

Plants for a Fire-Savvy Landscape

A quick reference on what to plant, where to plant, and how to think about landscaping with regard to wildfire in Orinda



Second Edition

Fire-Prone Plant List

This list is not an exhaustive compilation of hazardous plants but represents examples of some species that have characteristics that make them not just more susceptible to fire, but also can burn in ways that accelerate the spread of fire. Omissions of any specific plant, or plant family from this list should not be interpreted as evidence of its resistance to ignition.

The fact remains that **any plant**, under extreme conditions for an extended period of time, will become available for combustion.

TREES

- Fir – *Abies (Species/spp.)*
- Acacia – *Acacia (spp.)*
- Red Shanks – *Adenostoma sparsifolium*
- Palms – *Arecaceae (spp.)*
- Incense Cedar – *Calocedrus decurrens*
- Beefwood – *Casuarina (spp.)*
- Cedar – *Cedrus (spp.)*
- False Cypress (Except Dwarf) – *Chamaecyparis (spp.)*
- Japanese Cedar (Except Dwarf) – *Cryptomeria japonica*
- Cypress – *Cupressus (spp.)*
- Leyland Cypress – *Cupressus leylandii*
- Eucalyptus – *Eucalyptus (spp.)*
- Sweet Bay – *Laurus nobilis*
- Flaxleaf paperbark – *Melaleuca linariifolia*
- Dawn Redwood – *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*
- Spruce – *Picea (spp.)*
- Pines (Except Dwarf Mugo) – *Pinus (spp.)*
- Douglas Fir – *Pseudotsuga (spp.)*
- Pepper Trees – *Schinus (spp.)*
- Bald Cypress, Swamp Cypress – *Taxodium (spp.)*
- Yew (Except Dwarf) – *Taxus (spp.)*
- Thuja, Western Redcedar – *Thuja (spp.)*
- Hemlock – *Tsuga (spp.)*
- California Bay, Myrtlewood – *Umbellularia californica*

PERENNIALS AND SHRUBS

- Chamise – *Adenostoma fasciculatum*
- Artemesia – *Artemesia (spp.)*
- Broom/Coyote Brush – *Baccharis (spp.)*
- Field and Black Mustard – *Brassica campestris, B.nigra*
- Broom – *Cytisus (spp.)*
- Hopseed Bush – *Dodonaea viscosa*
- Buckwheat – *Eriogonum (spp.)*
- French Broom – *Genista (spp.)*
- Pine golden bush – *Haplopappus pinifolius*
- Juniper – *Juniperus (spp.)*
- Larch – *Larix (spp.)*
- Creosote bush – *Larrea tridentata*
- Tea tree – *Leptospermum (spp.)*
- Oriental arborvitae – *Platyclusus orientalis*
- Rosemary – *Rosemarinus officinalis*
- Bramble – *Rubus (spp.)*
- Spanish Broom – *Spartium junceum*
- Tamarisk, Salt Cedar – *Tamarix (spp.)*
- Common Gorse – *Ulex europaeus*

GRASSES

- Quackgrass – *Agropyron repens*
- Oats – *Avena sativa*
- Bamboo – *Bambusoideae (spp.)*
- Pampas Grass – *Cortaderia selloana*
- Barley – *Hordeum vulgare*
- Silvergrass – *Miscanthus (spp.)*
- Deer Grasses – *Muehlenbergia rigens*
- Fountain Grasses – *Pennisetum setaceum*
- Rye – *Secale cereale*

Did you know?

The City of Orinda offers several programs to support wildfire mitigation efforts.

One of these is a year-round, on-demand chipping service that will chip and haul away cut brush and tree limbs. This service is available by request and is managed by the City of Orinda.

In addition to the chipping program, residents may also be eligible for the **Measure R Fire Fuel Reduction Incentive**—a cost-sharing program that provides reimbursement for work done to reduce combustible vegetation. Residents can receive up to \$1,000, and funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis until program funds are exhausted.

Applications and registration can be found online at www.cityoforinda.org, by clicking the “*Emergency Preparedness*” link.