

RESCAPE CALIFORNIA: ACT LOCAL

ReScape California is a non-profit organization that educates about and advocates for a whole-systems approach to landscaping that works in harmony with the natural world and addresses the changing environment. ReScape's landscaping practices are based on 8 regenerative principles which foster soil health, sequester carbon, conserve water and protect habitat and valuable resources while reducing waste and preventing pollution in our communities and watersheds.



Our **Act Local** principle recognizes that built landscapes are part of the larger Sacramento River Watershed and can contribute to its health when designed and maintained using sustainable practices. Landscapes designed with an awareness of local conditions, including climate, surrounding plant communities and site specific features, will thrive as well-functioning ecosystems that provide wildlife habitat, conserve resources and require fewer inputs than conventional landscapes.

SIMPLE STEPS TO ACT LOCAL

1. **Evaluate climate, exposure and topography** to reveal both the opportunities and limits of the site.
2. **Assess the soil and test drainage.** This will help you determine the soil quality, types of plants it can best support and any need for amendments.
3. **Identify existing flora and fauna** to determine native vegetation, wildlife habitat and sensitive areas.
4. **Consider the wildfire risk** and integrate firescaping techniques such as creating a defensible space around your home and reducing potential fuel load from plants.
5. **Use local plant communities as models.** A plant community is a group of plants that recurs with relative consistency. Common plant communities in the Sacramento Region include Riparian Woodland, Valley Grassland, Foothill Woodland, Chaparral and Freshwater Marsh.

ACTING LOCALLY PROTECTS OUR WATERSHED

- Identifying problems such as soil compaction encourages runoff that in turn contaminates waterways.
- Selecting appropriate plants that will thrive without the use of chemical inputs reduces pollution headed to our watershed.
- Protecting your home and landscape against fire that can leave the soil bare and vulnerable to increased runoff, erosion and sedimentation protects local creeks and rivers.

Need Help?

Hire a landscape professional trained in ReScape's 8 Principles. Visit our ReScape Qualified Landscape Professional Directory at www.rescapeca.org

Join ReScape!

Be a part of California's regenerative landscape community by becoming a ReScape member. More details at www.rescapeca.org

Resources:

- Calscape Native Plant Nursery Directory. www.calscape.org
- California Association of Nurseries & Garden Centers Directory. www.cangc.org
- California Invasive Plant Council. www.cal-ipc.org
- Our Water Our World Eco-Friendly Product Locator. www.ourwaterourworld.org
- Regional Water Authority. www.bewaterSMART.info

