



Berkeley Fire Department

RECOMMENDED PLANT LIST

**FIRE
SAFE
BERKELEY**

Keeping Berkeley Fire-Safe doesn't mean giving up on your garden. By carefully planning and maintaining your outdoor spaces, you can still enjoy gardening and make the most of your yard.

Selecting plants native to your area helps preserve ecological diversity, supports local pollinators and wildlife, and offers benefits such as improved drought tolerance, lowers maintenance, and enhanced fire safety. Opting for native plants not only makes your landscape more enjoyable for you but also creates a more harmonious environment for the surrounding ecosystems.

LOOK FOR

- Regionally native plants
- Leaves that are thick, waxy, and/or have high water content
- Plants that have leaves, not needles
- Plants with open-growth structures
- Low growing plants
- Plants with little to no dead wood
- Trees that tend to be clean, not bushy, and have little deadwood
- Taller shrubs that are clean, not bushy or twiggy

RECOMMENDED NATIVE PLANT LIST

Ground Cover



Beach Strawberry - *Fragaria chiloensis*
Common Lippia - *Phyla nodiflora*
Common Thrift - *Armeria maritima*
Creeping Red Fescue - *Festuca rubra*
Kinnikinnick - *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*
Seaside Daisy - *Erigeron glaucus*
Stonecrop - *Sedum spathulifolium*
Wild Ginger - *Asarum caudatum*
Woodland Strawberry - *Fragaria vesca*

Trees



Big Leaf Maple - *Acer macrophyllum*
Box Elder Maple - *Acer negundo*
Buckeye - *Aesculus californica*
California Ash - *Fraxinus dipetala*
Coast Live Oak - *Quercus agrifolia*
Holly Leaf Cherry - *Prunus ilicifolia*
Mountain Mahogany - *Cercocarpus betuloides*
Oregon Ash - *Fraxinus latifolia*
Western Redbud - *Cercis occidentalis*

Shrubs



Ashleaf Buckwheat - *Eriogonum crocatum*
Bush Anemone - *Carpenteria californica*
California Lilac - *Ceanothus*
Catalina Currant - *Ribes viburnifolium*
Coffeeberry - *Frangula californica*
Coastal Bush Lupine - *Lupinus arboreus*
Creeping Mahonia - *Berberis aquifolium*
Giant Coreopsis - *Leptosyne gigantea*
Hollyleaf RedBerry - *Rhamnus ilicifolia*
Island Snapdragon - *Gambelia speciosa*
Kinnikinnick - *Manzanita or Arctostaphylos*
Lemonade Berry - *Rhus integrifolia*
Monkey Flower - *Diplacus aurantiacus*
Pacific Rhododendron - *Rhododendron macrophyllum*
Sandhill Sage - *Salvia sonomensis*
Santa Cruz Island Buckwheat - *Eriogonum arborescens*
Sea Cliff Buckwheat - *Eriogonum parvifolium*
Silver Lupine - *Lupinus albifrons*
Spiny Redberry - *Rhamnus crocea*
Tree Mallow - *Lavatera assurgentiflora*
Western Azalea - *Rhododendron occidentale*

Vines



Chaparral Clematis - *Clematis lasiantha*
Dutchman's Pipevine - *Aristolochia californica*
Pink Honeysuckle - *Lonicera hispidula*

Resources

berkeleyfiresafe.org
calscape.org

A special thank you to Kathy Kramer: Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour

Perennials



Blue-Eyed Grass - *Sisyrinchium bellum*
Bluff or Cliff Lettuce - *Dudleya farinosa*
Broadleaf Lupine - *Lupinus latifolius*
Buckwheats: coast, nude - *Eriogonum*
Buttercup - *Ranunculus californicus*
California Aster- *Symphotrichum chilense*
California Fuchsia - Everetts - *Zauschneria californica*
California Fuchsia- Calistoga- *Zauschneria canum*
Checkerbloom - *Sidalcea malviflora*
California Poppy - *Eschscholzia*
Coral bells - *Heuchera micrantha*
Coyote Mint - *Monardella villosa*
Creeping Red Fescue - *Festuca rubra*
Douglas Iris - *Iris douglasiana*
Golden Yarrow - *Eriophyllum confertiflorum*
Great Valley Gum Plant - *Grindelia camporum*
Gum Plant - *Grindelia stricta*
Hedge Nettle - *Stachys ajugoides*
Island Alum Root - *Heuchera maxima*
Ithuriel's Spear - *Triteleia laxa*
Lizardtail - *Eriophyllum staechadifolium*
Penstemon Margarita BOP- *Penstemon heterophyllus*
Redflower Buckwheat - *Eriogonum grande*
Red Fescue - *Festuca rubra*
Sandhill Sage - *Salvia sonomensis*
Silver Lupine - *Lupinus albifrons*
Sulphur Buckwheat- *Eriogonum umbellatum*
Sword Fern - *Polystichum munitum*
Wallflower - *Erysimum capitatum*
Western Bleeding Heart - *Dicentra formosa*
Western Columbine - *Aquilegia formosa*
Yarrow - *Achillea millefolium*
Yellow-eyed Grass - *Sisyrinchium californicum*
Yerba Buena - *Clinopodium douglasii*

While the plants listed are considered more fire-resistant than others, no plant is completely fireproof. Fire safety depends not only on plant selection but also on proper maintenance and upkeep. All plants, regardless of type, can become flammable if not properly watered, pruned, and maintained. We strongly recommend regular care, including removing dead or dry vegetation and spacing plants appropriately, to reduce fire risk. This list is intended as a guide and should be used in conjunction with local fire safety recommendations and regulations.