

Bioretention Plant List

Plants for Zone A: Periodic inundation, area ponds following storm events (6" to 12" depth for 24 - 48 hours) and compost amended sand soil.

Scientific & Common Name	Height / Width	Light Preferences			Water Tolerances		CA Native	Sunset Climate Zones ¹	Notes
		Sun	Part	Shade	Drought	Inundation			
GRASS / GRASSLIKE									
<i>Carex barbarae</i> Santa Barbara Sedge/ Basket Sedge	1-2' / 1'-2'	X	X	X		X	X	4 - 9, 14 - 23	Attracts butterflies, deer resistant, good for erosion control, can spread aggressively and should be sited carefully.
<i>Carex divulsa</i> Berkeley Sedge	1' / spreading	X	X	X	X	X		all, but 1A- 3A	Attractive blue-grey leaves. Can be mowed 4 in high to keep clean look.
<i>Carex flacca</i> Blue Sedge	1' / spreading	X	X		X	X		3A - 9, 14 - 23	Attractive blue-grey leaves. Can be mowed 4 in high to keep clean look.
<i>Carex pansa</i> California Meadow Sedge	6-10" / spreading	X	X			X	X	7-9, 11-24	Used as a lawn substitute, can be left long or mowed, tolerates drought, once established.
<i>Carex praegracilis</i> California Field Sedge	1' / spreading	X	X			X	X	all, but 1A -3A	Mounding, drought deciduous during summer months.
<i>Carex spissa</i> San Diego sedge	3 - 4' / 2 - 3'	X	X		X	X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Can handle foot traffic and is deer resistant.
<i>Chondropetalum tectorum</i> Small Cape Rush	2 - 3' / 3 - 4'	X	X	X	X	X		all, but 1A-3A and 7	Needs very little maintenance. If trimmed too much plant will lose visual integrity.
<i>Leymus condensatus</i> 'Canyon Prince' Canyon Prince Wild Rye	3'/3'	X	X			X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Tolerant of drought, poor soils, part shade and seasonal wet. Spreads by rhizomes, so nice planted in masses. Cut back annually in spring before new growth emerges.
<i>Juncus effusus</i> Common Rush	2 - 3' / clumping	X	X			X	X	all	Easy to grow & very reliable. Needs more water than <i>Juncus patens</i> .
<i>Juncus patens</i> 'Elk Blue' Elk Blue California Gray Rush	2' / clumping	X	X		X	X	X	all	Very little maintenance, handles dry summers and wet winters.
<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i> Deer Grass	2 - 3' / 3 - 6'	X	X		X	X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Can handle no watering, will stay green year round with watering, trim annually.
<i>Scirpus cernus</i> Low Bulrush	1' / spreading	X	X			X		7 - 24	Grow individually or in mass, cut back once a year, very attractive.


¹ Refers to Sunset Western Garden Book Zones. The Central Coast includes the following Climate Zones: 1A, 2A, 3A, 7, 9, 14-24 www.sunset.com/garden/climate-zones/



LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

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









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 PERENNIALS									
<i>Achillea millefolium californica</i> Yarrow	1 - 3' / 2'	X	X		X	X	X	all	Tolerates regular to no watering, foot traffic, attracts butterflies, stress deciduous.
<i>Anemopsis californica</i> Yerba Mansa	1 - 2' / spreading	X	X			X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Mat forming ground cover, interesting white flowers, prune back in late summer, likes moist conditions.
<i>Bidens laevis</i> Joaquin Sunflower	2 - 3' / 1 - 2'	X				X	X	all but 1A	Attracts beneficial insects, stress deciduous in summer, likes water but will survive drought if pruned back.
<i>Calliandra eriophylla</i> Fairy Duster	1 - 3' / 1 - 3'	X			X		X	10 - 24	Attractive pink flowers , drought tolerant once established, semi-evergreen, attracts pollinators, controls erosion.
<i>Epipactis gigantea</i> Stream Orchid	1 - 2' / 2 - 3'	X	X			X	X	all	Interesting muted pink and yellow flowers, drought stress deciduous.
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i> California Poppy	1 - 3' / 1 - 3"	X			X	X	X	all	Can handle periodic inundation, cut back yearly to prevent it from becoming weedy.
<i>Fragaria chiloensis</i> Beach Strawberry	4-8" / spreading	X	X		X	X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Vigorous, fast-growing perennial groundcover, tolerates light foot traffic.
<i>Iris douglasiana</i> Douglas Iris	1 - 2' / spreading	X	X			X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Needs moisture or shade inland, does well on coast, evergreen leaves, attractive lavender-blue flowers in Spring.
<i>Iva hayesiana</i> San Diego Marsh Elder	1-3' / 5'	X	X			X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Adaptable, low-maintenance shrub, controls erosion, shear or mow it back to the crown about every five years to rejuvenate.
<i>Lilium pardalinum</i> Leopard Lily	3 - 8' / 6"	X	X			X	X	2-7, 14-17	Attractive red-orange spotted blossoms in spring, needs regular water, will get large in moist, partial shade conditions.
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> Cardinal Flower	2 - 3' / 2'	X	X	X		X	X	1-7, 14-17	A bog plant, attracts hummingbirds, showy scarlet flowers.
<i>Mimulus cardinalis</i> Scarlet Monkey Flower	1 - 3' / 1 - 3'	X	X	X		X	X	all but 1A	Year round red color with regular water, attracts hummingbirds, reseeds itself & should not be used for small spaces.
<i>Mimulus guttatus</i> Seep Monkey Flower	1 - 3' / 1 - 3'	X	X			X	X	all but 1A	Yellow flowers are abundant in spring-summer, attracts butterflies, will die back in drought and come back following year.

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 PERENNIALS (cont.)									
 <i>Rudbeckia californica</i> California Coneflower	2 - 5' / 1 - 2'		X		X	X	X	all	Yellow showy flowers late summer and fall, cut back in winter, can get large under ideal conditions and may require pruning.
 <i>Salvia spathacea</i> Hummingbird Sage	1 - 3' / spreading		X	X	X	X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Very attractive foliage and flowers, fragrant, attracts hummingbirds, deer resistant, likes to grow in understory of trees.
 <i>Salvia uliginosa</i> Bog Sage	4-6' / 3-4'	X			X	X		6-9,14-24	Cut back to ground in winter, spreads by rhizomes.
 <i>Satureja mimuloides</i> Monkeyflower Savory	1-3' / 1-3'	X	X		X	X	X	4-9, 16-24, 26	Deciduous perennial with orange flowers that attract hummingbirds.
 <i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i> Blue-Eyed Grass	6" - 1' / 6" - 1'	X			X	X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Low maintenance, summer dormant, spring bloomer. Can irrigate to prolong flowering.
 <i>Solidago californica</i> California Goldenrod	1 - 3' / 2 - 3'	X	X	X	X	X	X	all, but 24	Attractive yellow flowers in summer and fall, attracts pollinators, dormant in winter, cut back to ground.
 <i>Zephyranthes candida</i> Rain Lily	1' / 1'	X	X			X		4-9, 12-24	A hardy bulb with rush-like foliage and small white flowers in late summer/fall.
 SHRUBS/SUBSHRUBS									
 <i>Baccharis pilularis</i> Coyote Brush	wide variation	X			X	X	X	all, but 1A-3A	Adaptable evergreen shrub, provides quick cover and bank stabilization, tolerant of coastal conditions, alkaline soil, sand, clay and seasonal wet, dwarf (low growing) varieties available.
 <i>Zauschneria californica</i> 'Catalina' Island California Fuchsia	1 - 3' / 2 - 3'	X	X		X	X	X	All but 1A	Likes moisture but will survive through drought, attractive red flowers that hummingbirds like. This species is hardier and flowers last longer.
 <i>Zauschneria californica</i> 'Uvas Canyon' San Jose California Fuchsia	2 - 3' / spreading	X	X		X	X	X	All but 1A	Grey foliage, attractive red- orange flowers, very showy in late fall. Full sun with regular watering or along coast. Can be mowed to look like lawn.

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