



Coyote Springs Community Association – Fire Resistant Plant Information

The goal of “wildfire hardening” is to reduce the possibility of ignition of structures. Garden plantings, especially those close to the home, are an important element to consider in this process. This information specific to our community may be useful when considering plantings near your home.

It is challenging in this environment to accomplish a perfect situation. Thus working to construct a practical balance by utilizing some guidelines may be the best we can do.

Although there are thousands of beautiful plants, they have limitations. Some of the major restraints for this area are: low temperatures, ice and snow, early and late frosts and significant pressure from deer browsing. Add to that a plants propensity or resistance to fire and the choices are further narrowed.

Furthermore, many landscapes in Coyote Springs have mature and stately native trees that must be considered and maintained.

These suggestions may be considered when installing a new landscape or during periodic renovations due to aging landscapes or plant mortality. This is an opportunity to consider Firewise guidelines and improve your defensible space.

The Firewise program offers suggestions about plantings related to distances from structures, as well as plant selection. The following are some suggestions based on my own observations of the area.

General Considerations:

Soils in this area are sand and gravel which drain well, but do not hold moisture or nutrients for long.

- ✓ Thus, keeping plants healthy and vigorous requires additional moisture and fertilizer.
- ✓ The use of composted planter-mix when planting and placed around the base of plants will help retain moisture and nutrients, as well as add micro-organisms to the soil.

When possible, keep plants away from structures. This can be accomplished when planting or by pruning or removal of dead or overgrown plants.

- ✓ Prune out dead growth on healthy plants.
- ✓ Keep dead leaves and needles from accumulating.

****Be aware that the removal of sizable trees requires approval from the City of Sisters**

Suggested Plants:

Perennials: Generally Colorful and Herbaceous

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iris | <input type="checkbox"/> Lupinus | <input type="checkbox"/> Monardia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helleborus | <input type="checkbox"/> Yarrow | <input type="checkbox"/> Coreopsis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peonies | <input type="checkbox"/> Rhubeckia | <input type="checkbox"/> Hosta |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hemerocallis | <input type="checkbox"/> Erica carnea | <input type="checkbox"/> Salvia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dianthus | <input type="checkbox"/> Lavender | |



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Bulbs:

- Anemone
- Narcissus
- Crocus

Ground Covers:

- Pachysandra
- Arctostaphylos uva-ursi
- Cerastium tomentosum
- Thymus praecox

Shrubs:

- Caryopteris ‘Blue Mist’
- Perovskia (Russian Sage)
- Genista Lydia
- Daphne x burkwoodi ‘Carol Mackie’
- Mahonia aquifolium & repens
- Rosmarinus varieties
- Berberis (Numerous sizes, shapes & colors)
- Cotoneaster (hardy varieties)
- Rhus varieties
- Symphoricarpos alba
- Rhodendron P.J.M & H-1, H-2 hardy varieties
- Ornamental Grasses

Conifers (dwarf & medium size)

- Pinus aristata
- Pinus mugo & pumila
- Pinus strobus nana
- Pinus nigra
- Pinus sylvestris
- Tsuga heterophylla: upright & globe varieties

Picea: (spruces)

- Picea glauca ‘Albertiana Conica’
- Picea abies Nitidiformis
- Picea omorika nana
- Picea pungens glauca & globosa
- Picea abies procumbens

Abies: (Firs)

- Abies balsamea nana

Trees: Deciduous

- Cercis canadensis
- Populus tremula erecta
- Amelanchier spp.
- Prunus v. shubert
- Betula nigra & papyrifera
- Acer rubrum, ginnala & griseum
- Crataegus
- Gleditsia
- Sorbus
- Larix occidentalis



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Caution: Plant at your own risk the following which contains some beautiful plants, however they can be adversely impacted by:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Ice & Snow | ✓ Shade & over |
| ✓ Deer | competition by large |
| ✓ Build-up of dead | existing native pines |
| foliage at the interior | & juniper |
| of the plant | |

Plant List:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acer circinatum | <input type="checkbox"/> Ribes | <input type="checkbox"/> Weigela |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junipers | <input type="checkbox"/> Physocarpos | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Euonymus alatus | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiraea | |
| compacta | <input type="checkbox"/> Syringa | |

****Note: Most plants in the Roseacea family are Deer Candy**

The information here pertains to the plantings only and not proximity to the structure. Please consult the Firewise guidelines for more information.

Resources

Books:

Fire-resistant Plants for Home Landscapes by Oregon State Extension

Sunset-New Western Garden Book

Conifers for Your Garden by Adrian Bloom

Organizations:

Oregon Master Gardeners

Oregon N.W. Extension Service

Nurseries:

C & C Nursery-Sisters

Earth's Art-Redmond

Home Depot-Bend

Land Systems-Bend

Schillings Garden Market-Bend/Tumalo

Thanks to Coyote Springs resident, Allan Elliot for this information. Allan is a member of the Coyote Springs Firewise Committee. He holds a degree in Ornamental Horticulture and managed wholesale nurseries for over 45 years.