

SMART GARDENING RESOURCE LIST

ALAMEDA COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

October, 2010

GENERAL RESOURCES:

1. Alameda County Master Gardeners website: information and links for many of the Smart Gardening topics: <http://acmg.ucdavis.edu/>
2. Sunset Western Garden Book, edited by Kathleen Norris Brenzel, Sunset Publishing, 2007. Covers most plants found in nurseries and garden centers in California with information on different plant varieties, climate zones, water and daylight needs. This book also has good illustrations and design ideas.
3. Bay-Friendly Gardening. Download a PDF from StopWaste.org. The manual covers all seven practices covered in this talk. <http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp?page=428>
4. Bay-Friendly Landscape Guidelines. This is a similar StopWaste.org book to the one above but designed more for professionals. There is, however, plenty of good information on all seven practices that would benefit the home gardener. Can be downloaded as a PDF at <http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp?page=428>
5. "California Gardening: Advice to Grow By" This website produced by the statewide Master Gardening program covers gardening practices in a question and answer format. It is full of great ideas and information. <http://cagardenweb.ucdavis.edu>

PRACTICE 1 LANDSCAPING FOR A LOCAL CLIMATE:

1. Plants and Landscapes for Summer Dry Climates of the San Francisco Bay Region by East Bay Utility District, 2004. Great illustrations and ideas for home gardens. Free shipping and \$5 discount to EBMUD customers if ordered from website: <https://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/district-store/>.
2. "Outstanding Plants for Alameda County" brochure available at Alameda County Master Gardener website: <http://acmg.ucdavis.edu/>
3. UC Davis Arboretum All-Stars: descriptions of reliable, low-water plants tested and found suitable for home gardens: http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/arboretum_all_stars.aspx
4. Tree People--information on selecting, planting, maintaining trees: www.treepeople.org

PRACTICE 2 REDUCE WASTE AND RECYCLE:

1. Pruning: by Christopher Brickell, published by the Royal Horticulture Society Encyclopedia of Practical Gardening. Sunset also publishes a good book on pruning.
2. Merritt Junior College in Oakland offers one-day Saturday pruning classes. Visit the website: <http://merrittlandhort.com>.
3. Compost and recycling information from <http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp>
4. A source for keeping objects out of the landfill can be found at www.freecycle.org/group/

PRACTICE 3 NURTURE THE SOIL:

1. Composting is Good for Your Garden and the Environment. Free publication that can be downloaded at: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/Items/8367.aspx>

2. Locate compost and mulch facilities at www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/supplierlist/
3. Article: "Overview of Cover Crops and Green Manures": <http://www.attra.ncat.org/attra-pub/covercrop.html>
4. Cover crop information: <http://groworganic.com/seeds/cover-crop.html>

PRACTICE 4 CONSERVING WATER:

1. Lawn Watering Guide for California: free publication that can be downloaded at: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/TurfLawns/8044.aspx>
2. Water Conservation Tips for the Home Lawn and Garden: free publication with information on healthy lawns and information on various types of lawns: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/LawnsLandscape/8036.aspx>
3. A guide and tutorial from CSU Fresno for scheduling a residential irrigation system can be found at www.wateright.org
4. No-Mow Fine Fescue Grasses for California Urban Landscapes: free publication that can be downloaded at: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/Items/8391.aspx>
5. "Landscaping with California Native Sod": information about native sod for landscaping, bio-swales, erosion control, etc. Go to: <http://deltabluegrass.com/CaliforniaNativeSod.php>

PRACTICE 5 CONSERVING ENERGY:

1. Chapter 3 of Bay-Friendly Landscaping Guidelines, which is in the General Resources section above, gives a good explanation of strategies to follow for conserving energy: <http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp?page=428>

PRACTICE 6 RESPONSIBLE PEST MANAGEMENT:

1. UC Davis Integrated Pest Management website: Pest Notes, photo galleries of weeds and natural enemy species common in California gardens, and good publications such as Natural Enemies Handbook: an Illustrated Guide to Biological Control, Pests of the Garden and Small Farm, and Pests of Landscape Trees and Shrubs. <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/>
2. Disposing of pesticides: <http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp?page=293>

PRACTICE 7 SUPPORTING BENEFICIAL WILDLIFE:

1. The Habitat Garden Book: Wildlife Landscaping for the San Francisco Bay Region by Nancy Bauer, published in 2008.
2. National Wildlife Federation: <http://www.nwf.org>
3. UC Berkeley Urban Bee Garden website: excellent resource on supporting native bees and other pollinators: <http://nature.berkeley.edu/urbanbeegardens/index.html>

THIS LIST IS AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY TO MAKE IT SIMPLIER TO ACCESS ALL THE WEB RESOURCES. FOR THE ELECTRONIC VERSION GO TO http://acmg.ucdavis.edu/News_Updates/