

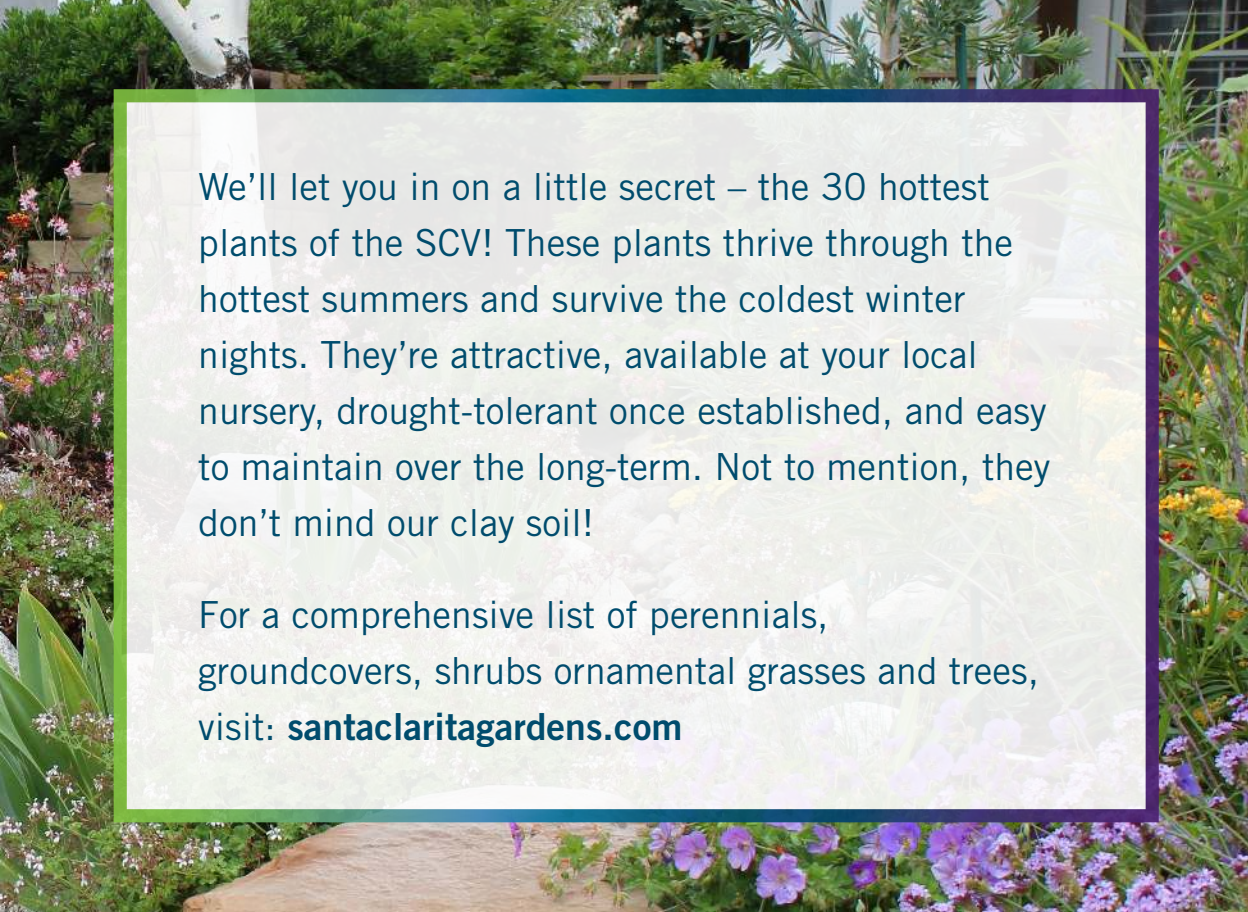


SCV's **HOTTEST** Plant Guide

**30 Plants
that Thrive & Survive
in the Santa Clarita Valley**

SCV Water is here to help! We'll give you the tools and resources to infuse your landscape with more color.





We'll let you in on a little secret – the 30 hottest plants of the SCV! These plants thrive through the hottest summers and survive the coldest winter nights. They're attractive, available at your local nursery, drought-tolerant once established, and easy to maintain over the long-term. Not to mention, they don't mind our clay soil!

For a comprehensive list of perennials, groundcovers, shrubs ornamental grasses and trees, visit: **santaclaritagardens.com**

STEP 1

DESIGNING NEW LANDSCAPE

Before you begin the difficult task of removing your lawn, you should start by developing a plan of what you'd like your updated landscape to look like. A plan will allow you to envision the new landscape as well as tackle any potential challenges in your yard. Follow these steps to get started:

1. Draw a bird's eye plan of your property. Google maps may be helpful.
2. Make a list of things you want included in your new landscape.
3. Perform a Site Analysis of your property:
 - Identify all site elements by size, material and condition, including paved areas, plants, etc.
 - Walk your property with your plan and roughly locate all elements you wish to keep.
4. Draw your new landscape:
 - Use your bird's eye plan as your starting point.
 - Add your new landscape ideas, including new hardscapes and plant material.
 - Arrange plants by height (shortest in front/tallest in back).
 - Place plants with similar watering requirements near one another.
5. Make sure to correctly space your plant material using the mature plant size.

Need help getting started? We offer Landscape Design Assistance (up to \$150 value) to participants in SCV Water's Lawn Replacement Program who need help with design and plant selection.

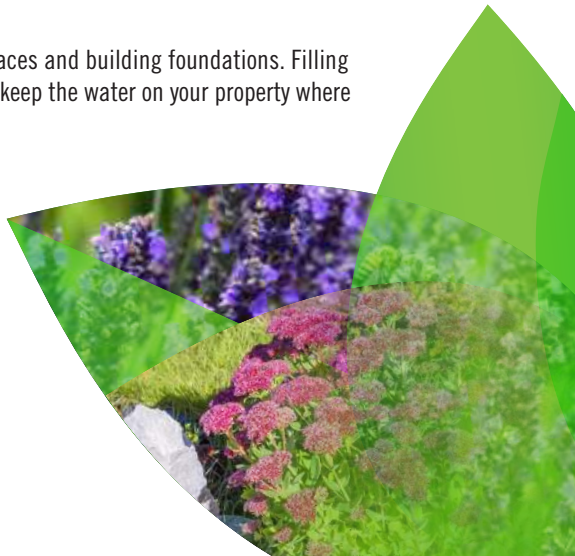
STEP 2

REMOVING GRASS AND AMENDING SOIL

There are a few different ways to kill and/or remove existing lawn. Composting your grass in-place takes the longest, while using a sod cutter will allow you to plant immediately. You can also use an herbicide to kill the grass. Each of the lawn removal procedures has its advantages and disadvantages, so choosing one over another is strictly a personal preference.

Once you have removed the grass, follow these few simple procedures to help water get to the plant roots and also remain on your property with little run-off.

1. Dig a trench 8" deep and 18" wide around all hard surfaces and building foundations. Filling these spaces with a well-draining soil mixture will help keep the water on your property where your plants can utilize it.
2. Incorporate 2" to 4" of compost into the existing soil by use of a rototiller and distribute the soil evenly over your entire site, filling in the trenches. This will help eliminate soil compaction by loosening the soil to improve water holding capacity as well as creating tiny pockets of air to help your plants receive the oxygen they need for healthy plant roots.



STEP 3

PLANTING PRACTICES

Before planting, there are a few basic preparation steps that can improve growing conditions:

1. Dig the planting hole at least 2 times wider than the new plant's root ball, and slightly shallower than the root ball.
2. Install the new plant about one inch above the surrounding soil level.
3. Once the plant has been installed, backfill the hole with a mixture of 75% soil and 25% organic soil amendment.
4. Make sure the backfill soil is not piled around the trunk of the plant.
5. Apply a 3" layer of mulch to all areas where there is bare ground, but leave a small "well" around the base of each plant.

Once you've done your prep work, planted your plants and most importantly covered the area with a thick layer of mulch, you will need to determine how much you should water to establish your new plants. Even if you've chosen drought-tolerant plants, they will still need water until established.



Several key components make up a healthy and efficient irrigation system – high-efficiency nozzles, drip irrigation systems, a smart controller and a pressure regulator. The key is to get all of the components to work together.

Start by mapping out your entire irrigation system into hydrozones, making sure high-efficiency nozzles and drip irrigation components are separate and not mixed together. High-efficiency nozzles typically run for a few minutes, while drip irrigation typically runs for an hour or more.

Irrigation Components:

- For areas of lawn or groundcover, upgrade your sprinklers to high-efficiency nozzles to limit runoff, provide more even coverage and reduce evaporation.
- Use drip irrigation for individual plants with open space between them, such as shrubs and trees. Drip systems operate best at lower water pressure and should have its own pressure regulator, as well as a filter to prevent clogging.

Irrigation System Management (Managing two different systems together):

- A smart irrigation controller allows you to manage your entire irrigation system (spray and drip) in one place! The controller adjusts watering times based on your plants' needs, landscape conditions, and real-time weather. Current models are smartphone compatible and allow you to manage your watering schedule from anywhere.
- To keep your whole irrigation system working properly, install a pressure regulator on the irrigation mainline to help each component put out the proper amount of water.

Like all types of irrigation, you do need to maintain your high efficient nozzles and drip irrigation system and make sure to remove clogs and check for breaks on a regular basis.

SHRUBS



1 **Dwarf Bottlebrush**
Callistemon citrinus 'Little John'



2 **English Lavender**
Lavandula angustifolia 'Hidcote'



3 **Heart-Leaved Keckiella**
Keckiella cordifolia



4 **Japanese Garden Juniper**
Juniperus procumbens 'Nana'



5 **Pink Fairy Duster**
Calliandra eriophylla



6 **Purple Trailing Lantana**
Lantana montevidensis 'Purple Trailing'



7 **Rock Cotoneaster**
Cotoneaster horizontalis



8 **Rockrose**
Cistus x purpureus



9 **Yeddo Hawthorn**
Raphiolepis umbellata 'Minor'

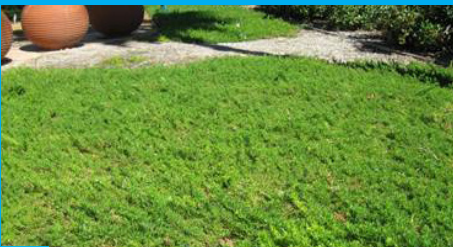
GROUNDCOVER



10 **Elijah Blue Fescue**
Festuca ovina glauca



11 **Dymondia**
Dymondia margaretae



12 **Creeping Myoporum**
Myoporum parvifolium

TREES



13 **Chinese Pistache**
Pistacia chinensis



14 **Holly Oak**
Quercus ilex



15 **Japanese Blueberry Tree**
Elaeocarpus decipiens



16 **Natchez Crape Myrtle**
Lagerstroemia indica x fauriei 'Natchez'



17 **Palo Verde**
Parkinsonia x 'Desert Museum'



18 **Strawberry Tree**
Arbutus unedo

PERENNIALS



19 **Autumn Sage**
Salvia greggii



20 **Blanket Flower**
Gaillardia x grandiflora



21 **Common Yarrow**
Achillea millefolium



22 **Firecracker Penstemon**
Penstemon eatonii



23 **Johnson's Blue Geranium**
Geranium 'Johnson's Blue'



24 **Lamb's Ears**
Stachys byzantina



25 **Palace Purple Coral Bells**
Heuchera micrantha 'Palace Purple'



26 **Pardon Me Daylily**
Hemerocallis species



27 **Prostrate Rosemary**
Rosmarinus officinalis



28 **Russian Sage**
Perovskia atriplicifolia



29 **Stonecrop**
Sedum spectabile



30 **Whorled Tickseed**
Coreopsis verticillata 'Zagreb'



RESIDENTIAL LAWN REPLACEMENT PROGRAM FOR HOMEOWNERS

Rebate up to \$5,000*

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Rebate:

\$2.00 per square foot for living grass removed

Project size:

Projects must be between 250 and 2,500 square feet of living grass to be removed

Location:

Only front yards and side yards (in front of a gate) qualify; no backyards

DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

Plant Coverage:

- Must have 50% plants at maturity (within 2 years)
- Up to 50% of the front yard may be permeable material (e.g., mulch, decomposed granite, rock)

Plant Type:

- You may be able to use existing plants for plant coverage
- Artificial turf cannot be used

Irrigation:

New landscape should use drip or point irrigation or can be hand-watered, no rotating or spray nozzles.

Drip conversion rebates available.

For details, visit
conserve.yourSCVwater.com

** Application and pre- and post-inspection required.*

Restrictions apply. Customers have 120 days to complete their project once the application is approved.

Extensions are available. Email conservation@scvwa.org or call (661) 513-1244

NEED PLANT HELP? OR DESIGN IDEAS?

SCV Water is here to help! We have a variety of landscape resources to help you reimagine your landscape.

FREE Gardening Classes bit.ly/SCVwaterGardeningClasses

We typically offer two classes per month – one Saturday morning and one Thursday evening. Learn directly from certified and experienced experts and get your questions answered.

Santa Clarita Gardens Website SantaClaritaGardens.com

Looking for plants for your landscape? Explore beautiful, sustainable, climate-appropriate, and drought tolerant plants, trees and grass that thrive in the Santa Clarita Valley.

Landscape Design Assistance (up to \$150 value) is a service offered to participants in SCV Water's Lawn Replacement Program who need help with design and plant selection. For more information about our Lawn Replacement Program, visit conserve.yourSCVwater.com

DIY Lawn Replacement Handbook

This handbook gives you step-by-step instructions to effectively remove and replace your lawn with colorful and water-efficient alternatives.

SCV Water Conservation / Demonstration Garden and Learning Center

Visit SCV Water's very own demonstration garden, thriving with varieties of drought-tolerant plants, flowers, and grasses. Take notes, take photos and get inspired!

The Garden is located at: 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

(Hours may change without notice.)

yourSCVwater.com

