

Plants to Pair with Water Features

You can have a drought-tolerant garden and still enjoy the ambience of fountain surrounded by lush plantings. Chose a special place near an entry or patio where the gentle sound of falling water will mask background noise and conversations. In our dry climate, birds and insects need sources of fresh water. A fountain with a recirculating pump keeps the water moving and prevents mosquitoes from breeding.

European Gray Sedge

Carex divulsa

Carex divulsa (European gray sedge), perennial, 1-2 feet tall and wide, clump-forming, with glossy, dark green, grasslike, arching leaves and small, inconspicuous, green flowers from late winter through spring that age to brown.

Native from Europe and North Africa east to central Asia. Self-sows freely and should not be planted near wildlands.

Mow before seed set to contain spread. Cool sun to part shade, most soils. Adaptable. May be offered as Berkeley sedge or as *C. tumulicola*, which is a smaller, less vigorous plant.

Sunset: 2b-9, 11-24



Western Redbud

Cercis occidentalis

Cercis occidentalis (western redbud), deciduous shrub or multitrunk tree, slow growing to 10-20 feet tall and 8-12 feet wide, with bluish green, heart-shaped leaves that turn yellow in fall, bright magenta flowers that appear before leaves, and long, purplish brown seedpods. Native to the Coast Ranges and Sierra Nevada foothills from northern to southern California and east to Utah and Arizona. Sun to part shade, good drainage. Flowers best with some winter chill.

Sunset: 2-24

Wild Ageratum

Conoclinium coelstinum

Conoclinium coelstinum (wild ageratum), perennial, 1-2 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide, with large, oval, lightly hairy, coarsely toothed, mid-green leaves on purplish stems and flat-topped clusters of purplish blue flowers in late summer to fall.

Spreads by rhizomes, sometimes aggressively. Native to moist or seasonally wet sites in the eastern and midwestern United States. Sun to part shade, well-drained, humusy soils.

Sunset: N/A



Plants to Pair with Water Features



Silver Falls Dichondra
Dichondra argenta 'Silver Falls'

Dichondra argentea 'Silver Falls' (Silver Falls dichondra), perennial, fast growing, dense mat 2-3 inches tall and spreading 3-6 feet wide, with small, heart-shaped to nearly round, silvery pale green leaves and tiny, inconspicuous, greenish white flowers in late spring. Species is native to high deserts from southeastern Arizona to western Texas and northern Mexico. Cascades over rocks and walls. Spreads slowly by rooting stems. Cool sun to part shade or afternoon shade, well-drained soils.

Sunset: 8-10,12-24

Creeping Lilyturf
Liriope spicata 'Silver Dragon'

Liriope spicata 'Silver Dragon' (creeping lilyturf) perennial, to 1 foot tall and spreading by rhizomes to 3-4 feet wide, with upright, narrowly strap-shaped, white-striped, glossy green leaves. Short spikes of pale lavender to almost white flowers in late summer and fall are partly hidden among the leaves. Species is native to China and Japan and can spread aggressively in moist soils. Cool sun or light shade, most soils.

Sunset: 3-10,14-24



Spiny Headed Mat Rush
Lomandra longifolia 'Breeze'

Lomandra longifolia 'Breeze' (spiny headed mat rush), perennial, clump forming, 2-3 feet tall and wide, with grasslike, bright green leaves and flowering stems, usually shorter than the leaves, bearing clusters of tiny, whitish yellow, spring or summer flowers with noticeably bristly bracts. Compact selection of a species native to varied habitats in eastern Australia. Sun to part shade, most soils.

Sunset: N/A



Plants to Pair with Water Features

Pink Iceplant

Oscularia deltoides

Oscularia deltoides (pink iceplant), succulent, 3-6 inches tall and 2-3 feet wide, with small, blue-gray leaves with softly toothed margins on red stems and masses of magenta daisy flowers with yellow centers in spring and summer. Native to rocky soils in low mountains of southwestern Western Cape Province, South Africa. Sun to part shade, fast drainage. Good seaside plant. May be offered as *Lampranthus*.

Sunset: 14-24



Variegated Mock Orange

Pittosporum tobira 'Variegata'

Pittosporum tobira 'Variegata' (variegated mock orange) evergreen shrub, 5-12 feet tall and wide, with leathery, spoon-shaped, gray-green leaves with irregular white margins and clusters of small, fragrant, white flowers in spring that age to creamy yellow. Flowers are followed by small, green capsules that age to brown. Species is native to China, Japan, and Korea. Cool sun or part shade, most well-drained soils. Good seaside plant. May be offered as 'Variegatum'.

Sunset: 8-24

Pincushion Flower

Scabiosa caucasica 'Butterfly Blue'

Scabiosa caucasica 'Butterfly Blue' (pincushion flower) perennial, compact, 12-18 inches tall and 15 inches wide, short mound of ferny foliage, blooming for months from late spring until frost, lavender-blue pincushion-like flowers, 2 inches across, wiry stems with gray-green leaves. Full sun to part shade in hot summer climates, medium moisture, well-drained soils.

Sunset: 1-10, 14-24

