

DESIGN ELEMENTS



PARKING STRIP OPTION #2

SAN DIEGO NATIVE

Parking strips, that little patch of dirt between the sidewalk and the street, are often considered difficult garden spots. More often than not a landscaper or builder will take the “easy” route and install grass in these areas making them notorious water-wasters, useful only to neighborhood dogs and lawnmower companies.

Converting that little strip of land from lawn to San Diego native plants not only saves water but restores a little patch of the habitat that once covered our hillsides and canyons.

San Diego has one of the most diverse ecosystems on our planet and our local plants are a perfect example of that diversity. Succulents, grasses, and flowering perennials are all found in abundance throughout our county’s natural spaces many of which make wonderful additions to any drought tolerant garden.

The diagram above represents an area of three-and-a-half feet wide by fifteen feet long. This approximates a typical parking strip in a suburban landscape. Adjust to your particular needs and increase or decrease plant materials accordingly.



CNPS Gardening Committee

California Native Plant Society - San Diego Chapter

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PLANT TEMPLATE

- A) *Ceanothus*
Heart's Desire (7) 1'x1'
- B) *Baccharis*
Parking Strip (3) 2'x2'
- C) *Leymus*
Canyon Prince (1) 3'x4'
- D) *Erigeron*
Wayne Roderick (4) 6"x1'

Note: If you don't like grasses, substitute *Artemisa Montara* for the *Leymus*.

MULCH AND ROCKS

- Mojave Gold Decomposed Granite
- Palm Springs Gold Boulders

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

WATER:

Year 1: 1x/week 7-10 minutes

Years 2+: 1x/1-2 weeks 7-10 minutes

Dead head flowering perennials and trim back

This is the second in a series of options for parking strips. We will occasionally provide fresh ideas and plant lists, as well as tips on maintenance. All of these options are part of our “Design Elements” series.

Thanks to Morgan Vondrak and Greg Rubin for their ideas and botanical knowledge in the preparation of this brochure.