



List of Non-Qualifying Plants

Plants that do not qualify for inclusion in a lawn conversion

Some plants require less water to stay healthy. The best way to reduce water use in your landscape is to choose plants that have low or very low water needs once established.

Plants qualifying for rebate have low or very low water requirements. The general rule of thumb is to choose plants that need just one deep watering per week in the month of July. July is the peak month for irrigation in our summer-dry climate. Plants that need water more than once a week in July do not qualify.

Examples of plants that don't qualify

- **Trees:** birches, alders, most poplars, and coast redwood planted inland away from the coastal fog belt.
- **Shrubs:** rhododendron, gardenia.
- **Annuals:** most ornamental annuals.
- **Invasive species:** Any species listed as invasive, regardless of the water requirement.

Artificial Turf

Artificial turf does not qualify because it does not support soil health or provide habitat, is destined for the landfill when it wears out, may contain heavy metals, and creates a heat island effect because it doesn't cool the air like a natural landscape.

Plant grouping guidelines

- Group plants with similar water needs together.
- Avoid grouping shallow rooted plants with deep rooted plants. If you do group them, water them on different irrigation zones.
- Avoid grouping plants that prefer full sun with plants that prefer partial shade.

Resources

There are many beautiful, water-efficient, climate-appropriate plants to choose from. Here are two resources to get you started:

- EBMUD's *Plants and Landscapes for Summer-Dry Climates*. Available at ebmud.com/watersmart
- The California Department of Water Resource's *A Guide to Estimating Irrigation Water Needs of Landscape Plantings in California* includes a list of appropriate plants. Choose plants with a low or very low water requirement for region 1.
- California plant database search tool at: www.waterwonk.us

Please call (866) 403-2683 or visit us online for full program details. Restrictions to rebates apply.



Lawn Conversion

List of Non-Qualifying Plants

Plants that do not qualify for inclusion in a lawn conversion

Trees

- All Maples*
- Birch
- Alder
- Poplar
- Dogwood
- Magnolia



Perennials

- Astilbe
- Cleome
- Delphinium
- Foxglove
- Peonies
- Phlox



Shrubs

- Camellia
- Pieris
- Rhododendron
- Azalea
- Gardenia
- Hydrangea



Grasses

- Japanese Forest Grass
- Mondo Grass
- Japanese Blood Grass
- Pampas Grass
- Juncus (Rush)



High Water Annuals

- Impatiens
- Marigolds
- Celosia
- Petunias
- Zinnias



For more information on non-qualifying, invasive plant species, please refer to the California Invasive Plant Council (CAL-IPC) database.

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* including Japanese Maple