

**Non-native, Non-invasive and Fire Resistant
Landscaping Plants for Around Homes**
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Santa Cruz County, California

TREES

Strawberry Tree	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>
Carob Tree	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>
Olive Tree	<i>Olea europaea</i>
Catalina Cherry	<i>Prunus lyonii</i>
African Sumac	<i>Rhus lancea</i>
Western Redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>

SHRUBS

Escallonia	<i>Escallonia spp.</i>
Mock Orange	<i>Pittosporum spp.</i>
Indian Hawthorn	<i>Raphiolepis spp.</i>
Bottle Brush	<i>Callistemon spp.</i>
Jojoba	<i>Simmondsia chinensis</i>
Rock Rose	<i>Cistus villosus / spp.</i>
Myoporum	<i>Myoporum laetum / parvifolium (prostrate)</i>
Australian Saltbush	<i>Atriplex semibacata</i>
Lavendar Cotton	<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>
Snow in Summer	<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>
Australian Fuchsia	<i>Correa pulchella / spp</i>

GROUNDCOVERS, VINES & PERRENIALS

Wild Strawberry	<i>Fragaria chiloensis</i>
Rosea Iceplant	<i>Drosanthemum floribundum</i>
Wooly Yarrow	<i>Achillea tomentosa</i>
Candytuft	<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>
Dwarf Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>
Star Jasmine	<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>
Cape Honeysuckle	<i>Tecomaria capensis</i>
Lily of the Nile	<i>Agapanthus spp</i>
Butterfly Iris	<i>Dietes spp.</i>
Daylily	<i>Hemerocallis, spp</i>
Red Hot Poker	<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i>
Society Garlic	<i>Tulbaghia violacea</i>
Lamb's Ear	<i>Stachys byzantine</i>
Chives	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>
Creeping Thyme	<i>Thymus praecox</i>
Sonoma Sage	<i>Salvia Sonomensis</i>

Note: The plants listed above are NOT for use in wild lands, riparian/wetlands or other natural areas. Consider these plants for use only around homes and where regular maintenance can be performed. All the above plants have soil erosion and protection qualities. Many of the above plants are also drought tolerant but may require some supplemental irrigation. Several of the plants listed above also have deer resistant qualities including: Lavender; Rosemary (Prostrate form); Rosea ice plant; Lily of Nile; and Bottle bush.

In general, fire resistant plants:

1. Have a low sap or resin content;
2. Grow without accumulating dead branches, needles or leaves; and
3. Are easily maintained and pruned;
4. Grow close to the ground

HIGH fire hazard plants to stay clear of include:

Pine & cypress trees; junipers; eucalyptus; chamise; coyote brush; Acacia; and French & Scotch broom.

INVASIVE fire resistant plants to stay clear of include:

Ivy (all types), periwinkle/vinca, and other types of non-native vines and shrubs or groundcovers that aggressively spread by seed or root systems.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Regarding other plant choices and fire resistant landscaping ideas

Contact:

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) at 831-475-1967 or the

Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Santa Cruz County at 831-464-2950 or visit their web site at: www.rcdsantacruz.org