Tips

- Install native plants that can survive on rainfall alone (after establishment) so permanent irrigation systems are not needed.
- Choose native species that are compatible with your site conditions (sunlight, soil moisture, pH).
- Build soil fertility by adding compost, mulch, and recycling yard wastes such as leaves on site.
- Use alternative native groundcovers instead of turfgrass.
- Avoid use of synthetic chemicals.



The first step towards creating sustainable landscapes is rethinking what a vard could be. Traditional landscapes often have minimal tree canopy, extensive area in turfgrass, and non-native ornamentals that need frequent maintenance. In a bay friendly landscape, native trees provide canopy cover and shade, many species of native drought-tolerant plants are planted for biodiversity, pollinator plants are included, and organic mulch is used in landscape beds to improve plant growth. By working with nature, we can reduce landscape irrigation and pesticide use. Plant selection is key to protecting Florida's natural ecosystems. Choose native plants that are aesthetically appealing. low maintenance and provide food and habitat for wildlife. Depending on your situation, you may choose plants that serve a function, such as bunching grasses with deep roots to prevent erosion.









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Bay Friendly Landscaping



Did you know that what you do in your own landscape can affect your watershed?

Florida has a growing population, and a limited supply of fresh water. Over 50% of our freshwater supply is used unnecessarily in lawns and landscapes. Home landscape activities such as irrigation, fertilization and pesticide use can contribute to the pollution of Florida's water bodies, such as the Tampa Bay. There is a better way to design and maintain our yards in a way that protects our natural resources. By choosing low maintenance native plants, our landscapes can conserve water, reduce chemicals, and support wildlife. Use this brochure to guide your landscape planting decisions to save money and protect our environment.

Select	Low Mai	ntenance Nativ	estor 1	ampa Ba	ay Area		
Plant Type	Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Spread	Bees	Butterflies	Birds
Grasses	Lovegrass	Eragrostis spectabilis	3'	2'	-	8 00	U
Grasses	Muhly Grass	Muhlenberghia capillaris	4'	3'	-	-	U
Groundcovers	Beach Sunflower	Helianthus debilis	3'	8'	۵	8 .00	U
Groundcovers	Coontie	Zamia floridana	4'	5'	-	8 .00	-
Groundcovers	Frogfruit	Phyla nodiflora	1'	1'	(8 .0	-
Groundcovers	Mimosa	Mimosa strigulosa	1'	1'	(1)	P a	-
Flowers	Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia hirta	3'	2'	(1)	8.00	-
Flowers	Coreopsis	Coreopsis lanceolata	3'	2'	(1)	8 a	U
Flowers	Milkweed	Asclepias incarnata	4'	2'	ð	8	-
Flowers	Porterweed	Stachytarpheta jamaicensis	5'	3'	ð	P a	U
Flowers	Tropical Sage	Salvia coccinea	4'	2'	ð	8	-
Shrubs	Beautyberry	Callicarpa americana	6'	6'	(1)	B	U
Shrubs	Blueberry	Vaccinium darrowii	12'	8'	(11)	-	U
Shrubs	Elderberry	Sambucus canadensis	15'	10'	ð	-	U
Shrubs	Firebush	Hamelia patens	20'	10'	(1)	8 .00	, with the second se
Shrubs	Saw Palmetto	Serenoa repens	10'	8'	ð	8 .00	U
Shrubs	Wax Myrtle	Myrica cerifera	15'	8'	-	P a	U
Trees	Cabbage Palm	Sabal palmetto	100'	20'	(1)	P a	U
Trees	American Elm	Ulmus americana	70'	40'	-	8 .00	U
Trees	Live Oak	Quercus virginiana	80'	60'	_	B	U
Trees	Red Cedar	Juniperus virginiana	40'	20'	-	-	U
Trees	Red Maple	Acer rubrum	70'	35'	-	B	U
Trees	Sea Grape	Coccoloba uvifera	35'	50'	(1)	P a	U
Vines	Coral Honeysuckle	Lonicera sempervirens	10'	10'	_	8 a	U
Vines	Passionvine	Passiflora suberosa	10'	10'	(10 pr	U