BAWSCA LANDSCAPE CLASS:
Design it Yourself – Native Garden

Wednesday, May 16, 2018, 6:00 – 8:30pm
Instructor: Deva Luna
DISCLAIMER

Please note that this presentation is general in nature and is not intended to be an exhaustive review of the subject matter. The information contained in this presentation does not necessarily reflect the policies of BAWSCA or its member agencies.

The presentation instructor, information, products and materials are provided as a courtesy to participants and are not endorsed by BAWSCA or its member agencies.
ABOUT BAWSCA

- BAWSCA represents 26 agencies that include cities, water districts, a water company, and a university that purchase water wholesale from the San Francisco Regional Water System.

- The BAWSCA member agencies provide water to 1.7 million people, and over 30,000 businesses and community organizations in Alameda, Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.

- BAWSCA's Goal: High Quality Supply of Water at a Fair Price
CLASS OBJECTIVES

1. Outdoor water use represent the single largest untapped opportunity for water conservation in the BAWSCA service area.

2. Outdoor water use reduction through the use of water-efficient plants and innovative techniques can help conserve water and ensure that future water supply needs of our communities are met.
Lawn Be Gone!

Participating Agencies

- Brisbane/GVMID
- City of San Bruno
- City of Menlo Park
- City of Redwood City
- Estero Municipal Improvement District (Foster City)
- Town of Hillsborough
- Mid-Peninsula Water District
- North Coast County Water District (NCCWD)

For more information visit www.BayAreaConservation.org
Additional Residential Water Conservation Programs

- Rain Barrel Rebate Program
- High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate Program
- FreeSprinklerNozzles.com

For more information visit www.BayAreaConservation.org
Santa Clara Valley Water District - Rebate Programs

Water Wise Survey
- Water Wise Outdoor Survey
- Do-it-Yourself Water Wise Indoor Survey

Landscape Rebate Program
- Landscape Conversion Rebate
- In-Line Drip Irrigation Conversion
- Irrigation Equipment Upgrade

For more information visit: www.valleywater.org/saving-water/residential
DESIGN IT YOURSELF

NATIVE GARDEN

Deva Luna    EarthCare Landscaping    408-871-2792
Steps for Landscape Design

1. Goals
2. Budget
3. Site Analysis
4. Base Map
5. Conceptual Diagram
6. Select Plants
Common mistakes

- The collector’s garden (one of everything!)
- Overplanting
- Not enough contrast between plants
- Designing by flower color (needs “bones”)
- Not creating conditions for the plants to thrive
- Mixing different hydrozones
- Not maintaining the garden
The rule of odd numbers
Massing
Layering
Repetition
Contrast
Function

Design Concepts

Design & photo by Pete Veilleux
Leaf texture contrast is important

Drawn by Fran Adams
Texture, massing, repetition
Massing, repetition, layering
Textural contrast & massing
Structure & texture
Structure
Hydrozoning
Try to create year-round interest
Spring

Douglas Iris & Alum Root
Summer

Autumn Sage & Beach Aster
Fall

CA Fuchsia & Deer Grass
Winter textures

Cleveland Sage & Deer Grass
BONES:
Hardscape that is attractive, bold and functional
BONES:
Contemporary retaining wall

Native Horsetail (keep contained!)
BONES

can also be plants with good structure

Dr. Hurd Manzanita
GUTS:
Outstanding and hard working perennials

Cedros Island Verbena & Poppies
SKIN:
Ground covers that tie it all together visually

Green Supreme Manzanita & Pt. Sal Spreader Sage
ACCENTS:
Focal points to draw the eye
What do you need for the design?

- Measuring tape(s)
- Ruler (but an architect’s scale is easier)
- Large piece of paper (gridded is easier)
- Compass or another way to find north
Sample Designs from Yerba Buena Nursery

Ground covers & grasses

Meadow with small grasses & colorful perennials

Meadow with ground cover & habitat shrubs

www.yerbabuenanursery.com/lawn_alternatives_article.php
Café Garden (Small, Sunny Yard)
Sustainable concept design for yards in Santa Clara Valley

About the Concept Design Series
These designs are simple concepts to provide inspiration and ideas. Check with local nurseries, landscapers or other sustainable garden designers to help choose the best plants for your yard.

10 sample plans / City of San Jose website
What does professional landscape design cost?

- Typical landscape designer rates are around $75-125/hr
- Landscape architects are higher (usually 10-12% of construction cost)
- Average front yard design costs range from $1000 to $2500
- Average backyard design costs range from $2000 to $4000

Professional Costs:
http://www.earthcareland.com/what-we-do/installation.html
Example of Goals

- Low maintenance
- Save water
- Bird and pollinator habitat
- Path to back gate
- Screening neighbor’s ugly shed
- Compatible with style of house & neighborhood
- Make entry more welcoming
- Landscape around an existing redwood tree

Then prioritize the list
Begin by measuring

Start by measuring the whole area

Fit it on your page at 1/8” or ¼ ” per foot

1. Site the house; show property lines
2. North arrow
3. Driveway and paths, hose bibbs, utilities, downspouts, fence and gates
4. Trees/shrubs that are staying
Garage

Driveway

Porch

Path

Base Map Example

North

Draw house with windows & doors

Don’t draw the items you want to get rid of (overgrown bushes, broken hardscape, etc.)

Make at least 3 copies of the base map, or make use trace paper over the original for each version
Site Analysis

Sunset climate zone
Look for possible microclimates
Soil testing
Identify plants to remove (be critical here!)
Identify sun/shade patterns
Important views of and from the house
Things you want to hide
Overhead wires, poles, trees (& neighbor’s overhanging tree too)
Logically traveled paths
Site Analysis Example

- Garage
- Driveway
- Porch
- View window

- North
- Very hot afternoon sun on the house
- Poor drainage, slopes to house
- Downspout
- Sewer cleanout
- Need to screen neighbor’s RV

- Need new fence & path to backyard
- Nothing ever grows well here
Garage

Driveway

- Divert downspout
- Increase path for access to car
- 5' tall accent plant
- Colorful perennials
- Hide sewer cover

View window

Porch

- Path to backyard
- Something pretty here

North

Screening shrub(s)

Possible mound here with deciduous shade tree
How you create the plan

Tip: don’t design many narrow planting areas; it’s too hard to keep plants from spilling onto paths.

Go back to the original base map. Start with the fences, paths and hardscape.
Then put in the largest and most important items, like mounds, trees and screening.

California Wax Myrtle for screening

Chitalpa, a deciduous shade tree to cool the house
Then put in the largest and most important items, like mounds, trees and screening.

California Wax Myrtle for screening

Chitalpa, a deciduous shade tree to cool the house
Medium Size Shrubs: The Smaller Bones

Next add in the medium size shrubs, focal points and accents.

Attractive, evergreen foundation shrubs

One accent Manzanita
Next add in the medium size shrubs, focal points and accents.

Attractive, evergreen foundation shrubs

One accent Manzanita
Medium Size Shrubs: The Smaller Bones

Grasses for textural contrast

Soft grasses (Berkeley Sedge) to hide the sewer cover

Three (repetition) Deer Grasses
Medium Size Shrubs: The Smaller Bones

Grasses for textural contrast

Soft grasses (Berkeley Sedge) to hide the sewer cover

Three (repetition) Deer Grasses

C  C  C

Muhly
Now it's time to add in some perennials.

Iris and Coral Bells for shade, under the tree
Now it's time to add in some perennials.

Iris and Coral Bells for shade, under the tree
Keep infilling

Don’t get overwhelmed; work at one area at a time, but make it connect to the whole.

Sulfur Buckwheat, Calif Fuchsia and Foothill Penstemon perform in hot, dry areas.

Colorful perennials at the street Tip: Keep plants low near walkways.
Keep infilling

Don’t get overwhelmed; work at one area at a time, but make it connect to the whole.

Sulfur Buckwheat, Calif Fuchsia and Foothill Penstemon perform in hot, dry areas.

Colorful perennials at the street Tip: Keep plants low near walkways.
Low Ceanothus and Buckwheats fill the remaining spaces and tie it together.

Tip: allow enough room for them to grow.
Groundcovers: The Skin

Low Ceanothus and Buckwheats fill the remaining spaces and tie it together.

Tip: allow enough room for them to grow
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Botanical Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Plant Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 x Chitalpa tashkentensis</td>
<td>Chitalpa</td>
<td>Tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Arctostaphylos ‘Louis Edmonds’</td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>Specimen Shrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Ceanothus ‘Concha’</td>
<td>California Lilac</td>
<td>Specimen Shrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Myrica californica</td>
<td>Wax Myrtle</td>
<td>Screening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Rhamnus ‘Seaview’</td>
<td>Dwarf Coffeeberry</td>
<td>Foundation Shrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Penstemon ‘Margarita BOP’</td>
<td>Foothill Penstemon</td>
<td>Perennial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Epilobium ‘Select Mattole’</td>
<td>California Fuchsia</td>
<td>Perennial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Ceanothus ‘Centennial’</td>
<td>California Lilac</td>
<td>Ground Cover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Achillea millefolium</td>
<td>Yarrow</td>
<td>Perennial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Muhlenbergia rigens</td>
<td>Deer Grass</td>
<td>Architectural Grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Salvia spathacea</td>
<td>Hummingbird Sage</td>
<td>Perennial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Eriogonum ‘Warriner Lytle’</td>
<td>California Buckwheat</td>
<td>Ground Cover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Iris ‘Canyon Snow’</td>
<td>Pacific Coast Iris</td>
<td>Accent Perennial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Heuchera ‘Wendy’</td>
<td>Coral Bells</td>
<td>Perennial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Eriogonum ‘Shasta Sulfur’</td>
<td>Sulfur Buckwheat</td>
<td>Perennial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Carex tumulicola</td>
<td>Berkeley Sedge</td>
<td>Clumping Grass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eventually, it all comes together!
How to work with a professional and still save money

1. Make a list of goals/desires
2. Take pictures of landscapes you like
3. Create an accurate plot map in $\frac{1}{4}''$ or $\frac{1}{8}''$ scale
4. Analyse your sun/shade patterns
5. Make a list of plants you like
6. Use a hose and chalk to determine shapes of hardscapes and write down square footages
7. Go to a building supply w/measurements to help establish materials and budget
   - Then bring in a consulting designer to help you pull the elements together.
Dry shade combo

Douglas Iris & Alum Root
Iris douglasii & Heuchera maxima
A reasonable sized plant for a trellis

Catalina Perfume - *Ribes viburnifolium*
Tall bushy screening

Toyon & Wax Myrtle

*Heteromeles arbutifolia & Myrica californica*
Reliable low groundcover
(better than Emerald Carpet)

Carmel Sur Manzanita
Arctostaphylos edmundsii 'Carmel Sur'
Evergreen, 2’ high ground cover

Coffeeberry  *Rhamnus 'Seaview Improved'*
No water once established - Buckwheats

Eriogonum arborescens

Eriogonum giganteum

E. Grande rubescens

E. Umbellatum var. polyanthum ‘Shasta Sulfur’
No water once established - Sages

- *Salvia clevelandii*
- *Salvia spathacea*
- *Salvia ‘Dara’s Choice’*
- *Salvia mellifera*
Blooms a long time

Cedros Island Verbena
Verbena lilacina ‘De La Mina’
California Fuchsia (Epilobium - low forms)
HELP WITH HYDROZONING!

www.waterwonk.us

California plant database search tool

Choose city ▶ Plant search ▶ My plant list

1. A plant's water needs vary with the climate region where it will live. Choose a city and the tool will place your search in the correct WUCOLS climate region.

2. Proceed to the plant search page, and search to your heart's content. There are 12 different search criteria you could specify, or just bring up the entire regional list, or the full list showing all plants and all 6 regions. You will be presented with the WUCOLS water-use value for each plant.

3. Create a list of plants for your project. This list can be printed or downloaded to your favorite spreadsheet program. We will save your plant lists for you in our database.
   - You may have one courtesy plant list for each region. To access your existing plant list for any given region, you must first choose a city in that region, and then go to the plant search page. Your list may be accessed from the "Plant Search" page.
   - In order for you to create plant lists, you must register for the site. Signing up is free, quick, and easy to do.

What is WUCOLS?

Water Use Classifications of Landscape Species

WUCOLS Water Use Classifications of Landscape Species (WUCOLS) provides a guide to estimating irrigation water needs of landscape plantings in each of 6 distinct California climate regions. WUCOLS was developed by the University of California Cooperative Extension in cooperation with landscape professionals and funded by the California Department of Water Resources.

Click pdf icon to view or download WUCOLS IV plant list. Learn more about WUCOLS here.
Search for a category
Example: very low water ground covers
Results for “Very Low Groundcover”
Click on “See it” for a picture!
Teucrium cossoni - Majorcan Germander
Search for a plant and find out its water requirement.
Some examples of

simple front yard installations
Design Sketch with Dry Creek
Design Sketch with Olive Tree
Newly planted Oct. ‘09
Two years after planting
START WITH THE END IN MIND