

Front Yard DOs and DON'Ts List

- **DO Reclaim your front yard!**
- DO think of front yards as multi-functional spaces.
- *DON'T Think of your front yard as just a showpiece for the public.*
- DO find a happy medium between showpiece & after thought.
- DO check with the neighbors, HOA, CC&Rs, setback requirements.
- DO find property lines and consider property dividers where needed.
- *DON'T assume you know your property lines, utility locations, CC&Rs, local building requirements. Verify them!*

- **DO Solve your drainage & grading issues**
- *DON'T ignore any drainage or grading issues, they WILL be a problem in the future.*
- DO consult a qualified professional for an opinion.

- **DO Create habitat for humans & wildlife!**
- DO use plants that have value to local wildlife.
- DO consult good resources or a qualified professional for an opinion.

- **DO Make a Plan!**
- *DON'T assume you'll think of everything, Make a Plan.*
- DO remove the lawn, replace with low water plants. Lawns are high water and maintenance, add low wildlife value.
- DO add trees to shade *hot reflective surfaces* of buildings, drives and streets. All add habitat value, and some add VERY HIGH human and wildlife habitat value.
- DO add California native plants: they usually are low water users, require low maintenance, and add high wildlife value.
- DO consult a qualified professional for an opinion.

- **DO Irrigate!**
- *DON'T rely on hand-watering to establish your landscape.*
- DO Use water-efficient irrigation delivery systems.
- DO Use an irrigation controller!
- DO try out the Sacramento Region Smart Irrigation Scheduler.
- *DON'T use old technology for your irrigation systems; modern technology is much more water efficient.*
- *DON'T assume you can do a better job than a smart controller can. Save up to 10,000 gallons of water per year by using a smart controller.*

Dos and Don'ts Webinar

DOs and DON'Ts List (continued)

- **DO protect your soil (your precious resource) during your build!**
- *DON'T think of soil as 'Just Dirt'.*
- **DO dig out sod by hand around established trees.**
- *DON'T forget that you can do irreparable harm to trees (roots) and soil (which is a living and valuable resource).*
- **DO ID your existing weeds. Know thy enemy.**
- *DON'T ignore persistent weeds like Bermuda grass, or Nutsedge.*
- *DON'T rely on a broad spectrum herbicide or pre-emergents to solve your weed issues.*

- **DO Your Due Diligence!**
- Protect your investment of time and energy, care for your new yard.
- DO appreciate all the gifts your new front yard has to offer.