

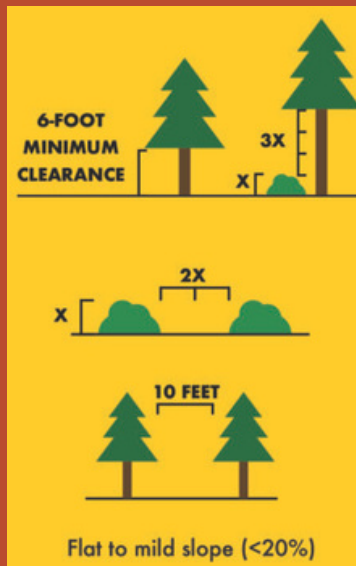
SELECTING PLANTS

- Consider local native plants to support Monterey County's biodiversity and wildlife
- High moisture, low combustibility, low fire energy release plants
- Avoid invasive species that can grow over your native plants
- Find local native plants that meet your needs and local habitat
- Growing conditions and maintenance can have a greater impact on flammability than plant species
- Plants that have waxes, oils, or resins will likely be more flammable



PLANT SPACING

Create horizontal and vertical spacing to limit the spread of fire, for example, by limbing up trees. Keep branches trimmed away from your home. Use hardscape elements like brick, stones, or gravel to separate ground cover and reduce fire risk.



TIPS FOR TALKING TO YOUR LANDSCAPER

Emphasize safety & beauty: request a fire-adapted landscape that meets defensible space requirements and California's new Zone 0 standards

1. Plan it

- request non-combustible landscaping immediately next to your home: gravel, stone, and pavers
- prohibit the use of wood mulch, bark or dense flammable plants within the 5 feet of the home
- ensure no plants, furniture, or firewood are against walls, windows or decks

2. Maintain it

- clearing of debris: dead vegetation, dry grasses, and fallen leaves
- trees pruned 6 feet above the ground and trimmed 10 feet away from roofs and chimneys



FIRESCAPING RESOURCES



GET IN TOUCH

firesafemonterey.org
info@firesafemonterey.org

FIRE SAFE LANDSCAPING

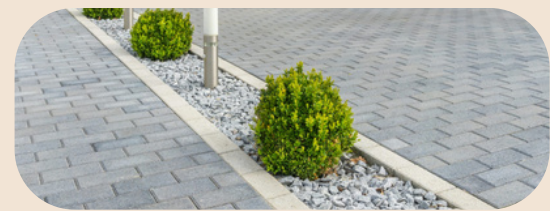
Wildfire poses a risk to homes and should be considered when determining the design of your yard. Fire safe landscaping considers defensible space around the home, fire-resistant plants, hardscaping features, and plant placement while being creative and beautiful.



ELEMENTS TO FIRESCAPING

DEFENSIBLE SPACE/ZONE 0

Creating a 5-ft non-combustible buffer to strategically protect your home. Use non-combustible materials like gravel, stones, pavement, and brick.



REMOVING DEAD OR DRY VEGETATION

Maintain the 5-ft around your home by removing dead or dry vegetation to prevent fuel accumulation. Keep your gutters and roofs clear of debris.



FIRE SMART PLANTS

Choosing native, drought tolerant , low combustibility plants can help safety, sustainability, and conserving water



FIRE-RESISTANT PLANTS

Keep in mind that all plants will burn under the right conditions. A plant’s fire performance during a fire can be seriously compromised if not maintained. See Resources to find more suggested plants.

GROUNDCOVERS

Common Name	Scientific Name
Silver Carpet	<i>Dymondia margaretae</i>
Bearberry	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>
Common Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>

SHRUBS

Common Name	Scientific Name
California Lilac	<i>Ceanothus 'Yankee Point'</i>
Coffeeberry	<i>Rhamnus californica</i>
Cleveland Sage	<i>Salvia clevelandii</i>

TREES

Common Name	Scientific Name
Strawberry Tree	<i>Arbutus 'Marina'</i>
Coast Live Oak	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>
Western Redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>

UNFAVORABLE FIRE PLANTS

Plants with unfavorable fire performance share common characteristics:

- High surface area to volume ratio
- Low moisture content
- High percentage of dead matter or debris



Think about the debris the plant, tree, or shrubs might accumulate. A plant that sheds is more likely to require more upkeep and create more dead or dry vegetation and pose a fire risk. Plants that have waxes, oils, or resins will likely be more flammable

Common Name	Scientific Name
Juniper	<i>Juniper spp.</i>
Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus spp.</i>
Pampas Grass	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>
Scotch Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
French Broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>
Fountain Grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>