Simple Mediterranean

Garden Design Document Package

For more information visit: inlandvalleygardenplanner.org
Online Resources
PLAN YOUR GARDEN USING:
inlandvalleygardenplanner.org

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**Plant List**
FOR SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN DESIGN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMON NAME</th>
<th>SCIENTIFIC NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CATMINT</td>
<td>Nepeta x faassenii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOUGLAS IRIS</td>
<td>Iris (bearded reblooming cultivars)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GREEN LAVENDER COTTON</td>
<td>Santolina rosmarinifolia</td>
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<tr>
<td>JERUSALEM SAGE</td>
<td>Phlomis fruticosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>LION’S TAIL</td>
<td>Leonotis leonurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARINA STRAWBERRY TREE</td>
<td>Arbutus 'Marina'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEXICAN DAISY</td>
<td>Erigeron karvinskianus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOONSHINE YARROW</td>
<td>Achillea 'Moonshine'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINK MUHY</td>
<td>Muhlenbergia capillaris 'Regal Mist'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROSEMARY 'BOULE'</td>
<td>Rosmarinus 'Boule'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SANTA BARBARA MEXICAN BUSH SAGE</td>
<td>Salvia leucantha 'Santa Barbara'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPANISH LAVENDER</td>
<td>Lavandula stoechas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWEET LAVENDER</td>
<td>Lavandula x heterophylla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUSCAN BLUE ROSEMARY</td>
<td>Rosmarinus 'Tuscan Blue'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Small Yard Design
Document Package

500 SQ FT.

Includes:
05 Small Front Yard Design
06 Small Front Yard Design (with plant labels)
07 Small Front Yard Design | Plan View
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Small Front Yard Design

NOTES:

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

2. French drain at edge of landscape at sidewalk, to capture
   water running off - SEE FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL PAGE
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Small Front Yard Design
WITH PLANT LABELS

NOTES:
2. French drain at edge of landscape at sidewalk, to capture water running off. See French Drain Detail Page.
**Perrenials/Shrubs ≤ 4’**
- **Achillea ‘Moonshine’**
  Moonshine Yarrow - 3’
- **Erigeron karvinskianus**
  Mexican Daisy - 4’
- **Iris cultivars** - 1’
  - Spanish Lavender - 3’
- **Lavandula stoechas**
  Catmint - 3’
- **Nepeta cultivars**
  Rosemary Boule - 3’
- **Santolina rosmarinifolia**
  Green Lavender Cotton - 3’

**Shrubs ≥ 5’**
- **Rosmarinus officinalis ‘Boule’**
  Rosemary Boule - 5’
- **Leonotis leonurus**
  Lion’s Tail - 5’
- **Phlomis fruticosa**
  Jerusalem Sage - 5’

**NOTES:**

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

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

**Groundcovers**
- Decomposed Granite
- Woodchip Mulch

**Landscape Elements**
- Stepping Stones
- Boulders
Medium Yard Design

Document Package

1,000 SQ FT.

Includes:

- Medium Front Yard Design
- Medium Front Yard Design (with plant labels)
- Medium Front Yard Design | Plan View
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Medium Front Yard Design

NOTES:
1. Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit
   SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE
2. Dry stream bed to capture water from roof
   SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Medium Front Yard Design
WITH PLANT LABELS

NOTES:
1. Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit. See Decomposed Granite Detail Page
2. Dry stream bed to capture water from roof. See Dry Stream Bed Detail Page
Large Yard Design

Document Package

1,800 SQ FT.

Includes:

13 Large Front Yard Design
14 Large Front Yard Design (with plant labels)
15 Large Front Yard Design | Plan View

IMAGE IS TAKEN BY ROBERT PERRY, FROM THE INLANDVALLEYGARDENPLANNER.ORG
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Large Front Yard Design

NOTES:

1. Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit
   SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE
2. Dry stream bed to capture water from roof
   SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE
3. Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Large Front Yard Design
WITH PLANT LABELS

NOTES:
1. Decomposed Granite pathway along curb for car door exit
   SEE DECOMPOSED GRANITE DETAIL PAGE
2. Dry stream bed to capture water from roof
   SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE
3. Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)
Extra-Large Yard Design
Document Package

2,500 SQ FT.

Includes:

17 Extra-Large Front Yard Design
18 Extra-Large Front Yard Design (with plant labels)
19 Patio Detail
20 Patio Detail (with plant labels)
21 Extra-Large Front Yard Design | Plan View
22 Extra-Large Front Yard Design (without front tree)
23 Extra-Large Front Yard Design (with plant labels + without front tree)
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Extra-Large Front Yard Design

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

1. **Decomposed Granite** pathway along curb for car door exit. See Decomposed Granite Detail Page.

2. **Dry stream bed** to capture water from roof. See Dry Stream Bed Detail Page.

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

**Landscape Elements**
- Bird bath
- Boulders
- Stepping Stones
- Bridge

**Trees & Large Shrubs**
- *Arbutus 'Marina'*
  - Marina Strawberry Tree - 25’

**Perrenials/Shrubs ≤ 4’**
- *Iris cultivars* - 1’
- *Achillea 'Moonshine'*
  - Moonshine Yarrow - 3’
- *Erigeron karvinskianus*
  - Mexican Daisy - 4’
- *Agave attenuata*
  - Foxtail Agave - 5’
- *Lavandula stoechas*
  - Spanish Lavender - 3’
- *Nepeta cultivars*
  - Catmint - 3’
- *Rosmarinus officinalis 'Boule'*
  - Rosemary Boule - 3’
- *Santolina rosmarinifolia*
  - Green Lavender Cotton - 3’

**Shrubs ≥ 5’**
- *Leonotis leonurus*
  - Lion’s Tail - 5’
- *Rosmarinus officinalis 'Boule'*
  - Rosemary Boule - 6’
- *Salvia leucantha 'Santa Barbara'*
  - Santa Barbara Sage - 5’

**Groundcovers**
- *Muhlenbergia capillaris*
  - Pink Muhly - 5’
- *Lavandula heterophylla*
  - Sweet Lavender - 5’
- *Phlomis fruticosa*
  - Jerusalem Sage - 5’

**Simple Mediterranean**

**Extra-Large Front Yard Design**

**Plan View**

**Scale:** 1" = APPX 1’ AT 11x17 PRINT

**Waterwise Community Center**

A program of the Chino Basin Water Conservation District
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Extra-Large Front Yard Design
WITHOUT TREE

NOTES

1. Rain chain - replaces roof drain downspout where applicable (optional)
2. Dry stream bed to capture water from roof
SEE DRY STREAM BED DETAIL PAGE
SIMPLE MEDITERRANEAN
Extra-Large Front Yard Design
WITH PLANT LABELS

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

Bloom Color Calendar 25
Dry Streambed Detail Pages 26
French Drain Detail Pages 31
Mulch Detail Pages 34
Pathways Detail Pages 37
Wildflowers Detail Pages 43
Planting Detail Pages 46
### 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**

Create formal elements with pops of loose color, and wonderful smells within this style!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANT NAME</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
<th>SUMMER</th>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>WINTER</th>
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<td>MARINA STRAWBERRY TREE</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Photography credit:** Robert Perry

**Boxes with icon:**

Means it is usually in bloom sometime this season.
**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.

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

**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**: cbwd.org/suppliers

**Planning**

Dry streambeds do not need to be as large as the ones featured in the illustrated drawings on the following pages, but the 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 streambeds, 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.

To confirm this, you can use a line level with Mason’s string. Once level, the measurement from the string to the soil at the building foundation (A) should be less than the measurement from the string to the soil at the overflow point (B), where water will leave the berm when it needs to overflow.

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

Be sure to avoid a situation where the overflow point is too tall and water pools at a building’s foundation and causes other problems.

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

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

Avoid this situation!
What plants thrive along or near a dry streambed?

Many California native and waterwise plants thrive in this area. This list is simply some of our favorites for that condition.

For More Visit:

inlandvalleygardenplanner.org/helpful-lists
Note: Dry streambeds and infiltration basins should usually only be used in landscape areas with 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.

**Diagram:**
- Existing slope
- Max. water pooling
- 3’ wide for every 1’ tall
- Compact berm every 6” while building. Soil should be moist, not wet.

**Legend:**
- DRY STREAMBED / INFILTRATION BASIN ON GENTLE SLOPE
- BERM WIDTH DETAIL AND NOTES
FRENCH DRAIN

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 through natural processes.

IMAGE TAKEN AT THE THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR [nativeplantgartentour.org] GARDEN DESIGN BY: SCRUB JAY STUDIOS
The bottom of the gravel filled trench in this photo is slightly sloped. When it rains, some water infiltrates in the trench, but in a large storm event, the slope allows water to move around the side of the house through the French drain. Once the water is safely around and away from the house, it is allowed to drain in a larger dry streambed in the backyard.

**FUNCTION + PURPOSE**

Capture Water

**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
**FRENCH DRAIN ALONG PAVEMENT**

- Cross slope
- Min. 12"
- Cobble to hold back soil and mulch

**1 1/2"-3 diameter" natural granite gravel/drain rock**

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**FRENCH DRAIN LEVEL BOTTOM**

- Level bottom to infiltrate water at bottom of french drain

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**FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL IN LANDSCAPE**

- Min. 12"
- Cobble to hold back soil and mulch

**1 1/2"-3" natural granite gravel/drain rock**

Loosen soil at bottom of trench if infiltration is desired and soil is clay or compact

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**FRENCH DRAIN SLOPED BOTTOM**

- 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.
What is mulch?
Mulch is a word for any material that is used to cover the soil surface in a garden.

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 planting and irrigation work is completed.
WOODCHIP MULCH

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.

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.

TYPES OF MULCH

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

GRAVEL MULCH

Gravel mulch is appropriate for California native and waterwise plants from dry, sunny areas, including most succulents and desert plants.

Gravel mulch applied to large areas and all one size (for example an entire yard of ¾” gravel) tends to look “industrial” and potentially unattractive. Mixing sizes of gravel and choosing to work with the types of gravel and rock that naturally occur in your area usually results in a much more attractive project.

GARDEN IN RANCHO CUCAMONGA MIXING SIZES OF GRAVEL AND BOULDERS, FLAGSTONE, AND AN AREA OF DECOMPOSED GRANITE MULCH IN THE BACKGROUND

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.
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.

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

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.

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.
Pathways

What are pathways?
PATHWAYS ARE WALKING SURFACES OF ANY TYPE THAT ALLOW ACCESS THROUGH 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.
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.

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.

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.

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.
of gravel and rock that naturally occur in your area usually results in a much more attractive project. Gravel mulch is appropriate for California native and waterwise plants from dry, sunny areas, including most succulents and desert plants. Gravel mulch applied to large areas and all one size (for example an entire yard of ¾” gravel) tends to look “industrial” and potentially unattractive. Mixing sizes of gravel and choosing to work with the types of gravel available for your area can help create a more natural look. 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.

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.
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 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 no 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:

CONSTRUCTION NOTES

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

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.
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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:

cbw.org/suppliers

### 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 / granite cobble and / or small boulders
05 Native soil

### 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

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

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 / granite cobble and / or small boulders
05 Native soil

### 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
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 through the sleeves when needed. Covering the ends with unglued PVC caps will keep dirt out of the sleeves.
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 songbirds, 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.
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)

**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)

**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 quickly 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 guarantee 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.

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**
Wildflowers will grow through 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**.

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.

California poppies and clarkias lightly seeded in between other, more permanent plantings.
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 YOUTUBE CHANNEL AT CBWCD.ORG/YOUTUBE.

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

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.
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Enjoy the space you design!