building. Soil should

French Drain Detail pages

What is a French drain?

FRENCH DRAINS ARE TRENCHES THAT HAVE BEEN FILLED WITH A LARGE DIAMETER GRAVEL, USUALLY 1.5" - 3", FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAPTURING WATER AND EITHER ALLOWING IT TO INFILTRATE IN PLACE, OR SLOWLY MOVING IT TO A PLACE THAT CAN INFILTRATE IT.

Why might I need a French drain?

THEY ARE USEFUL WHEN WATER CAPTURE OR INFILTRATION IS NEEDED ALONG PAVED WALKWAYS, SIDEWALKS, PATIOS, OR OTHER NARROW AREAS WHERE FEATURES LIKE DRY STREAMBEDS WILL NOT WORK. **BENEFITS** include deeper watering of the garden in rain events, potential groundwater recharge, and improving local water quality by holding and cleaning rainfall though natural processes.





IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgardentour.org] GARDEN DESIGN BY : SCRUB JAY STUDIOS



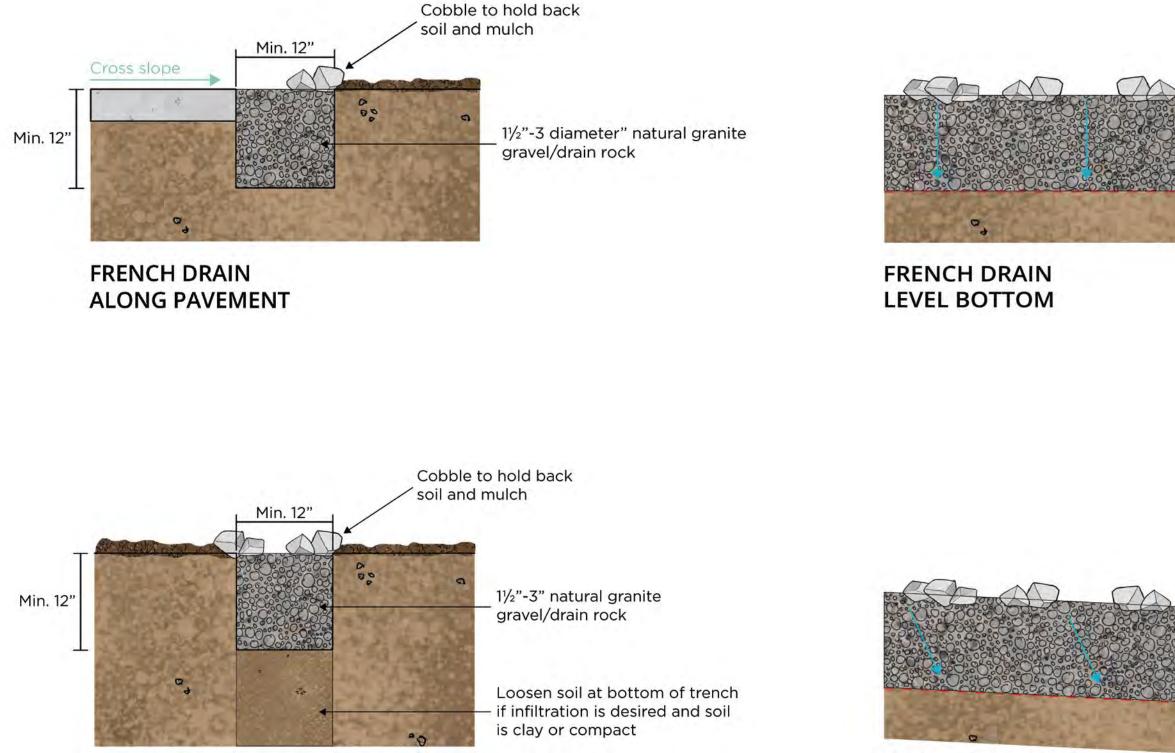
Once the water is safely around and away from the house, it is allowed to drain in a larger dry streambed in the backyard.



MATERIALS

Cobble or small boulders can be mixed into the top layer of gravel or at the edges of a French drain for a more natural look. The gravel and cobble used in French drains is often purchased from a Landscape Materials Yard or Building Materials Yard. For business that sell these products in the western San Bernardino County area, see our Local Landscape Suppliers List : cbwcd.org/suppliers

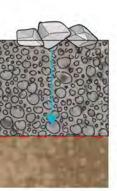
40



FRENCH DRAIN SLOPED BOTTOM

FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL IN LANDSCAPE





Level bottom to infiltrate water at bottom of french drain



Sloped bottom will infiltrate water in place in small rain events and infiltrate some water in place while moving the rest of the water to the end of the french drain in larger rain events. Often this extra water is moved into an area that can better fit a larger dry stream bed or infiltration basin.

DETAIL PAGES

What is mulch?

MULCH IS A WORD FOR ANY MATERIAL THAT IS USED TO COVER THE SOIL SURFACE IN A GARDEN.

The share

Why might I need mulch?

MULCH HELPS SHADE THE SOIL, ALLOWING THE SOIL TO BETTER RETAIN WATER BY PREVENTING EVAPORATION FROM THE SOIL SURFACE. GENERALLY, A LAYER OF MULCH 2 - 3 INCHES DEEP IS APPLIED TO THE SOIL SURFACE AFTER PLANT-ING AND IRRIGATION WORK IS COMPLETED.

IMAGE TAKEN AT THE TREE OF LIFE NURSERY IN SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO.



Woodchip mulch is either a combination of ground tree trimmings or a specific product produced from trees (often bark) manufactured for use in the landscape.



It is often one of the more economical ways to cover the soil in a newly planted garden, especially if it can be picked up for free from local mulch giveaway programs:

- The Waterwise Community Center gives away woodchip mulch at our headquarters in Montclair (See cbwcd.org/mulch).

- If a large quantity of mulch is needed, some local community members have been successful obtaining free ground tree trimming mulch though the chipdrop app. If you are considering this, be sure to read all the information on the chipdrop website to be confident it matches your needs and expectations.

ALLOW LEAVES TO JOIN!

For California native plantings, an approximately 2" layer of woodchip mulch may be appropriate when installing new landscapes, but it is best to allow plants to "self-mulch" with their own leaves or chopped-up prunings from native plants in your garden after that, if possible.

MIXING IT UP!

Consider adding some gravel, small boulders, and a few branches or logs either during construction or over time for a naturalistic look. Deep repeated applications of imported woodchip mulch to native plantings can sometimes cause long-term problems, especially if they are over-watered.

WOODCHIP MULCH IN YOUR LANDSCAPE

Fruit trees and most temperate or tropical-climate plants prefer a **deeper mulch** layer of 3" for smaller plants and 4" for trees.

Be sure to maintain the woodchip mulch at least 3" away from the bases and stems of woody plants and shrubs. Wet mulch up against stems can cause rot and encourage disease.

BENEFITS IN TYPES OF SOILS

Woodchip breaks down over time, adding organic matter to the soil. This is great for fruit trees and plants that like **rich** soil, and it can help improve the drainage of *heavy clay* and compacted soils. California native and waterwise plants in well-draining soils may not care about additional organic matter though.

"TOUCH-UP"

As woodchip mulch breaks down, additional woodchip mulch generally needs to be added every few years which can be costly or require large amounts of work in large yards. In yards with California native plants, one might decide to "touch up" the woodchip mulch in pathway areas every few years, but allow the planting areas to "self-mulch" with dropped leaves and chopped up trimmings.



Below are the most common types of mulch used in gardens. These pages contain information about the best ways to **use** each.

WOODCHIP MULCH

GRAVEL MULCH

DECOMPOSED GRANITE MULCH

MIXING IN COBBLE & BOULDERS

DECOMPOSED GRANITE MULCH IN THE BACKGROUND **GRAVEL MULCH**

Gravel mulch is appropriate for

AND BOULDERS, FLAGSTONE, AND AN AREA OF

California native and waterwise plants from dry, sunny areas, including most succulents and desert plants.

of gravel and rock that naturally occur in your area usually results in a much more attractive project.

Gravel mulch applied to large areas and all one size (for example an entire yard of 34" gravel) tends to look "industrial" and potentially unattractive. Mixing sizes of gravel and choosing to work with the types

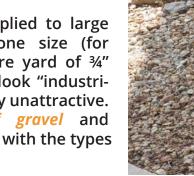


IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgardentour.org]





HOT CLIMATE PRECAUTIONS

Remember that large areas of gravel in our hot climate can absorb lots of heat and, if light colored, can create lots of glare in the summer. Remember to *mix in* some heat-tolerant trees or large shrubs in your design if you are using all gravel mulch to provide some shade and structure to your landscape, which will help with these potential issues.



MEDITERRANEAN PLANTS IN A RESIDENTIAL FRONT YARD [located in Pasadena, CA]

Decomposed granite is a natural product that is much smaller than gravel, and almost similar to a very sandy soil. It is similar to the natural soil of some southern California mountain areas, and it can make an appropriate mulch layer for low water and native plants from hot sunny areas and succulent gardens.

SLIPPERY SLOPE!

Decomposed granite erodes easily during rain when on slopes, so is best applied to relatively flat landscape areas only.

PURCHASING D.G. MULCH

Decomposed granite can be purchased "with binder" and "without binder." The binder is a product, usually naturally derived, that allows it to be compacted and form a hard and relatively resilient walking surface when properly installed. Decomposed granite with binder is usually used for pathways and patio spaces, while decomposed granite without binder is used for mulching planted areas.

DECOMPOSED GRANITE MULCH

LONG-TERM

As a mineral mulch, decomposed granite has the advantage of not needing to be renewed, like woodchip mulch needs, but it can have problems with weed seeds germi**nating** and growing in it.

MIXING IN COBBLE & BOULDERS

Cobble and boulders of a stone type local to your area are often a nice addition to the garden surface, added among whatever type of mulch you choose, to achieve a natural looking effect.

Cobble and boulders are usually purchased at landscape materials yards and charged by the pound. Delivery is available for a fee. For larger quantities, cobble is usually purchased in metal baskets on palettes, while larger boulders can be selected individually.



IMAGE TAKEN AT TREE OF LIFE NURSERY IN SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

Pathyay DETAIL PAGES

What are pathways?

PATHWAYS ARE WALKING SURFACES OF ANY TYPE THAT ALLOW ACCESS THOUGH A LANDSCAPE. REMEMBER, DON'T FORGET TO LEAVE SPACE FOR YOURSELF AS YOU PLAN FOR ALL YOUR NEW PLANTS!

Why might I need pathways?

PATHWAYS ARE ESSENTIAL TO ENJOY WALKING THOUGH YOUR GARDEN AND TO ACCESS AREAS TO CARE FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE. CHOOSING PERMEABLE MATERIALS LIKE GRAVEL, DECOMPOSED GRANITE, OR JUST A LAYER OF WOOD-CHIP MULCH FOR YOUR PATHWAYS, ALLOWS WATER TO SOAK IN WHEN IT RAINS AND HELPS PREVENT THE RUNOFF AND FLOODING ISSUES THAT CAN BE CAUSED BY CONCRETE HARDSCAPE. USE OF DIFFERENT SIZES OF GRAVEL, STONE, AND RECYCLED CONCRETE FOR PATHWAYS AND PLANT-ING EDGES. NOTE HOW THE RAIN CHAIN BRINGS WATER FROM THE ROOF GUTTER DOWN ONTO THE COBBLESTONES. THE WATER CAN THEN SPREAD OUT ALONG THE GRAVEL PATH AND SLOWLY SINK INTO THE SOIL BELOW.

IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgardentour.org] GARDEN DESIGN BY : SCRUB JAY STUDIOS

TYPES OF PATHWAYS

Below are the *most common* types of pathways and some information about the types of materials with which they might be used :

DECOMPOSED GRANITE

GRAVEL

PATHWAY TYPES BENEFITS

Decomposed granite and gravel are popular choices for pathways and patio areas in California native and waterwise gardens. *Compared* to concrete, brickwork, and other paving, they are less expensive options that have a nice, **natural feel** in the landscape. They are also permeable surfaces:

When it rains, they can **absorb most** of the rainfall in place, allowing it to **soak into the soil** below, rather than runoff and have to be dealt with elsewhere, as is the case with traditional paved surfaces like concrete.

MATERIALS

Materials for **decomposed granite** or **gravel** pathways are usually purchased from landscape materials yards or building materials yards. *Edging* and *permeable landscape fabric* are usually purchased from landscape and irrigation materials suppliers.

For lists of these businesses in the western San Bernardino County area, see our **Local Landscape Suppliers list**: *cbwcd.org/suppliers*

WALK-ABILITY

Decomposed granite pathway in a newly planted garden showing the path and a narrow *"walking strip"* to allow car doors to open and people to **walk along the curb** to the central path. If the parking strip planter was wider, a wider walking strip might be desirable.



STABILITY OF D.G. PATHS

Decomposed granite pathways and patios are usually constructed with "stabilized" decomposed granite, which is most often mixed in by the supplier and ordered as "stabilized." This additive, usually naturally derived, allows the decomposed granite to be moistened immediately after spreading it out, and compacted with a tamper. This forms a hard, resilient surface with some of the characteristics of harder paving, while retaining a natural feel.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR D.G.

Decomposed granite surfaces have many positive qualities in a landscape space, however, there are some considerations to be aware of:

When wet, as in immediately after a rain event, even stabilized decomposed granite acts somewhat like wet, muddy soil. After getting significantly wet, *it is best to wait* to walk on decomposed granite until it dries some. **Even with stabilized decomposed granite**, shoes and dog paws can capture bits of the decomposed granite material and track them inside. That can be avoided by not using decomposed granite immediately near the house. If you have a *transitional space* between the decomposed granite and the house, such as a paved or gravel walk or patio, usually the *small bits of decomposed granite will fall off shoes* before reaching the door.

Finally, decomposed granite is **prone to erosion** on steep slopes, so should generally *not be used for steep* pathways.

EDGING OPTIONS

Decomposed granite pathways and patios should have metal, plastic, or natural rock edging installed to help retain the edge and allow for proper compaction during installation.



PATHWAY SHOWING PLASTIC ED AS THE ONE TO THE UPPER LEFT.





TIC EDGING IN THE SAME GARDEN R LEFT.

GRAVEL PATHWAY ALONG THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE ALLOWS WATER COMING OFF THE ROOF SUFFICIENT SPACE TO SOAK IN RATHER THAN CAUSE FLOODING UP AGAINST THE HOUSE DURING LARGE RAIN EVENTS.



GRAVEL PATHWAYS

Gravel pathways and patios are usually constructed of a small "pea gravel" or even smaller "bird's eye gravel." Pea gravel is found either as natural small-sized gravel (that has been sifted) or crushed gravel. It is best to use non-crushed gravel because the edges of the gravel are *naturally* more rounded, which has a nicer look and is more comfortable to walk on.

It is not as important to use edging with gravel paths and patios but may be desirable depending on your conditions and design.

GROUNDCOVER MATERIAL SHOWN : 1.5" - 2" GRAVEL

IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgardentour.org] GARDEN DESIGN BY : SCRUB JAY STUDIOS

GRAVEL PATIO / DRIVEWAY ALLOWS LARGE QUANTITIES OF RAINWATER TO SOAK IN ON SITE DURING THE RAIN.

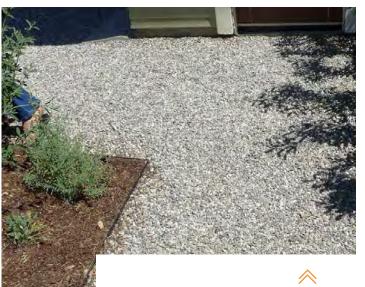
IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgardentour.org]



CONSTRUCTION NOTES

Decomposed granite paths and patios are usually installed with a permeable landscape fabric underneath to keep the decomposed granite and native soil separated over time. Gravel paths and patios may or may not be installed with landscape fabric. It *may help* prevent weeds and *may help* prevent the gravel from sinking into the soil over time, requiring additional gravel. However, it may be unsightly if gravel shifts, exposing the fabric. It *might* also be a use of additional materials that may not be necessary in residential gardens if there are not weed problems in that area of the landscape.

On these pages are diagrams showing a "*cut away*" view illustrating the construction of decomposed granite and gravel paths and patios:



GRAVEL PATH WITH **STEEL** EDGING -

IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgardentour.org]

DECOMPOSED GRANITE PATHWAY WITH STEEL, ALUMINUM, OR PLASTIC EDGING

01 Stabilized decomposed granite, compacted on site, 3"02 Permeable landscape fabric

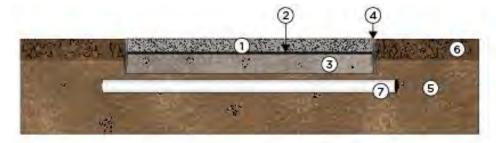
03 Compacted road base, 3," optional. It requires much more work to install this sub-layer and is more expensive, but provides a harder, more resilient installation. This is how decomposed granite is usually installed in high-traffic public spaces and is usually a job for a contractor.

04 Edging, staked in place. Steel, aluminum, or plastic all work. Steel and aluminum edging generally look better, are more stable, and last longer, but they are much more expensive and more difficult to install.

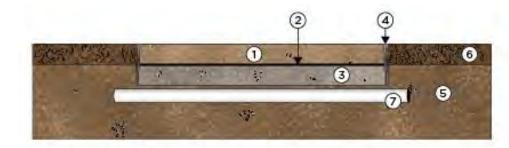
- 05 Native soil
- 06 Mulch

07 2" or larger PVC pipes installed wherever future irrigation pipes or wiring may need to cross under the pathway, optional. If there is any chance that pipes or wires may need to go under the path in the future, it is much easier to install these "sleeves" of larger diameter pipe when the pathway is being installed. The pipes or wires can then be slid though the sleeves when needed. Covering the ends with unglued PVC caps will keep dirt out of the sleeves.

«



GRAVEL PATHWAY WITH STEEL, ALUMINUM, OR PLASTIC EDGING



DECOMPOSED GRANITE PATHWAY WITH STEEL, ALUMINUM, OR PLASTIC EDGING

GRAVEL PATHWAY WITH STEEL, ALUMINUM, OR PLASTIC EDGING

01 Pea gravel or Bird's eye gravel 1-2" *deep* depending on product. Test the depth that feels right to walk on for your gravel choice and preferences. **02** Permeable landscape fabric, *optional*

03 Compacted road base, 3," optional. It requires much more work to install this sub-layer and is more expensive, but provides a harder, more resilient installation. This is how pathways are usually installed in high-traffic public spaces and is usually a job for a contractor.

04 Edging, staked in place. Steel, aluminum, or plastic all work. Steel and aluminum edging generally look better, are more stable, and last longer, but they are much more expensive and more difficult to install.

05 Native soil

06 Mulch

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DECOMPOSED GRANITE PATHWAY WITH COBBLE EDGING

01 Stabilized decomposed granite, compacted on site, 3"
02 Permeable landscape fabric

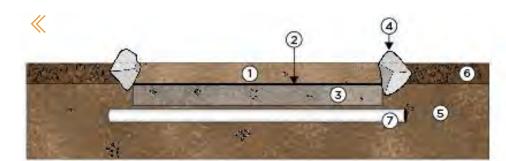
03 Compacted road base, 3," optional. It requires much more work to install this sub-layer and is more expensive, but provides a harder, more resilient installation. This is how decomposed granite is usually installed in high-traffic public spaces and is usually a job for a contractor.

04 River rock / granitecobble and / or small boulders05 Native soil

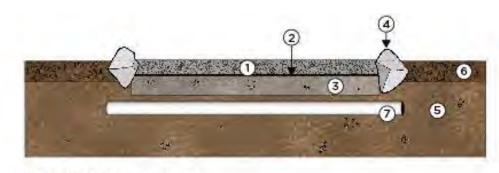
07 2" or larger PVC pipes installed wherever future irrigation pipes or wiring may need to cross under the pathway, optional. If there is any chance that pipes or wires may need to go under the path in the future, it is much easier to install these "sleeves" of larger diameter pipe when the pathway is being installed. The pipes or wires can then be slid though the sleeves when needed. Covering the ends with unglued PVC caps will keep dirt out of the sleeves.







DECOMPOSED GRANITE PATHWAY WITH COBBLE EDGING



PEA GRAVEL PATHWAY WITH COBBLE EDGING



DECOMPOSED GRANITE PATIO AREA AT TREE OF LIFE NURSERY [*located in* SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO]

PEA GRAVEL PATHWAY WITH COBBLE EDGING

01 Pea gravel or Bird's eye gravel 1-2" *deep* depending on product. Test the depth that feels right to walk on for your gravel choice and preferences.
02 Permeable landscape fabric, optional

03 Compacted road base, 3," optional. It requires much more work to install this sub-layer and is more expensive, but provides a harder, more resilient installation. This is how pathways are usually installed in high-traffic public spaces and is usually a job for a contractor.

04 River rock / granite cobble and / or small boulders

05 Native soil

06 Mulch

2" or larger PVC pipes 07 installed wherever future irrigation pipes or wiring may need to cross under the pathway, optional. If there is any chance that pipes or wires may need to go under the path in the future, it is much easier to install these "sleeves" of larger diameter pipe when the pathway is being installed. The pipes or wires can then be slid though the sleeves when needed. Covering the ends with unglued PVC caps will keep dirt out of the sleeves.

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Annual Wildflowers

DETAIL PAGES

What are annual wildflowers?

ANNUAL WILDFLOWERS ARE PLANTS THAT GROW FROM SEED DIRECTLY IN THE LANDSCAPE AND ONLY LIVE FOR ONE SEASON. IN OUR AREA, WE RECOMMEND USING CALIFORNIA NATIVE WILDFLOWERS WHICH ARE SEEDED INTO THE GARDEN INTO THE FALL FOR SPRING BLOOMS.

Why might I use annual wildflowers in my landscape?

WHETHER FOR BEAUTY, FOOD FOR POLLINATORS AND SONG-BIRDS, OR TO FILL EMPTY SPACE, THERE ARE MANY REASONS TO INTEGRATE SOME AREAS OF CALIFORNIA NATIVE ANNUAL WILDFLOWERS INTO AREAS OF YOUR GARDEN THAT ARE NOT ALREADY OCCUPIED BY OTHER PLANTS.





ANNUAL WILDFLOWERS

A few small patches of wildflowers can add a lot to your garden while requiring very little work. However, large meadows of wildflowers do tend to require a lot of weeding, so it is best to start small when you are first experimenting with growing annual wildflowers.

Many different **California native** wildflowers grow easily in our home gardens. Here are some of the easiest and *most beautiful* to start with:

Sunny areas: California poppy Desert bells **Tansy leaf phacelia** (for larger areas) **Clarkia** (many species)

Part shade areas: **Clarkia** (many species)

Goldfinches eating clarkia seeds after the blooms have faded and the plants have dried. Goldfinches love clarkia seeds!

WHERE TO BUY

Many retailers of California native wildflowers also sell mixes of different wildflower seeds and can help you select which mixes might be best to try in your situation.

Mixes can be a lot of fun, because even with the same seed mix, different spaces in your yard and the weather in different years can result in a different mix of flowers!

In **our area**, local retailers include :

- 01 Grow Native Nursery at the California Botanic Garden in Claremont
- 02 Theodore Payne Foundation in Sun Valley
- 03 Tree of Life Nursery in San Juan Capistrano
- 04 Peaceful Valley Farm Supply, online (if ordering from Peaceful Valley, be sure you are ordering **California native wildflower seeds** or **mixes** as they sell seeds from many other areas as well)

Wildflowers are great for empty spaces in the landscape!

MIX INTO YOUR LANDSCAPE OR EDGES OF PATHWAYS TO GET SEASONAL POPS OF COLOR LIKE THIS CLARKIA

PLANTING SEEDS

California native wildflowers must be seeded into your garden in fall though *early winter*. Immediately before the first rains is usually a perfect time to do it. To spread seed, lightly sprinkle your seeds into the desired area, being careful not to spread seeds too closely to small new plantings, because the wildflowers tend to grow very guickly and may shade small adjacent plants. Seed can be spread directly on open soil or on top of a mulched garden surface.

Wildflowers will sprout up best in open soil or in lightly mulched gardens (1-2").

You can either leave the seeds on the surface, or very lightly rake them into the soil or mulch, ideally settling them only 1/8"-1/4" or so into the soil.

After seeding you can either just let the rain water them, or, for more control and to help guarentee good growth, you can water occasionally, usually no more than once per week when the weather is dry, until they get **established**.

"Established" means it has grown significantly.

Clarkias growing in a very narrow strip of soil without enough room for most planting options.

"OFF-SEASON" WILDFLOWERS

Wildflowers will grow though the fall and winter, then bloom in the spring. If desired, blooms can be extended with an occasional irrigation in the spring.

After blooms fade, allow seeds to **ripen** to feed *seed-eating* birds. If you live in an urban wildland interface area and wildfire is a concern, remove spent wildflowers before they dry. If you live in an urban area without this concern, you may choose to allow plants to dry out and drop seed naturally. Some will be eaten by birds, and some will usually regrow the following season. After seeds drop you may either **chop up** plants to add to the mulch layer, **compost** them if you do not mind wildflower seeds in your compost, or place them in your green bin.

California poppies and clarkias lightly

seeded in between other, more

permanent plantings.

IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgardentour.org]



This is how the area pictured on the Wildflower Details cover page looks once the wildflowers have **dried in the summer**. This is why, for most gardens, annual wildflowers are most successfully used in small areas between longer-lived plants.

Planting Detail pages

Why might I use these techniques for planting my new landscape?

PLANTING WATERWISE AND CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS PROPERLY IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SET UP YOUR GARDEN PROJECT FOR SUCCESS. IT IS NOT COMPLICATED, BUT PEOPLE OFTEN TELL US THEY NEVER LEARNED THE TECHNIQUES WE COVER HERE AND IN OUR ONLINE PRESENTATIONS

WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND YOU CHECK OUT OUR "INSTALLATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF CALIFORNIA NATIVE AND WATERWISE GARDENS" ONLINE WORKSHOP RECORDING ON OUR YOU-TUBE CHANNEL AT CBWCD.ORG/YOUTUBE.

WE GUIDE YOU THOUGH A STEP-BY-STEP PLANTING PROCESS AND PROVIDE MANY MORE TIPS TO HELP MAKE YOUR **PROJECT A SUCCESS!**



(#)

(1)

2

(3)

4

AND

PLANTING DETAIL 5

PLANTING FOR 1 & 5 GALLON PLANTS

Watering ring to 2" above top of root ball



Top of roof ball 1-2" above surrounding soil level

Dig hole slightly less deep than and twice as wide as root ball. Usually backfill with native soil only. No fertilizer is needed! Add up to 1/4 compost only if soil is extremely rocky or very heavy clay.

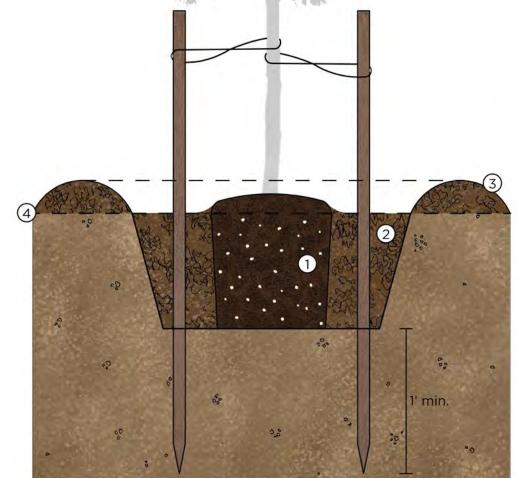
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PLANTING DETAIL TREE **OVERHEAD VIEW**

Stakes just inside

the watering ring

NOTE : PROPER STAKING AND TYING OF TREES THAT REQUIRE STAKING IS ESSENTIAL TO ESTAB-LISH A STRONG TREE THAT HAS THE BEST CHANCE OF RESTING DAMAGE DURING STRONG WINDS.



1-2" 1-2"

Top of root ball 1-2" above surrounding soil level

Key for image to the right, Planting detail for 5 and 15 gallon trees

LIGHTLY LOOSEN OR SHAVE ROOT BALL TO ENSURE ROOTS GROW OUTWARD AND DO NOT CIRCLE (SEE **ONLINE WORKSHOP MENTIONED ON PREVIOUS PAGE** FOR MORE DETAILS)

NATIVE SOIL BACKFILL

BUILD "WATERING RING" TO ALLOW FOR AT LEAST 1-2" TREE WHEN FULL

STURDY AND COMPACTED "WATERING RING" TO ALLOW FOR DEEP IRRIGATION THOUGH THE DEPTH OF THE ROOT BALL AFTER PLANTING. IF YOU WILL BE CONTINUING TO WATER WITH A HOSE, BE SURE TO MAINTAIN THIS WATERING RING SO IT CONTINUES TO BE ABLE TO HOLD ENOUGH WATER.

PLANTING DETAIL 5 AND 15 GALLON TREES

Set up stakes parallel

to the direction of

the wind

LEARN MORE WITH OUR ONLINE WORKSHOP :

Installation, and Establishment of California Native and Waterwise Gardens cbwcd.org/youtube



TREE STAKES

In most situations, tree stakes should be firmly inserted into the soil about two feet from the *main trunk* of the tree, parallel with the main direction of winds on the site, and should use "figure eight" shaped ties with proper tree tie material and tree stakes, available from a local landscape supply store. For local locations in the western San Bernardino County area, see our Local Landscape **Suppliers List :**

cbwcd.org/suppliers

A post pounder will be needed to properly install tree stakes.

TREE TIES

Ties should be applied as low on the trunk as possible to support the tree as needed, but also allowing the tree to move in the breeze to establish strength. If the tree came with a stake attached to it in the nursery pot, remove it during the process of properly setting these longer-term stakes and ties. **Remove** stakes and ties as soon as the tree has **developed** the strength to stand on its own, often after 1-2 years, depending on the size and structure of the tree at the time of planting. The stakes and ties are like a crutch, and they should be on *no longer* than they need to be so that the tree can continue to better develop structural strength on its own.

Watering ring min. 1"-2" above top of root ball

Dig hole slightly less deep than and twice as wide as root ball. Usually backfill with native soil only. No fertilizer is needed! Add up to 1/4 compost only if soil is extremely rocky or very heavy clay.

Enjoy the space you design!