



Lawn Transformation Resource List

1. Mayor Garcetti's [Save the Drop LA](#) campaign
2. Los Angeles Beautification Team – [Lawn removal conversion program](#) – will upgrade your lawn to a beautiful, sustainable garden. Working with the LADWP turf removal rebate, you can do it yourself, do it with help or have it done for you.
3. [TreePeople](#) - By using their complete assortment of workshops, videos and downloadable "how-to" guides, you'll learn what you can do yourself or what to ask for when hiring a landscape designer.
 - Landscape – [fun workshops to reduce your turf](#) and [how to get the landscape of your dreams](#).
 - Trees – [download this quick guide](#) and watch our videos on [how to plant](#) and [care for them](#).
 - Water – [guides to install and maintain a rain barrel](#) and [informative workshops on rainwater harvesting](#).
4. [G3 Green Gardens Group](#) - Their purpose is to transform our environment by showing people how to use landscapes to save the soil, sequester carbon, secure the water supply, restore the watersheds, and employ a knowledgeable and motivated workforce.
 - [G3 Residential & garden steward programs](#) – classes and workshops.
 - [G3 criteria for certification](#) and [List of G3 Certified Landscape Professionals](#) (scroll down to view LA County landscape designers)
5. [Surfrider Ocean Friendly Gardens](#) – Offers classes, workshops and on line material to revive our watersheds and oceans by applying CPR – conservation, permeability and retention – to our landscapes and hardscapes.
 - A [step by step guide](#) to creating an ocean friendly garden.
6. [LADWP California Friendly® Landscape Incentive Program](#) – Details on the Landscape Incentive and Turf Replacement Program, which involves replacing turf grass with California Friendly plants, mulch, and permeable pathways. Take virtual tours of the California friendly gardens, browse climate appropriate plants and access planting and irrigation templates for their microclimate.
7. [LA Stormwater Master Plan](#) - Through the Stormwater Capture Master Plan identifies opportunities to increase stormwater capture in Los Angeles as part of its effort to increase the local water supply and reduce the dependence on expensive imported water for the City of Los Angeles. The Master Plan also recommends stormwater capture projects, programs, policies, incentives, and ordinances throughout the entire City of Los Angeles.
 - [Downloadable PDF of full report](#).
 - [So Cal Water Smart Rebate info for weather based irrigation controllers](#)
 - [So Cal Water Smart Rain Barrel Rebate info](#)
 - [Rain Barrels Intl event calendar for free rain barrels with rebate program](#)
8. Plant resource information –
 - [LA County Native Plant Guide](#) – Downloadable list of over 500 native and drought tolerant plants.
 - [Drought Tolerant Garden](#) – LA County downloadable handbook
 - [Theodore Payne Foundation](#) - native plant nursery

9. Planting to support pollinator habitats –
 - Los Angeles County Beekeepers – [gardening for bees](#).
 - [Monarch Way Station Program](#)
 - Los Angeles Audubon Society - [planting to support native birds](#)
10. [Mar Vista Green Garden Showcase](#) – virtual tour of almost 300 sustainable gardens for design inspiration.
 - [Landscape designers whose work has been showcased on the tour](#).
11. Association of Professional Landscape Designers – California Chapter – their [Landscape Designer Directory](#) can be sorted to select drought tolerant landscape design and also filtered by region. Note that inclusion does not confirm special training in sustainable gardens – make sure you review examples of their work and ask for certification or training they have gotten in climate appropriate landscape designs.

Special Considerations

[Turf Terminators](#) offers a very user friendly model working with the LADWP turf removal rebate and does provide water savings. Note that their landscape designs do not provide any stormwater capture features and some designs do not support pollinator habitats. We feel these are critical omissions that could still be provided with the amount rebated under the program.

Artificial turf is essentially hardscape. While it reduces water usage, it does not support the environment. [Here is an excellent position paper on why we do not recommend artificial turf](#).

Maintenance – before you make your design decisions, think about how much time and money you want to spend on garden maintenance. Is gardening your hobby and you'll enjoy spending time with your hands in the dirt? Then a [meadow like rain garden](#) may be perfect for you! Are you already pulled in ten directions and need something that requires minimal time and attention? Maybe you will want a [native ground cover with fewer plants](#). Ask your landscape designer or workshop teacher to be very specific about the hours per month that will be needed for maintenance. If you plan on getting maintenance assistance, ask for a referral and an hourly rate. Your current maintenance provider for a lawn may not have the knowledge or skills to help you with a climate appropriate garden!