

# RESCAPE CALIFORNIA: SAVE WATER

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.



The principle of **Save Water** is necessary in California's Mediterranean climate with extended periods of drought. ReScape's approach to water conservation includes creating drought resistant soils, selecting plants naturally adapted to our climate, using rainwater and greywater, and installing efficient irrigation systems. Outdoor water use accounts for 30-60% of residential water consumption in California—you can reduce this amount and still have a beautiful, thriving garden.

## SIMPLE STEPS TO SAVE WATER

- 1. Create drought resistant soils with compost and mulch.** A robust, living soil, with sufficient organic content, is the foundation of a water conserving landscape.
- 2. Grow California natives or Mediterranean** plants that are adapted to our summer-dry climate. Many of these plant species tolerate hot, dry summers with little or no water once established.
- 3. Replace or reduce your lawn** by sheet mulching and planting a drought tolerant garden. Lawn replacement rebates may be available from your local water district.
- 4. Implement hydrozoning.** Grouping plants by their water needs, into hydrozones, prevents over-watering and allows you to place thirstier plants in areas that naturally collect water.
- 5. Install high-efficiency irrigation and rainwater collection systems.** Drip irrigation technologies apply water accurately, to the root zones, at the rate that it can infiltrate.

## SAVING WATER PROTECTS OUR WATERSHED

- Using compost and mulch increases a landscape's permeability and water-holding capacity. This means water can penetrate and soak into previously compacted soils.
- Selecting plants that require less water and using high efficiency irrigation systems limits runoff.
- Watering properly and efficiently promotes healthy plant growth and eliminates the need for chemical inputs that can end up in our waterways.

### Need Help?

Hire a landscape professional trained in ReScape's 8 Principles. Visit our ReScape Qualified Landscape Professional Directory at [www.rescapeca.org](http://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](http://www.rescapeca.org)

### Resources:

Calscape Native Plant Nursery Directory. [www.calscape.org](http://www.calscape.org)  
Our Water Our World Eco-Friendly Product Locator. [www.ourwaterourworld.org](http://www.ourwaterourworld.org)  
Regional Water Authority. [www.bewaterSMART.info](http://www.bewaterSMART.info)  
Save Our Water. [www.saveourwater.com](http://www.saveourwater.com)  
UC Davis Arboretum All-Star Plant Database. [arboretum.ucdavis.edu/plant-database](http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/plant-database)

