



City of El Monte  
 Planning Division  
 11333 Valley Boulevard, City Hall West  
 El Monte, Ca 91731-3293

Alexander Chan, Planning Services Manager

P: (626) 580-2090  
 F: (626) 580-2293

## Recommended Landscape Palette

Chapter 17.10 of the El Monte Municipal Code requires that landscape plans incorporate a variety of trees, shrubs, flowering plants, grasses, and groundcovers. Selected plant species should be drought-tolerant, easy to maintain, and have attractive foliage. The Planning Division strongly encourages architects to select plants that are also native to California or other similar Mediterranean climates. The Planning Division recommends the following plant species:

TREES	
Acacia	Acacia (some species)
Cassia leptophylla	Gold Medallion Tree
Cedrus	Cedar (some species)
Cercis occidentalis	Western Redbud
Chitalpa tashkentensis	Chitalpa
Cupressus	Cypress (some species)
Koelreuteria paniculata	Goldenrain Tree
Laurus nobilis	Sweet Bay
Lyonothamnus floribundus	Catalina Ironwood
Olea europea	Olive
Pinus	Pine (some species)
Pistacia	Pistache
Platanus acerfolia/racemosa	London Plane Tree/California Sycamore
Populus tremuloides	Quaking Aspen
Quercus	Oak (some species)
Robinia	Locust

SHRUBS / PERENNIALS / GRASSES	
Agave	NCN
Aloe	NCN
Arctostaphylos	Manzanita (most species)
Callistemon	Bottlebrush
Carpenteria californica	Bush Anenome
Ceanothus	Wild Lilac
Cistus	Rockrose
Coreopsis	
Dendromecon harfordii	Island Bush Poppy
Dodonea	Hop Bush
Grevillea	NCN
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon
Kniphofia uvaria	Red-hot Poker
Leptospermum scoparium	New Zealand Tea Tree
Mahonia	Mahonia
Penstemon	Cape Plumbago
Phormium	Flax
Plumbago auriculata	Cape Plumbago
Punica granatum	Pomegranate
Ratibida columnifera	Mexican Hat
Rhus Ovata	Sugar Bush
Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemary
Salvia	Most varieties
Tecomaria capensis	Cape Honeysuckle
Trichostema lanatum	Woolly Blue Curls
Westringia fruiticosa	

GROUNDCOVER / VINES	
Bougainvillea	NCN
Convolvus mauritanicus	Ground Morning Glory
Gazania	NCN
Gelsemium sempervirens	Carolina Jessamine
Geranium incanum	Ice plant
Lantana	
Limonium perezii	
Malephora	Ice plant
Oenothera	Evening Primrose (some species)
Rosa banksiae	Lady Bank's Rose
Wisteria	NCN
Zinnia grandiflora	

Additionally, the following plants meet one or more of the Planning Division's criteria, but due to their overutilization in many commercial and residential projects within the City of El Monte, they should be used sparingly and only when the overall landscape design necessitates their inclusion:

USE AS APPROPRIATE	
Abelia grandiflora	Glossy Abelia
Agapanthus	Agapanthus
Duchesna indica	Mock Strawberry
Hemerocallis	Daylily
Lagerstroemia indica	Crape Myrtle
Nandina domestica	Heavenly Bamboo
Pittosporum	NCN
Pyrus	Ornamental Pear (all species)
Rhaphiolepis	NCN

The above lists are not exhaustive and architects and developers are encouraged to be creative in their selection of plants and palettes for their project's landscaped areas. The landscape plan should be reflective of the overall design of the project site and should be considered as an integral component of a cohesive site design. If you have any questions regarding the recommended list of plants, please contact the Planning Division at 626.580.2090.