

PLANT SELECTION



FIRE RESISTANT PLANTS

- Leaves, not needles
- Leaves are supple, moist and easily crushed
- Trees are not bushy or twiggy
- Shrubs are low growing (<2')
- Have Non-resinous sap
- Low surface area to volume ratio
- Deciduous trees



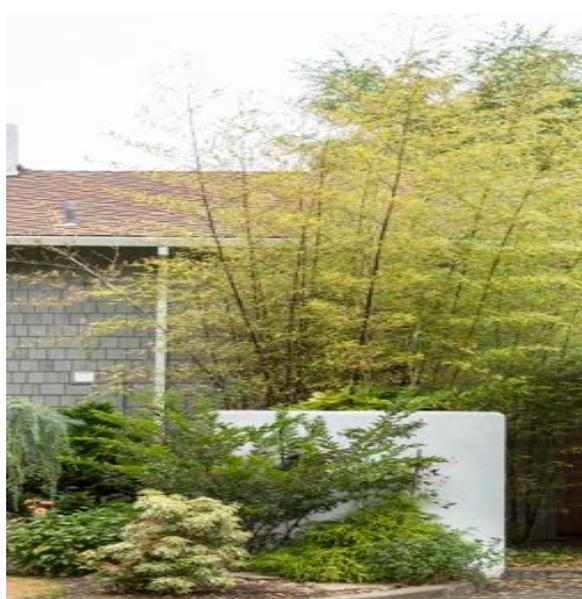
FIRE PRONE PLANTS

- Often blade-leaf or needle leaf evergreens
- Often stiff, woody, small or fine lacey leaves
- Leave and wood contain volatile waxes, fats, terpenes or oils (strong scent).
- Sap is gummy, resinous or has a strong odor
- Plentiful fine, twiggy, dry or dead material
- May have pubescent leaves
- May have loose papery bark
- Typically flame with ignition, not smolder

FIRE-PRONE PLANTS

SOME PLANTS ARE MADE TO BURN

- Juniper
- Bamboo
- Arborvitae, Yew
- Italian Cypress
- Rosemary
- Scotch Broom
- Pines
- Scrub Oaks



FIRE-RESISTANT PLANTS

SPECIAL PLANTS FOR ZONE 0

- Heuchera spp. – Coral Bells
- Achillea spp. – Yarrow
- Aquilegia spp. – Western Columbine
- Dicentra spp. – Western Bleeding Heart
- Fragaria spp. – Strawberry
- Iris spp. – Douglas Iris
- Penstemon spp. – Beard Tongue
- Sisyrinchium bellum – Blue-eyed Grass
- Sedum, Dudley, and Echeveria spp.



ANNUAL MAINTENANCE

MAINTAIN PLANT HEALTH

IRRIGATE YOUR PLANTS

MOW GRASSES

PRUNE TO REMOVE DEAD TWIGS, SPENT FLOWERS

PRUNE TREES AT 15 FEET FROM HOUSE

CLEAN-UP LEAVES AND NEEDLES IN ZONES 0 – 1 – 2

CLEAN-UP BENEATH YOUR DECK



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Firesafe Marin (www.firesafemarin.org)

CalFire (www.readyforwildfire.org)

Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute (selectree.calpoly.edu)

Fire Wise Demonstration Gardens

UC ANR (Home Landscaping for Fire - publication 8228)

UCCE Master Gardener Program

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