

# THE LAWN IS DEAD. . .



# NOW WHAT ?

Deva Luna EarthCare Landscaping 408-871-2792

# SANTA MONICA DEMONSTRATION garden/garden



Traditional Garden

Sustainable Garden



# TRADITIONAL GARDEN ESTABLISHED



# SUSTAINABLE GARDEN ESTABLISHED



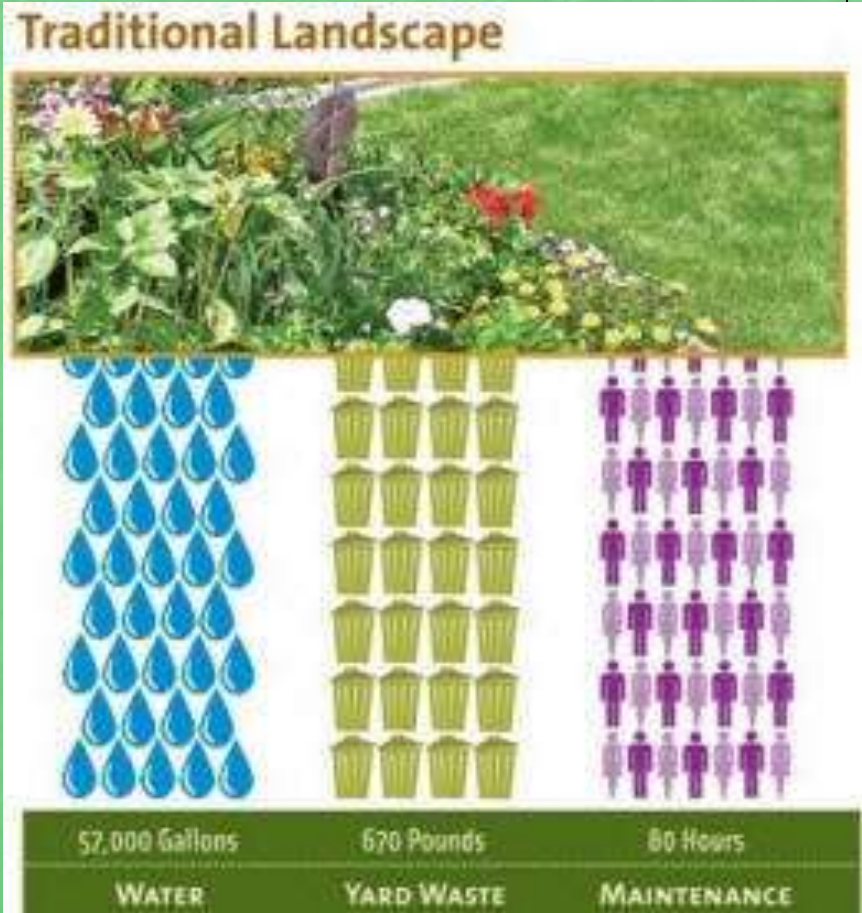
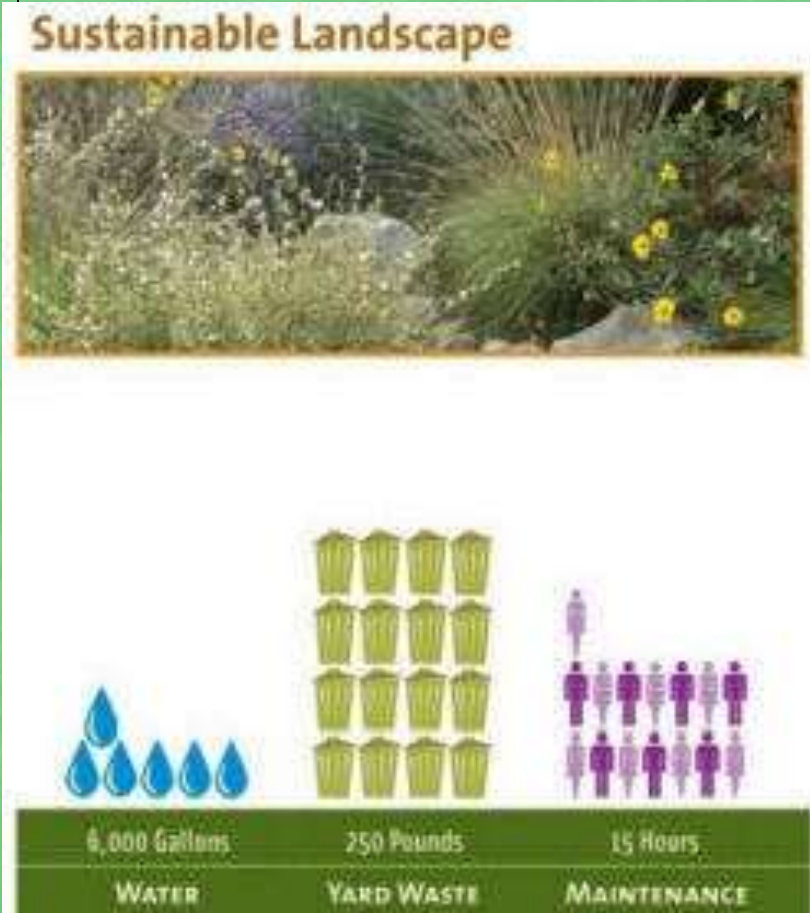
# Sustainable compared to Traditional:

- 1/10 of the water
- 1/4 of the maintenance labor
- 3/5 of the green waste
  
- Increased habitat
- Lowered pollution

To view online:

[http://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/Categories/Landscape/Demonstration\\_Gardens.aspx](http://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/Categories/Landscape/Demonstration_Gardens.aspx)

# Annual Comparison



garden/garden in Santa Monica

# STYLES & INTERPRETATIONS

- California Native
- Asian/Japanese
- Modern/Contemporary
- English Cottage Garden
- Formal/European/Italian/French
- Mediterranean
- Eclectic



Design: Patricia St. John, Installation: EarthCare Landscaping





Photo: Deva Luna



Design and Installation: Erin Dougherty/Native Revival



Photo and Design: Stephanie Morris, Installation: EarthCare Landscaping



Photo: Deva Luna , Installation: EarthCare Landscaping



Design: Stephanie Morris   Installation: Curtis Horticulture   Photo: Deva Luna



Design: Vijaya Gajjala Installation: EarthCare LS



Photo: Deva Luna



Design: Patricia St. John, Photo: Laura Schaub





Photo: Laura Schaub



Design: Annaloy Nickum , Installation: EarthCare Landscaping



Design: Cheryl Renshaw, Installation: EarthCare Landscaping, Photo: Deva Luna

# LOTS OF IDEAS

- Children's Garden
- Fairy Garden
- Butterfly Garden
- Water Garden
- Habitat Garden
- Bird Watching Garden
- Sculpture Garden



# CHILDREN'S GARDEN



Design: Maureen Decombe , Installation: EarthCare Landscaping  
Photo: Deva Luna

## **LAMB'S EAR DEFINES EDGE OF PLAY YARD**

# FAIRY GARDEN



Design: Patricia St. John, Installation: SamScaping



Photo: Deva Luna

# BUTTERFLY GARDEN









Photo & Design: Owen Dell, County Landscapes

# HABITAT GARDEN



**WATER ATTRACTS BIRDS**



**SEASONAL BIRDBATH IN STONE**

# GARDEN SCULPTURES

- Focal point
- Purchased or home made
- Formal or informal
- Showcase your style
- Whimsical
- Natural



# FOCAL POINT







**Sculpture hidden in corners**



**Driftwood snake sliding through Ceanothus**



# Taming an overgrown Juniper



**Beauty in the Natural World**



# A Sculptural Fence



# NATURAL SCULPTURES



# **& MORE IDEAS**

- Edible Garden
- Herb Garden
- Cutting Flower Garden
- Zen Meditation Garden
- Feng Shui Garden
- Cactus/Desert Garden
- Rock Garden



# EDIBLE GARDEN

Photo: Deva Luna, Installation: EarthCare





Design: Maureen Decombe, Installation: EarthCare Landscaping

# RAISED BEDS IN FRONT YARD



# EDIBLE LANDSCAPING



# MEDITATION GARDEN



Design & Photo: Laura Schaub



# CACTUS GARDEN

"Under the Sea" Quail Botanic Garden

# “LAWN” SUBSTITUTES



**Herbs, Groundcovers, Meadows**



Design: Cheryl Renshaw,  
Installation: EarthCare Landscaping

# MIXED HERB LAWN

# SUITABLE HERBS

## Chamomile

- Woolly Thyme
- Creeping Thyme
- Corsican Mint
- Yerba Buena
- Yarrow



Design: Cheryl Renshaw





Design & Photo: Stephanie Morris

# YARROW LAWN



**Yarrow**



**Armeria**



Design & Photo: Deva Luna    Installation: EarthCare Landscaping

# MEADOWS



# “NO MOW” GRASSES

- Seasonal changes
- Flowers sway in the breeze
- Some can be mowed as a traditional lawn
- Can be weed whacked annually
- Provide habitat for birds, butterflies
- Can be interplanted with wildflowers



# RED FESCUE



**String trimming to renew meadow**



# Running Grasses

- Red Fescue *Festuca rubra*
- Dune Sedge *Carex pansa*
- Foothill Sedge *Carex praegracilis*
- Idaho Fescue *Festuca idahoensis*

# Bunching Grasses

- Berkeley Sedge *Carex divulsa*
- California Fescue *Festuca californica*
- June Grass *Koeleria macrantha*
- Purple Needle Grass *Nasella pulchra*
- Leafy Reed Grass *Calamogrostis foliosa*



**NATIVE SOD NOW AVAILABLE**



Design: Middlebrook Gardens Photo: Stephanie Morris

# **FESTUCA OCCIDENTALIS**



Design& Installation: Erin Dougherty Photo: Deva Luna

# BERKELEY SEDGE



Design & Installation: Erin Dougherty

Photo: Laura Gardner

**Berkeley Sedge after haircut**



Design & Photo: Agi Kehoe

# Berkeley Sedge with Wildflowers



# CAREX PANSA

Design: Agi Kehoe

Installation: EarthCare Landscaping



Photo: Stephanie Morris

# ECO-LAWN





**Eco-Lawn Close-ups**



**U C Verde Buffalo Grass (Texas native)**

Very drought tolerant. Needs full sun. Plant from 2" plugs, 12" apart.

Unmowed – about 6" tall. Winter brown



Design: Agi Kehoe Photo: Deva Luna

# WILDFLOWERS IN MEADOWS

# ESTABLISHING A MEADOW

- Relaxed attitude around perfection/change
- Decide on type of grass
- Mixed with flowers?
- Transplants or seed?
- Pre-germination of existing weed seeds
- Weeding important until established

# **MEADOW PROGRESSION**



Design: Stephanie Morris, Installation: EarthCare Landscaping

Photos: Deva Luna

**FIRST YEAR**



**SECOND YEAR**



**THIRD YEAR**



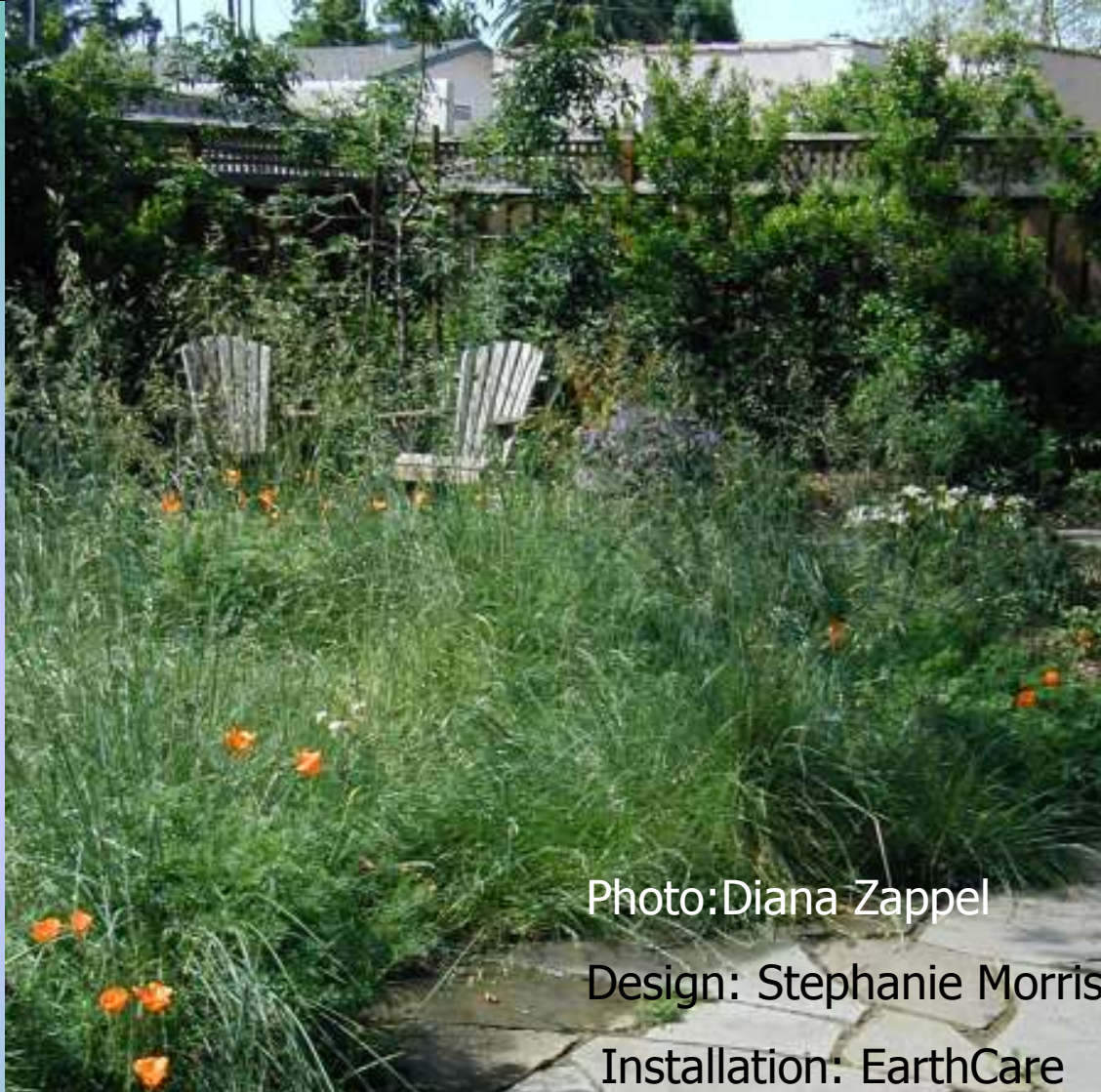


Photo: Diana Zappel

Design: Stephanie Morris

Installation: EarthCare

**FOURTH YEAR**

# 6 steps to designing your new space

1. Lay out paths (hose, flags, rocks, whatever). Natural circulation patterns. Allow for maintenance paths
2. Divide and conquer! Now the new (smaller) areas are divided by the paths
3. Place larger items – trees/shrubs for shade or screening
4. Place “accents” to create good views (boulders, dramatic plants, sculpture, birdbaths, benches, pots, etc.)
5. Put colorful perennials near walkways, the entry, sidewalks, etc.
6. Fill in the other areas with low, spreading plants like low Sages, Coyote Bush, Ceanothus, etc. Make sure to give these spreaders the space they need!

# **DROUGHT TOLERANT GROUND COVERS**



Design: Fran Adams Photo: Deva Luna

# Manzanita (Arctostaphylos)



Design: Sherri Osaka Photo: Deva Luna

# Beach Strawberry Ground Cover



Design & Photo: Sherri Osaka

Installation: EarthCare Landscaping

# California Lilac (Ceanothus)



# Salvia 'Bee's Bliss'

Design: Stephanie Morris

Installation: Curtis Horticulture

**NOW, HOW DO YOU  
ACTUALLY REMOVE IT?**



# THIRSTY LAWN -- BEFORE



# **AFTER:** *NATURAL FRONT YARDS*



# STEP BY STEP IN PICTURES



# Scalped lawn

(optional)



**Cut back the edges near hardscape**



**Cut back the edges and make  
a mound with the extra soil**



**Examples of natural looking mounds**



**Smother grass with paper**





**Delivery of “Arbor Chips” on top of paper**





**Space plants for ultimate growth**



**Planting “pocket” in mulch**



**Scuff or open root balls,  
Add mycorrhizae**



# Drip irrigation



**Expandable drip irrigation**



**Dry creek rough grading**





**Dry creek and two colors of mulch**



**Natural Front Yard one year after planting**





**November 2010**



**Six months later**





**Newly planted Oct. '09**



**Natural Front Yard two years after planting**





October 2008





**Same yard three years after planting**

# RESOURCES

[www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org)

**Santa Clara Valley Water District offers rebates**

[www.naturalfrontyards.com](http://www.naturalfrontyards.com)

**EarthCare's low-cost front lawn replacement**

[www.goingnativegardentour.org](http://www.goingnativegardentour.org)

**Going Native Garden Tour - April**

[www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org)

**California Native Plant Society**

[www.landscapestandards.com](http://www.landscapestandards.com)

**A wiki site for Sustainable Landscaping with lists  
of professionals and pictures**



**THE END**