



NORTHSTAR FIRE DEPARTMENT



Northstar Fire Department, Fire Resistant Landscaping Plant List

PURPOSE

Many common plants naturally resist fire and can even slow its spread. In general, irrigated and well maintained leafy plants burn slowly. By replacing highly flammable vegetation with these fire resistant recommended species, you can significantly improve the statistical survivability of your home when a wildfire threatens. Courtesy of the "Villager Nursery" in Truckee, this list of fire resistive plants should be considered when enhancing or adding landscape. Here are some other key components to remember when selecting appropriate fire resistant.

landscaping plants. *Note if a specific vegetation is not on the list, please contact the Northstar Fire Department Forester, Joe Barron at 530-562-1212 x2 or jbarron@northstarcsd.org for questions.

Vegetation Selection

Here are some other key components to remember when selecting appropriate fire-resistant landscaping plants.

- Choose plants that do not produce much litter such as dead branches and twigs. Plants that produce oils, resins or waxes should be avoided.
- When planting from the approved list, appropriately space plants to prevent fire spread.
- Never plant under conifer trees, this can create a ladder effect which allows smaller ground fires the ability to transfer into larger trees creating crown fires.
- To help ensure their fire resistance, plants must be maintained, watered, and pruned.
- Routine care will provide you with an attractive defensible space landscape and help ensure the survival of your property in the event of a wildfire.

The Northstar Fire Department (NFD) enforces the State of California, Placer County and Northstar Community Services District fire codes that may directly affect your landscape. The Northstar Fire Department policy is that your landscape proposal is submitted to the Northstar Property Owners Association (NPOA) prior to submittal to the NFD.

- Be sure to review all approved and non-approved species before officially submitting your landscape plan.
- Be familiar with Northstar Ordinance 35-19, Section 4 (Defensible Space Standards for Residential and Commercial Parcels).
- If at any point, there is a change in the landscape plan, please consult with the NFD and NPOA to make sure the plan remains compliant.
- A final on-site inspection must be arranged with the NFD and NPOA to have the landscape plan approved.

Approved Trees

Please note that there may be other vegetative species that are appropriate for planting and this list has been modified to demonstrate what is best suited for the Community of Northstar based on our elevation, and climate.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Apple	<i>Malus spp.</i>
Bigtooth maple	<i>Acer grandidentatum</i>
Cherry	<i>Prunus spp.</i>
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Cottonwood	<i>Populus trichorcapa</i>
Hawthorne	<i>Crataegus spp.</i>
Hedge maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Maple	<i>Acer spp.</i>
Mountain ash	<i>Sorbus spp.</i>
Northern red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Paper birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>
Poplar	<i>Populus spp.</i>
Quaking aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>
Western larch	<i>Larix occidentalis</i>
Western river birch	<i>Betula occidentalis</i>

Shrubs

Please note that there may be other vegetative species that are appropriate for planting and this list has been modified to demonstrate what is best suited for the Community of Northstar based on our elevation, and climate.

Common Name	Scientific Name
American Cranberry	<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>
Amur Maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>
Bearberry Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster dammeri`Eichholz`</i>
Bearberry Manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi cv.</i>
Buffaloberry	<i>Shepherdia spp.</i>
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Currant	<i>Ribes spp.</i>
Douglas Hawthorne	<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>
Dwarf Burning Bush	<i>Euonymus alatus`compactus`</i>
Dwarf Purple Willow	<i>Salix purpurea`nana`</i>
French Lilac	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>
Goldflame Spirea	<i>Spiraea x bumalda`Goldflame`</i>
Hardy Shrub Rose	<i>Rosa spp.</i>
Lilac	<i>Syringa spp.</i>
Malus sargentii	<i>Sargent Crabapple</i>
Mockorange	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>
Mountain Alder	<i>Alnus tenuifolia</i>
Mountain lover	<i>Paxistima canbyi</i>
Mountain Maple	<i>Acer glabrum</i>
Mountain Spray	<i>Holodiscus spp.</i>
Northern Lights Azalea	<i>Rhododendron`North`n Lights`</i>
Oregon Grape	<i>Mahonia spp.</i>
Raspberry	<i>Rubus spp.</i>
Red-twig Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>
Russian Olive	<i>Eleagnus angustifolia</i>
Sandcherry	<i>Prunus besseyi</i>
Scouler's Willow	<i>Salix scouleriana</i>
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier spp</i>
Shrubby Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>
Sierra Currant	<i>Ribes nevadense</i>
Skunkbush	<i>Rhus trilobata</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphycarpos spp.</i>
Sumac	<i>Rhus spp.</i>
Thimbleberry	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>
Vine Maple	<i>Acer circinatum</i>
Western Spirea	<i>Spiraea douglasii</i>
Willow	<i>Salix spp.</i>
Wood's Rose	<i>Rosa woodsii ultramontana</i>

Herbaceous and Perennial Ground Cover

Please note that there may be other vegetative species that are appropriate for planting and this list has been modified to demonstrate what is best suited for the Community of Northstar based on our elevation, and climate.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Allium	<i>Allium spp.</i>
Bergenia	<i>Bergenia cordifolia</i>
Bishop's Weed	<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>
Blanket Flower	<i>Gaillardia spp.</i>
Bugleweed	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>
California poppy	<i>Eschschilzia californica</i>
Candytuft	<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia spp.</i>
Coral Bells	<i>Heuchera spp.</i>
Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis spp.</i>
Creeping Phlox	<i>Phlox subulata</i>
Creeping Thyme	<i>Thymus praecox</i>
Creeping Yarrow	<i>Achillea tomentosa</i>
Daylily	<i>Hemerocalis spp.</i>
Delphinium	<i>Delphinium spp.</i>
Dianthus	<i>Dianthus spp.</i>
Dwarf periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>
English Lavender	<i>Lavendula angustifolia</i>
Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera spp.</i>
Fescue	<i>Festuca spp.</i>
Fireweed	<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>
Flax	<i>linum spp.</i>
Fleabane	<i>Erigeron spp.</i>
Hardly Ice Plant	<i>Delosperma spp.</i>
Hardy Geranium	<i>Geranium spp.</i>
Hens and Chicks	<i>Sempervivum tectorum</i>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera spp.</i>
Hosta/Funkia	<i>Hosta spp.</i>
Iris	<i>Iris spp.</i>
Ivy	<i>hedera helix</i>
Jupiter's Beard	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>
Lamb's Ear	<i>Stachys byzantina</i>
Lamium/Deadnettle	<i>Lamium spp.</i>
Lavandin	<i>Lavendula x intermedia</i>
Lavender Cotton	<i>Santolina virens</i>
Lily-of-the-Valley	<i>Convallaria majallis</i>

Continued the following page:

Please note that there may be other vegetative species that are appropriate for planting and this list has been modified to demonstrate what is best suited for the Community of Northstar based on our elevation, and climate.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Mahonia	<i>Berberis spp.</i>
Penstemon	<i>Penstemon spp.</i>
Poppy	<i>Papaver spp.</i>
Purple Coneflower	<i>Echinaceae spp.</i>
Pussytoes	<i>Antennaria spp.</i>
Red Hot Poker	<i>Kniphoffia uvaria</i>
Rock Cress	<i>Aubretia deltoidea</i>
Rocky Mountain Penstemon	<i>Penstemon strictus</i>
Sage/Salvia	<i>Salvia spp.</i>
Sea Thrift	<i>Armeria maritima</i>
Shasta daisy	<i>Leucanthemum x superbum</i>
Snow in summer	<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>
Spotted Lungwort	<i>Pulmonaria longifolia</i>
Spring Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla (herbaceous spp.)</i>
Statice	<i>Limonium perezii</i>
Stonecrop/Sedum	<i>Sedum spp.</i>
Strawberry	<i>Fragaria spp.</i>
Sunrose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>
Sweet William	<i>Dianthus barbatus</i>
Violet/Viola	<i>Viola spp.</i>
Wild Ginger	<i>Asarum caudatum</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea spp.</i>
Yucca	<i>Yucca spp.</i>

Non-Approved Species

Highly Flammable Plant List: PLANTS THAT WILL IGNITE QUICKLY AND BURN READILY

The Northstar Fire Department will not allow these plants to be planted on vacant properties or properties with structures, fenced outbuildings, or decks. This list is NOT all-inclusive as other plants with similar characteristic, such as: low moisture, dry limbs and needles and abundant oils are potentially hazardous. Plant smart and use fire-resistant vegetation to create defensible space around all structures.

Non-Approved Tree Species

Common Name	Scientific Name
Acacia	<i>Acacia sp.</i>
Arborvitae	<i>Thuja sp.</i>
Cedar	<i>Cedrus sp.</i>
Cedar/Cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis sp.</i>
Cypress	<i>Cupressus sp.</i>
Douglas fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesi</i>
Fir	<i>Abies sp.</i>
Hemlock	<i>Tsuga sp.</i>
Juniper	<i>Juniperus sp.</i>
Pine	<i>Pinus sp.</i>
Sequoia	<i>Sequoia sp.</i>
Spruce	<i>Picea sp.</i>
Yew	<i>Taxus sp.</i>

Non-Approved Shrub Species

Common Name	Scientific Name
Blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>
Bitterbrush	<i>Purshia tridentata</i>
Juniper	<i>Juniperus sp.</i>
Laurel sumac	<i>Malosma laurina</i>
Manzanita*	<i>Arctostaphylos sp.</i> *except for Kinnikinnick
Oregon grape*	<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i> *except for 'Compacta'
Rosemary*	<i>Rosmarinus sp.</i>) *except for 'Prostratus'
Sagebrush	<i>Artemisia sp.</i>
Scotch broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Scrub oak	<i>Quercus sp.</i>
Wild Lilac	<i>Ceanothus sp.</i>

Non-Approved Grasses and Ground Cover

Common Name	Scientific Name/Remarks
Dry annual grasses	
*Bark mulch	*within 5' of any part of the structure. Beyond this distance a 1"-2" depth.
Pampas grass	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>
*Pine needle mulch	*within 5' of any part of the structure. Beyond this distance a 1"-2" depth.
*Woodchip mulch	*within 5' of any part of the structure. Beyond this distance a 1"-2" depth.

Remember, there are NO fire-proof plants, but some are more fire-resistant than others. Fire-resistant plants have the following characteristics:

- Are less flammable and likely to ignite in a wildfire -Have high moisture content, succulent plants.
- Are low growing or a small species -Have stems or leaves that are not resinous, oily, or waxy.
- Easy to maintain and prune -Have less accumulated debris and fewer dead branches.
- Have an open, loose branching pattern -Are drought resistant, requiring less irrigation.
- Burn less intensely when ignited and spread the fire slower.