

City of Costa Mesa

Approved Landscape Ground Cover and Alternative Landscape

So why choose drought resistant landscapes?

Aside from giving your property a unique standout appearance and participating in the efforts to conserve water, drought-tolerant plants survive long periods of drought by storing water internally or by developing extensive root systems that sink deep into the soil. Many drought-tolerant plants have additional protection through a waxy coating that reduces evaporation or hairs on the leaf surface that reflect some of the light, insulating the plant. Most drought-tolerant plants use several of these features to survive on low amounts of precipitation.

So what are your options for ground cover?

1. **Bark and mulch.** (Shall be maintained a consistent 2-inch layer and provide complete coverage under shrubs and trees)
2. **Decomposed Granite** (Must be combined with other live vegetation)



3. **Gravel**



↳ Please note that all ground covers needs to be used in combination with live plant material.

Other alternative landscape treatments can be approved by Planning Division

Note: Although materials such as crushed rock, redwood chips, pebbles, and stone are not satisfactory substitutes for live plant material, their limited use may be approved by Planning Division

Artificial Turf .Only allowed in R-1 single family zoning when incorporated into the landscape design and not exceeding fifty (50) percent of the total landscaping area.



Please feel free to contact the Planning Division for any questions you may have at **714.754.5245**. You may also contact the Costa Mesa Water District at general information **949.631.1200** regarding The Turf Removal Rebate Program. This program is a partnership between Mesa Water District and Municipal Water District of Orange County. If your home is serviced by The Irvine Ranch Water District you may contact them at **949.453.5581** for rebate information. Thank you for making Costa Mesa a beautiful place to live.

Agency Information links:

<http://irwd.com/rebates>

<http://www.ocwatersmart.com/turf>

<http://www.mesawater.org/pdf/NovDec2014Newsletter.pdf>



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