

Benefits of Landscape Policy in Alameda County

Teresa Eade, Senior Program Manager, StopWaste Water Policy Forum for Local Governments September 15, 2015,

Based on Bay-Friendly



Emeryville Greenway

- Policy and programs are based on the Bay-Friendly Landscape Scorecard & Tools
- Bay-Friendly Rated
 Landscape program is
 administered by the Bay Friendly Landscaping &
 Gardening Coalition &
 available Bay Area wide.



Many Resources & Tools

Bay-Friendly Rated Landscapes Resources

- Bay-Friendly Rating Manual for Civic, Commercial and Multifamily Landscapes
- Bay-Friendly Rated Scorecard for Civic, Commercial and Multifamily Landscapes
- Bay-Friendly Rated Landscape Program Policies and Procedures Handbook
- Bay-Friendly Rated Landscape FAQs for Project Teams and Property Owners
- Bay-Friendly Rated Landscape Project Application
- Bay-Friendly Rated Landscape Educational Signage Model
- Bay-Friendly Rated Landscape Case Studies

General Bay-Friendly Landscape Resources

- Bay-Friendly Landscape Guidelines: Sustainable Practices for the Landscape Professional (also available in Spanish)
- Bay-Friendly Gardening Guide: From Your Backyard to the Bay
- Hiring a Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional to Design or Manage Your Landscape
- Bay-Friendly Basics Checklist
- A Bay-Friendly Guide to Mulch (also in Spanish) and A Case Study: Mulch
- A Bay-Friendly Landscaping Guide to Grasscycling (also in Spanish) and A Case Study: Grasscycling
- A Bay-Friendly Landscaping Guide to Recycled Content and Salvaged Materials
- Bay-Friendly Plant Lists: Natural Hedges, Lawn Alternatives and Groundcovers, Vegetated Swale
- Bay-Friendly Site Analysis
- Bay-Friendly Soil Management Plan
- Bay-Friendly Plant Legend Template and Example of Filled-In Plant Template
- Compost and Mulch Sources and Product Information
- Builders Guide to Reuse and Recycling (Alameda County)
- Recycled Content Park & Recreation Products in Alameda County

Bay-Friendly Model Specifications and Model RPF Language

- Bay-Friendly Rated Landscape Specification 013521
- Bay-Friendly Construction Waste Management and Disposal 017419
- Bay-Friendly Debris Recovery Plan
- Bay-Friendly Planting Specification 329300
- Bay-Friendly Maintenance Manual.
- RFP Language for Hiring a Landscape Designer
- RFP Language for Hiring a Bay-Friendly Rater



Landscape Policies & Practices in Alameda County

- □ All 17 Member Agencies require new civic landscape projects meet the BF Landscape Scorecard.
- □ 11 cities require Bay-Friendly Basics for permitted landscapes
- ☐ Plant debris is banned from landfills
- ☐ StopWaste provides Member Agencies a

 Bay-Friendly version of the WELO Ordinance
 - -- 2009 & now.

Policies By Member Agency

| Member Agency | Civic Landscapes Meet Bay-Friendly Scorecard Threshold for Covered Projects | Permitted Landscapes in Private Sector Meet Bay-Friendly Basics |
|------------------|---|---|
| Alameda, County | \$100,000 Construction Costs | |
| Alameda, City | \$100,000 Construction Costs | BF Basics |
| Albany | 5,000 square feet | BF Basics |
| Berkeley | 10,000 square feet | BF Basics |
| Castro Valley SD | \$100,000 Construction Costs | N/A |
| Dublin | \$100,000 Construction Costs | |
| Emeryville | \$100,000 Construction Costs | BF Basics |
| Fremont | 10,000 square feet | BF Basics |
| Hayward | \$100,000 Construction Costs | BF Basics |
| Newark | \$100,000 Construction Costs | |
| Oakland | \$100,000 Construction Costs & 10,000 sq ft | BF Basics |
| Oro Loma SD | \$100,000 Construction Cost | N/A |
| Piedmont | \$100,000 Construction Costs | |
| Pleasanton | \$100,000 Construction Costs | BF Basics |
| San Leandro | \$100,000 Construction Costs | BF Basics |
| Union City | 5,000 square feet | BF Basics |
| Total | 17 | 11 |

Bay-Friendly Rated Landscapes

Big impacts. Big savings. Verified results.

50% water savings

30-70% maintenance labor savings

70-80% reduced runoff

53 tons/acre greenhouse gas reduction



Bay-Friendly Basics

- Compost: 1 in. or 3.5% organic matter
- Mulch: 3 in.
- Divert 50% C&D waste
- Choose & locate plants to reach natural size
- No invasive plants
- 75% of plants require occasional, low or no water
- 25% turf maximum
- Weather-based controller
- No spray heads in areas less than 8 ft wide



Implementation

Policies are supported by:

- Education: staff,landscapeprofessionals & public
- □ technical assistance
- grants to member agencies





Bay-Friendly Rated Landscapes

- 58 Rated Landscapes in Alameda County
- □ Covering 250 Acres
- 22 more projects are pending
- Any new landscape can be BF Rated
- New BF Scorecard coming soon



Pleasanton Fire Station



Bay-Friendly Rated Landscapes Metrics

- Altogether, just these 58 properties are estimated to:
 - Save more than 31 million gallons of water annually
 - Reduced greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 3,600 tons CO2e.
 - Covered 27 acres with sheet mulch
 - Purchased 7,600 tons of compost
 - Purchased 4,000 tons of recycled mulch purchased
 - Reduce greenwaste by 540 tons annually
 - Recycled 200,000 tons of C & D waste



Bay-Friendly Training

- More than 275 public agency staff in Alameda County have earned the Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional
 - 100% of Oakland's full-time landscape maintenance employees
- There are over 1,450 Bay-Friendly Qualified Professionals, representing about 4% of Bay Area's landscape industry workers.



