

ALTERNATIVES TO BAY AREA INVASIVE PLANTS

Invasive plants used in landscaping often escape into our natural areas, where they can spread rapidly and outcompete natives, degrade wildlife habitat and increase the fuel load.

Invasive plants are by nature a regional problem. The problem plants listed here have escaped from gardens in the Bay Area and invaded natural areas. This list of problem plants and suggested alternatives is from the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC). For more information about these plants, download Cal-IPC's brochure, "Don't Plant a Pest - San Francisco Bay Area" (www.cal-ipc.org/landscaping/dpp/pdf/SFDPPPprintable.pdf).



GROUNDCOVERS & PERENNIALS

Don't Plant:

<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Iceplant or Hottentot fig
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Instead Try:

<i>Delosperma cooperi</i>	Hardy iceplant
<i>Osteospermum fruticosum</i> and hybrids	Freeway daisy
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i> or <i>T. x lucidrys</i>	Wall germander
<i>Drosanthemum floribundum</i>	Showy dewflower

Don't Plant:

<i>Hedera canariensis</i>	Algerian ivy
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English ivy
<i>Vinca major</i>	Periwinkle

Instead Try:

<i>Asarum caudatum</i>	Wild ginger
<i>Bergenia cordifolia</i> and hybrids	Winter saxifrage
<i>Campanula poscharskyana</i>	Serbian bellflower
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Bear's foot hellebore
<i>Heuchera maxima</i> and hybrids	Giant alumroot
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	Pachysandra
<i>Rubus pentalobu</i>	Taiwan raspberry
<i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i>	Ivory star jasmine or asian jasmine

Don't Plant:

<i>Helichrysum petiolare</i>	Licorice plant
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Instead Try:

<i>Artemisia</i> 'Powis Castle'	'Powis Castle' Artemisia
<i>Eriogonum giganteum</i>	St. Catherine's lace
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem sage
<i>Salvia leucophylla</i>	Coast purple sage
<i>Teucrium fruticans</i> and cultivars	Bush germander

SHRUBS

Don't Plant:

<i>Sesbania punicea</i>	Scarlet wisteria
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Instead Try:

<i>Cassia leptophylla</i>	Gold medallion tree
<i>Calliandra tweedii</i>	Brazilian flame bush
<i>Glavezia speciosa</i>	Showy island snapdragon
<i>Lagerstroemia species</i>	Crape myrtle

Don't Plant:

<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> , <i>Genista monspessulana</i> , <i>Spartium junceum</i> , <i>Cytisus striatus</i>	Broom (Scotch, French, Spanish, Portuguese)
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Instead Try:

<i>Cornus mas</i>	Cornelian-cherry dogwood
<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i>	Forsythia
<i>Hypericum 'Rowallane'</i>	Shrub hypericum
<i>Jasminum nudiflorum</i>	Winter jasmine
<i>Kerria japonica</i>	Japanese kerria
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem sage
<i>Ribes aureum</i>	Golden currant

Don't Plant:

<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	Pampasgrass
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Instead Try:

<i>Carex spissa</i>	San Diego sedge
<i>Chondropetalum tectorum</i>	Cape thatching reed
<i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i>	Lindheimer's muhly grass
<i>Nolina bigelovii</i>	Bigelow's bear grass

Don't Plant:

<i>Cotoneaster lacteus</i> , <i>C. pannosus</i>	Cotoneaster
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Instead Try:

<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry tree
<i>Citrus mitis</i> or <i>Citrofortunella microcarpa</i>	Calamondin orange
<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	Pineapple guava
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> * and cultivars	Toyon
<i>Viburnum suspensum</i>	Sandankwa viburnum

*Considered poisonous. Classified as "Major Toxicity" by California Poison Control System 2010.

The Bay-Friendly approach to landscapes and gardens was pioneered in Alameda County by StopWaste in collaboration with home gardeners, landscape professionals and public agencies. Find out more at www.StopWaste.org.

