



# Hiring a Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional to Design or Manage Your Landscape



Save water

Control weeds

Reduce water bills

## Are you a...

**Homeowner** needing help redesigning or managing your yard or garden?

**Property owner or manager** looking to improve or manage your landscaping while keeping costs in check?

**Developer** wanting to distinguish your properties from the competition?

## A Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional can help.

Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals create and manage healthy, attractive and sustainable landscapes by:

- Conserving water,
- Reducing energy and greenhouse gas emissions
- Using integrated pest management to minimize chemical use and protect water quality
- Nurturing healthy soils while reducing fertilizer use
- Reducing waste and recycling materials
- Creating wildlife habitat



## What is Bay-Friendly Landscaping?

Bay-Friendly landscapes are a beautiful and healthy way to conserve water and reduce pollution in our local watersheds. Based on 7 principles, the Bay Friendly approach is flexible and can be adapted to the style that fits your needs, from urban retreats to pollinator habitats, to native plant and year-round edible gardens.



## Why choose a Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional?

Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals have completed one or both of the Bay-Friendly Qualified training programs. These comprehensive programs focus on landscaping strategies and techniques that work with nature to reduce waste, conserve resources and prevent pollution.

*The goal? Functional, beautiful landscapes that do a world of good.*

### DESIGN & INSTALL

Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals who have completed the design training program have learned sustainable approaches to designing new landscapes. They can help you design and construct a Bay-Friendly landscape for your residential, commercial or public property.

### MANAGE

Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals who have completed the training program on managing existing landscapes can help you manage your property using Bay-Friendly best practices.

*To find a Bay-Friendly Qualified professional* for your landscaping project, visit [www.bayfriendly.org/bf-qualified](http://www.bayfriendly.org/bf-qualified).

If your current landscape professionals are not Bay-Friendly Qualified, encourage them to learn more about the Bay-Friendly Landscape Training and Qualification programs for Designing New Landscapes or Managing Existing Landscapes.



## Homeowners, Homeowners' Associations and Residential Developers

*Get your project off the ground with a Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional*

### NEED DESIGN AND INSTALLATION SERVICES?

Be sure to hire a Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professional. For new home construction and new residential developments, ask your Bay-Friendly Qualified professional to use the Bay-Friendly Scorecard to make sure your project includes sustainable landscaping strategies such as:

- Conserving water with high efficiency irrigation systems and plants that look great without a lot of water
- Enriching the soil with compost to improve plant health and reduce the need for synthetic fertilizers
- Covering the soil surface with mulch to create drought-resistant soils and keep weeds under control

### NEED HELP WITH UPKEEP?

Hire a Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape maintenance professional. It's the best way ensure that safe, environmentally sound landscaping practices are used on your property—whether or not it was originally designed as a Bay-Friendly landscape.

Landscape professionals who have been trained and qualified in managing existing landscapes have learned about cutting-edge practices such as:

- Caring for lawns with few or no chemicals
- Sourcing quality compost that can reduce fertilizer and pesticide needs
- Sheet mulching lawns in place and planting beautiful meadows of grasses and wildflowers suited to your climate



## With the help of a Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional...

### HOMEOWNERS CAN:

- Enjoy your property more
- Increase your property **value**
- Reduce water bills with beautiful, **drought-resistant** landscaping
- Safeguard the **health** of people, pets and wild animals
- Do your part to protect the **environment**

### HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND SINGLE-FAMILY HOME DEVELOPERS CAN:

- Increase the **appeal and value** of your residential community
- Meet growing **public demand** for chemical-free, drought-resistant landscapes
- **Reduce costs** of water, maintenance and plant replacement
- **Stay ahead** of laws regulating stormwater, water efficiency, waste disposal, air quality and greenhouse gas emissions
- Build good community relations and distinguish your organization as a **green leader**

Find Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals at [www.bayfriendly.org/bf-qualified](http://www.bayfriendly.org/bf-qualified).



### Bay-Friendly Qualified Professionals give you options

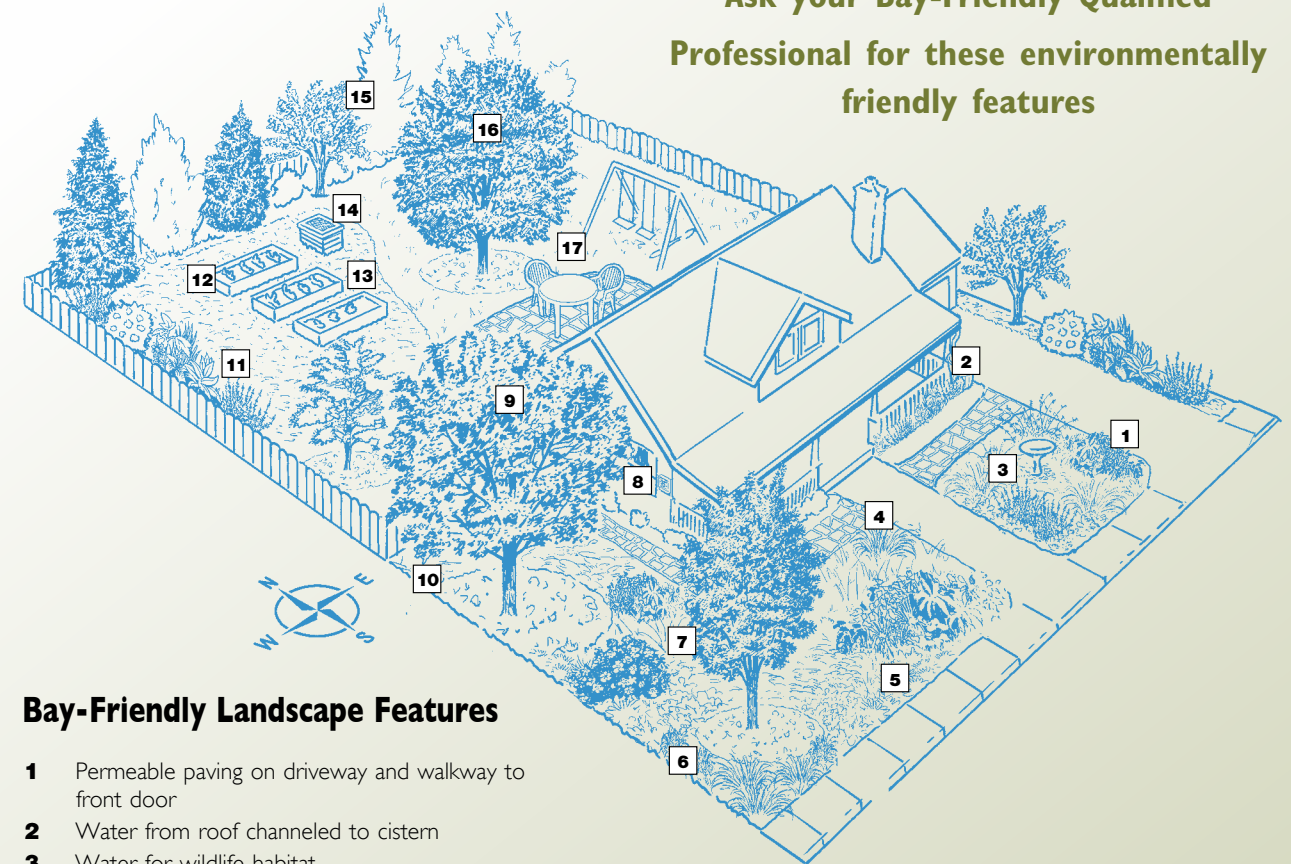
Choosing a Bay-Friendly landscape professional doesn't limit you to a particular style. Bay-Friendly is an approach to landscaping that offers a wide array of choices for creating and caring for yards, gardens and common-area landscapes.

Residential landscapes created and managed by Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals have included Mediterranean-style retreats, shaded woodlands, wildlife habitats and neighborhood pocket parks. Bay-Friendly landscapes can include edible gardens and fruit trees, flower beds, small lawns, meadows, barbecue areas, play areas for children and much more.

More choices are described in the *Bay-Friendly Landscape Guidelines: Sustainable Practices for the Landscape Professional*. If your designer or contractor does not have a copy, they can request a copy at [www.bayfriendly.org](http://www.bayfriendly.org)



Ask your Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional for these environmentally friendly features



### Bay-Friendly Landscape Features

- 1** Permeable paving on driveway and walkway to front door
- 2** Water from roof channeled to cistern
- 3** Water for wildlife habitat
- 4** Pavers with spaces and low water use plants between
- 5** Front lawn replaced by diverse plantings with many California native groundcovers, shrubs and trees, but no invasive species
- 6** All plants given the space to grow to their natural size
- 7** Plants selected to match the microclimates
- 8** Irrigation controller waters hydrozones according to plant needs, soil moisture and weather
- 9** Deciduous trees placed to the west & southwest of the house & patio for summer cooling
- 10** Repository for leaves to collect under trees as mulch
- 11** Mulched paths keep soil covered
- 12** Drip irrigation for vegetable beds, shrubs, trees and elsewhere where feasible
- 13** Raised beds are constructed from plastic or composite lumber
- 14** Compost bin recycles plant and kitchen debris
- 15** Evergreen windbreak blocks north winter winds
- 16** Trees not topped but pruned properly
- 17** Small lawn in backyard where family will use it

## Owners and Managers of Commercial, Civic and Multifamily Properties

*Reap the benefits of hiring Bay-Friendly Qualified Professionals*

The design and management services of Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals can help property owners and managers:

- Attract and **retain tenants**
- **Distinguish your properties** from the competition
- **Reduce costs** of water, maintenance and plant replacement
- Protect people's **health** by reducing or eliminating landscaping chemicals
- Improve job satisfaction and **reduce turnover** of maintenance crews
- **Stay ahead** of laws regulating stormwater, water efficiency, waste disposal, air quality and greenhouse gas emissions
- Build good community relations and enhance your organization's reputation as a **green leader**

## Developers of New Commercial Properties

Beef up your green team by hiring Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals to design and install your landscaping. To get the greatest benefit from their services, involve them early in your planning process.

## Managers of Public Agency and Commercial Properties

If you contract out the management of your grounds, be sure to hire a Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape maintenance professional. If your organization employs landscape maintenance staff, consider enrolling them in the Bay-Friendly Landscape Training and Qualification program for Managing Existing Landscapes.

Find Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals at [www.bayfriendly.org/bf-qualified](http://www.bayfriendly.org/bf-qualified).



## Bay-Friendly Qualified Professionals create landscapes that work

Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals know the score, and you can too. When designing and installing new landscapes, your Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professional can use the Bay-Friendly Scorecard to help guide design choices and make sure you are maximizing the benefits of your Bay-Friendly landscape. See *page 11* on how you can also gain recognition for new Bay-Friendly landscapes.

**Bay-Friendly Scorecard for Commercial & Civic Landscapes**  
2008 Version

This scorecard tracks Bay-Friendly features incorporated into the design and construction of new landscapes. The minimum requirements for a Bay-Friendly Landscape are: earn a total of 60 points or more; and complete the 9 required practices indicated by the "R" in the columns labeled "Possible Points."

Landscape Locality	List to Length	Nurture the Soil	Conserve Water	Conserve Energy	Waste and Air Quality	Create Wildlife Habitat	POSSIBLE POINTS		
							Points	Required (R)	
<b>A. Site Planning</b>									
<b>1. Select and evaluate the site carefully</b>									
	a. Submit the completed Bay-Friendly Site Analysis before 100% design development documents.						5		
	b. The site is located within an urban growth boundary and avoids environmentally sensitive sites.						3		
	c. The site development results in the clean up of a contaminated site (i.e. brownfield) or is in a designated redevelopment area.							3	
<b>2. Consider the potential for fire</b>									
	a. For sites adjacent to fire sensitive open space or wildlands only. Submit a Fire Mitigation Plan.						5		
<b>3. Keep plant debris on site</b>									
	a. Produce mulch from plant debris.								
	i. Design documents specify areas under trees & shrub canopies and at least 10 feet away from hard surfaces and storm drains, to be used as a leaf repository for mulch.						1		
	ii. Construction documents specify that of the trees identified for removal, some are chipped for use as mulch onsite.						1		
	b. Produce compost from plant debris.								
	i. A site for composting is included in landscape plans. Systems for composting up to and including 3 cubic yards at one time.						1		
	ii. Systems for composting more than 3 and up to 10 yards at one time (total 2 points)						1		
	iii. Systems 10 cubic yards or larger (total 3 points)						1		
<b>4. Reduce and recycle waste</b>									
	a. An easily accessible area is dedicated to the collection and storage of materials for recycling.						2		
<b>5. Minimize site disturbance</b>									
	a. On greenfield sites, limit site disturbance to protect topography, vegetation and hydrology (total 3 points)						1	1	
	b. On previously developed sites, restore vegetation and hydrology (total 3 points)						1	1	
<b>6. Provide water and/or shelter for wildlife such as birdhouses, bathouses, boulders, logs, wood piles, large native shrubs or trees</b>									
								1	
<b>7. Conserve or restore natural areas &amp; wildlife corridors</b>									
	a. The landscape is designed to preserve 80% of existing mature healthy trees and penalties for destruction of protected trees are included in construction contract.							2	
	b. The landscape is designed to increase open space compared to its previous use and/or to connect it to other open space or wildlife corridors.							2	
	c. Create or protect a diverse plant buffer of low-maintenance vegetation along creeks, shorelines or monocultured landscape areas.							2	
<b>Site Planning Subtotal, out of possible 33 points:</b>									

## Bay-Friendly Landscapes are springing up all over

With the help of Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professionals, Bay-Friendly civic, commercial and multifamily landscapes have already been installed throughout Alameda County and other parts of the Bay Area. They range from street medians to public parks to the grounds of fire stations, libraries, apartment complexes and college campuses.

## Look to these models for ideas and inspiration

While each project is unique, they all share common ground: working with nature to reduce waste, prevent pollution and support the health of the San Francisco Bay watershed.

### Civic/Institutional Projects

Alvarado Medians:  
Union City

Buchanan Street Median  
Landscaping: Albany

Castro Valley Library:  
Castro Valley

Castro Valley Sanitary  
District Headquarters:  
Castro Valley

Children's Fairyland: Oakland

Civic Center: Albany

Doyle Street Park: Emeryville

Livermore-Pleasanton Fire  
Station No. 4: Pleasanton

Memorial, Ocean View,  
Terrace Parks: Albany

Ohlone College Center  
for Health Sciences &  
Technology: Newark

Senior Community Center:  
San Leandro

Shasta Hills Fire Station:  
Berkeley

StopWaste.Org's  
Education Center:  
San Leandro

Studio One Art Center:  
Oakland

Union City Fire Station  
Number 3: Union City

Willow Park: Union City

### Residential

7th Street Homes:  
Union City

Edes Ave Affordable  
Housing: Oakland

Estabrook Senior Affordable  
Housing: San Leandro

Ironhorse Apartments at  
Central Station: Oakland

Jack London Gateway Senior  
Housing: Oakland

Sarah Conner Court:  
Hayward

Shinsei Gardens Apartments:  
Alameda

### Commercial Projects

Bay Street Plaza: Emeryville

Drakes Landing: Greenbrae

Costco: Hayward



## Getting credit with Bay-Friendly Rated

The landscapes pictured here and on the facing page aren't just Bay-Friendly—they're Bay-Friendly Rated. This green label provides third-party assurance that a new or major renovation of a landscape meets or exceeds Bay-Friendly program requirements.

Achieving the Bay-Friendly Rated designation has helped many of these projects also earn credits under green building rating systems such as **LEED®** and **GreenPoint Rated**. Bay-Friendly also supports compliance with federal stormwater requirements, the State of California's Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance, and local construction, demolition and plant debris recycling goals.

Ask your Bay-Friendly Qualified landscape professional about having your landscape Bay-Friendly Rated.



The Bay-Friendly Landscaping and Gardening Program offers resources to help home gardeners, homeowners, developers and professional landscapers design, create and manage Bay-Friendly landscapes and gardens.

*Bay-Friendly Landscaping and Gardening is a program of StopWaste.Org.*

**STOPWASTE.ORG**  
*Reducing the Waste Stream for Alameda County*

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[www.bayfriendly.org](http://www.bayfriendly.org)