# City of Dublin Guidance for Plant Selection, Spacing, and Irrigation in Stormwater Treatment Facilities

The guidelines and plants list were developed to reduce water demand and to maximize plant viability and pollutant removal in stormwater treatment facilities. The sand-compost mixture required in stormwater treatment facilities is intended to drain rapidly and consequently does not have much water holding capacity. It is important to select plants that can thrive in dry conditions, particularly in hotter inland areas. These guidelines supplement the information available in Appendix B of the Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program C.3 Technical Manual which may be downloaded at cleanwaterprogram.org. The supplemental guidelines are below:

1. Use wider plant spacing to encourage larger root mass production and provide for more available water per plant.
2. Provide separate irrigation controllers for stormwater treatment facilities. These facilities will likely need more irrigation in hot weather than typical landscape.
3. Schedule irrigation as frequent, but relatively short duration watering events to avoid wasting water by over irrigation. This is different than irrigation scheduling guidance for lawns and landscapes which typically suggest less frequent but longer duration watering.

The plant list provided on page 2 of this document was developed through a review of the following documents:

- Zone 7 Water Agency. 2023. Tri-Valley Waterwise Sandy Soil Plant List. https://www.trivalleywaterwise.com/listplants.php?index=15
- City of Palo Alto. 2023. Southgate Neighborhood Plant List.
- Santa Clara Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program. 2023. Draft Green Stormwater Infrastructure Vegetation Guide.
- City of San Jose. 2019. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Maintenance Field Guide. https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/40709/637072498623830000

**TABLE 1. City of Dublin Recommended Plant List for Bioretention Areas (2023)**

| Group | Common Name | Latin Name | Water Use[1] |
|---|---|---|---|
| Grass | California Gray Rush | *Juncus patens* | Low |
| Grass | California Gray Rush - Elk Blue | *Juncus patens 'Elk Blue'* | Low |
| Grass | Canyon Prince Wild Rye | *Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince'* | Low |
| Grass | Cape Rush | *Chondropetalum tectorum* | Low |
| Grass | Deer Grass | *Muhlenbergia rigens* | Very Low |
| Grass | Hairy Awn Muhly | *Muhlenbergia capillaris* | Very Low |
| Grass | Lomandra | *Lomandra hystrix* | Very Low |
| Groundcover | Kurapia, a.k.a. Pink Lippia | *Phyla nodiflora* | Low |
| Perennial | Azure Bush Germander | *Teucrium fruticans 'Azureum'* | Low |
| Perennial | Catalina California Fuchsia | *Zauschenaria californica* | Low |
| Perennial | Cloth of Gold Yarrow | *Achillea filipendulina* | Low |
| Perennial | Common Yarrow - White | *Achillea millefolium* | Very Low |
| Perennial | Golden Sword Yucca | *Yucca filamentosa 'Golden Sword'* | Low |
| Perennial | Kangaroo Paws - Yellow | *Anigozanthos manglesii* | Low |
| Perennial | Red Yucca | *Hesperaloe parviflora* | Low |
| Shrub | Canyon's Gray Sagebrush | *Artemisia californica var 'canyon gray'* | Low |
| Shrub | Carmel Creeper | *Ceanothus griseus horizontalis* | Low |
| Shrub | Chartreuse Euphorbia | *Euphorbia characias* | Low |
| Shrub | Dwarf Mugo Pine | *Pinus Mugo* | Low |
| Shrub | Jerusalem Sage | *Phlomis fruticosa* | Low |
| Shrub | John Dourley Manzanita | *Arctostaphylos 'John Dourley'* | Low |
| Shrub | Morning Light Westringia | *Westringia fruticosa* | Low |
| Succulent | Aeoniums | *Aeoniums* | Low |
| Succulent | Kiwi Aeonium | *Aeonium haworthii* | Low |
| Succulent | Large Purple Aeonium | *Aeonium arboreum* | Low |
| Succulent | Orange Bulbine | *Bulbine frutescens 'Orange'* | Low |
| Succulent | Rock Purslane | *Calandrinia grandiflora* | Low |
| Succulent | Smooth Agave | *Agave desmettiana* | Low |

[1] Per WUCOLS: https://wucols-frontend.ucdavis.edu/#/search