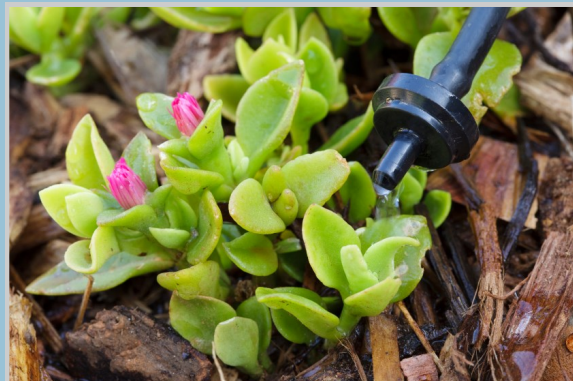




City of Corona

Residential Parkway Landscape Conversion Guidelines



September 2023

General Requirements

Corona Municipal Code Section 12.08.010 allows homeowners to remove turf and alter the sprinkler system in the parkway in front of their home, provided that digging is less than 12 inches deep, in order to install water efficient landscapes. The City of Corona has established guidelines for converting water demanding turf into water efficient landscaping in City parkways (the landscaped area between the curb and sidewalk).

Turf removal projects are the sole responsibility of the owner and are performed at no expense to the City of Corona. Any changes or damages to any utility due to the installation shall be repaired at the sole expense of the homeowner.

If you are planning on removing the turf from your parkway, please follow these simple do's and don'ts:

| Do | Don't |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call Dig Alert at 1-800-227-2600 before you dig. Always call Dig Alert before you dig anywhere, even if it's on your property or in your backyard. • Use water efficient plants that do not grow over 18 inches in height. See page 5 for a list of approved plants. • Hand dig around marked utilities and always work safely. • Use mulch, which is the preferred method of ground cover. • Use rocks that are over 3 inches in diameter. • Make sure that rock, bark and mulch are flush to the curb. • Use pervious pavers and materials so water can still percolate back into the soil. • Consider installing synthetic turf. Artificial turf must be professional looking and professionally installed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put plants next to fire hydrants. Leave a 3-foot area on each side of the hydrant and cover it with mulch. • Put structures in the parkway. Only mailboxes and utilities are allowed in the parkway. No boulders, statues or structures of any kind. • Use colored rocks or mulch. • Put pervious pavers next to a street tree. Leave a border equal to the parkway width around the tree. See example on the next page. • Grout pavers or rocks in place. • Install impermeable surfaces such as concrete, plastic sheeting, etc. |



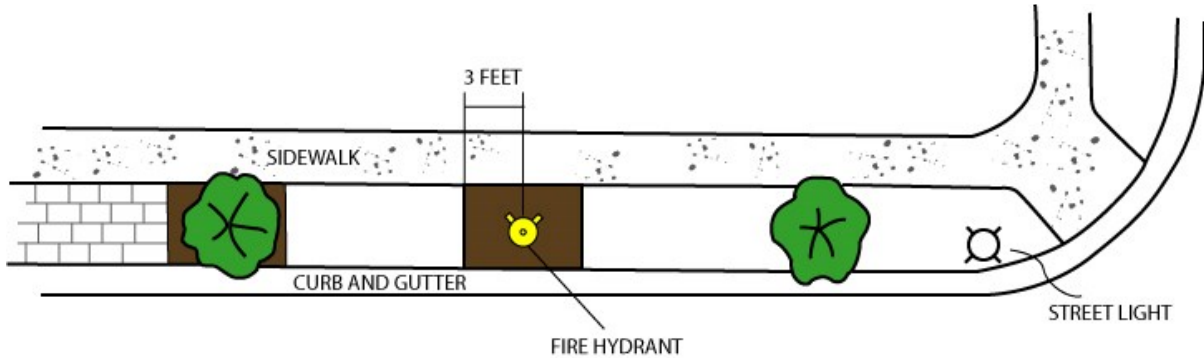
Always call before you dig—
for your safety!

For questions regarding these guidelines, call the Corona Utilities Department at (951) 736-2234 or e-mail StopTheDrop@CoronaCA.gov.

Street Tree and Fire Hydrant Requirements

Fire Hydrants


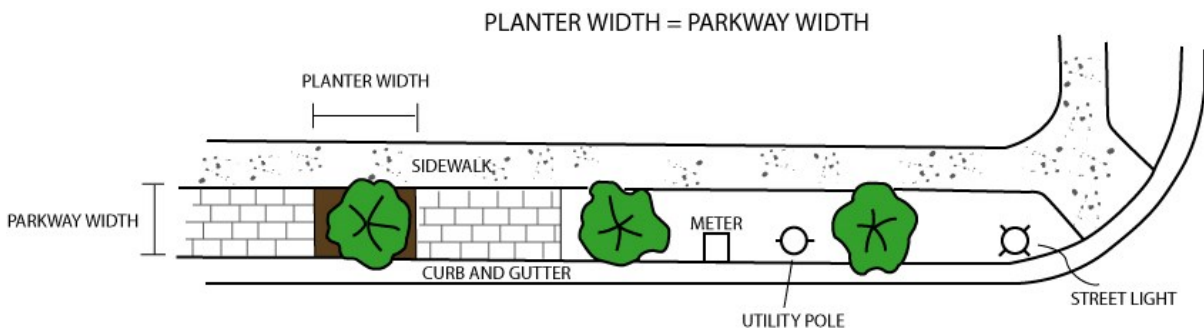
All fire hydrants must have a 3-foot (on center) clear area surrounding them, where no plantings should be placed. This area shall be covered in mulch. See the illustration below:



Street Trees

All street trees need to remain in place. New street trees need to be planted per City of Corona standards. For a list of approved street trees and standards, go to www.CoronaCA.gov.

When adding pervious pavers to the parkway landscape, please make sure that the planter width is equal to the parkway width. For example:



**Planting a tree in the parkway?
Contact our Community Services
Department at (951) 736-2241. A
Park Inspector can help you with the
placement and provide
suggestions to help establish a
successful tree that will last.**

Removing Turf and Planting New Landscaping

Step 1

Apply an herbicide to the area prior to removal to ensure all roots and seeds are sterile. Use a square edge shovel to score along the outside perimeter of the parkway area, digging down to a depth of about three to four inches. This will enable you to get a clean edge along the path once you begin removing the sod.



Step 2

Use the same square edged shovel and place the blade at an angle to maneuver under the sod and slice it at the roots. You can remove very manageable sized pieces at a time using this method. For large areas of turf, consider renting a sod cutter. Remember to always read the safety instructions before operating any machinery.

Tip: If you are taking out a large amount of sod, call Waste Management at (800) 423-9986 ahead of time and arrange for a bin to dispose of sod. Fees for the bin will apply.



Step 3

After sod removal, irrigate again for a few days to see if anything grows back. If it does, apply an herbicide to the area and remove the grass again after a day or two.

Next, level the soil in preparation for planting.

Tip: You may also want to add some soil amendments at this time to help your new plants flourish.



Removing Turf and Planting New Landscaping

Step 4

For best results, convert your existing overhead sprinklers to a drip system. This helps save water and reduce maintenance.



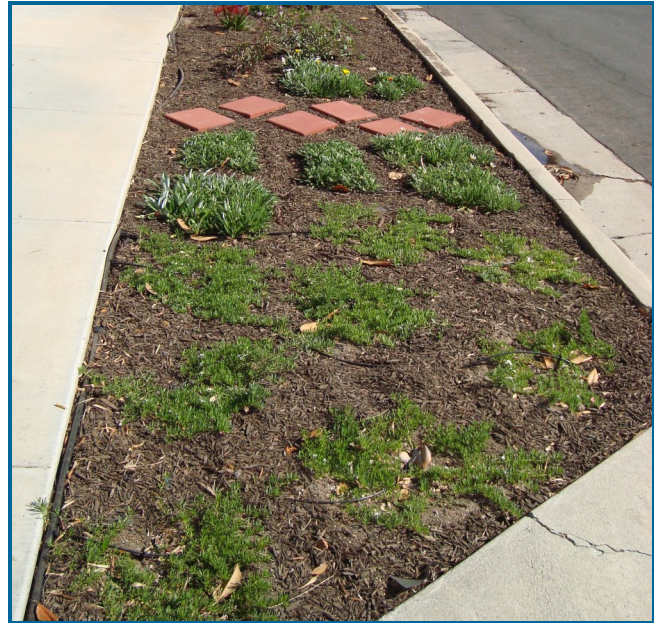
Step 5

Plant water efficient plants like those listed in our approved plant list; just make sure they do not grow over 18 inches tall.

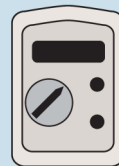
Make sure you leave necessary space around any fire hydrants or trees in the parkway area.

Place permeable paver stones or rocks over 3 inches in size, and cover the remaining soil with at least 3 inches of mulch. Do not grout pavers in place.

Tip: Consider installing a permeable weed barrier before laying down your plants.



Install a Weather-Based Irrigation Controller, or WBIC. These “smart” controllers use daily weather data to adjust watering schedules based on your soil, plant and sprinkler types.



Parkway Appropriate Plants

| Common Name | Genus/Species | Height | Spread |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Ballerina Indian Hawthorne | <i>Rhapheolepis indica</i> | 24" | 4' |
| Bearberry Cotoneaster | <i>Cotoneaster dammeri</i> | 12 to 18" | 6' |
| Blue Chalk Sticks | <i>Senecio mandraliscae</i> | 12 to 24" | 2 to 3' |
| Blue Fescue Grass | <i>Festuca glauca</i> | 9 to 12" | 9 to 12" |
| Blue Moor Grass | <i>Sesleria caerulea</i> | 8 to 12" | 12" |
| Common Yarrow | <i>Achillea millefolium</i> | 12 to 36" | 24" |
| Coral Bells/Purple Palace | <i>Heuchera sanguinea</i> | 12 to 18" | 8 to 20" |
| Crane's Bill | <i>Geranium incanum</i> | 12" | 18 to 24" |
| Creeping Mahonia | <i>Mahonia repens</i> | 9 to 12" | 18" |
| Day Lily | <i>Hemerocallis</i> | 24" | 2 to 5' |
| Ground Morning Glory | <i>Convolvulus mauritanicus</i> | 8" | 3' |
| Hens and Chicks | <i>Echeveria 'Imbricata'</i> | 2" to 3" | |
| Ice Plant | <i>Delosperma cooperii</i> | 3" | 1.5' |
| Juniper (height under 18") | <i>Juniperus</i> | 18" | Varies |
| Kalwerbossie Geranium | <i>Pelargonium sidoides</i> | 12" | 12" |
| Lavender Cotton | <i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i> | 12 to 18" | 3' |
| Mexican Blue Sage | <i>Salvia chamaedryoides</i> | 12 to 18" | 6 to 8' |
| Mexican Evening Primrose | <i>Oenothera berlandieri</i> | 12" | 3' |
| Mexican Feather Grass | <i>Nassella tenuissima</i> | Up to 24" | 2 to 3' |
| Sandpaper or Purple Verbena | <i>Verbena Rigida</i> | 12 to 18" | 3' |
| Snow in Summer | <i>Cerastium tomentosum</i> | 6" | 1' |
| Star Jasmine | <i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i> | 6 to 24" | 6 to 9" |
| Trailing Germander | <i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i> | 6 to 12" | 2 to 3' |
| Trailing Ice Plant | <i>Lampranthus spectabilis</i> | 6 to 18" | 2' |
| Trailing Lantana | <i>Lantana montevidensis</i> | 18" | 3' |
| Woolly Grevillia | <i>Grevillia lanigera</i> | 12" | 4 to 5' |
| Woolly Yarrow | <i>Achillea tomentosa</i> | 6 to 12" | 18" |

Plants should not grow taller than 18".
Plants not listed are subject to review.
Contact the Corona Utilities Department at
(951) 736-2234 for guidance.






Click on links on each common name to be
directed to a picture from the Metropolitan
Water District's www.bewaterwise.com
website.



Note: Some of the plants listed above are over 18". This is due to a flower sprout that generally extends beyond the base of the plant. Keep in mind that the 18" requirement is there to keep a clear line of sight for vehicles and pedestrians.

Choosing plants that naturally remain under 18" is desirable to help reduce maintenance.

Hardscapes and Mulches

| Hardscapes to Use | Hardscapes Not Allowed |
|---|---|
|  <p data-bbox="334 678 691 709"><i>Decorative Pavers (pervious only)</i></p> |  <p data-bbox="867 678 1365 709"><i>Concrete, non-pervious pavers, or metal grates</i></p> |
|  <p data-bbox="396 1020 630 1052"><i>Mulch (3" min. depth)</i></p> |  <p data-bbox="940 1020 1291 1077"><i>Colored Mulch (Only natural colors are allowed)</i></p> |
|  <p data-bbox="298 1377 727 1409"><i>3" and larger rock (Not grouted in place)</i></p> |  <p data-bbox="878 1377 1352 1465"><i>Decorative rock, red rock, or pea gravel Note: Rocks smaller than 3" are not allowed. No colored rocks are allowed.</i></p> |
|  <p data-bbox="305 1766 722 1797"><i>Decomposed Granite or Crushed Stone</i></p> |  <p data-bbox="854 1766 1382 1822"><i>Colored Decomposed Granite or Colored Crushed Stone (only natural colors are allowed)</i></p> |

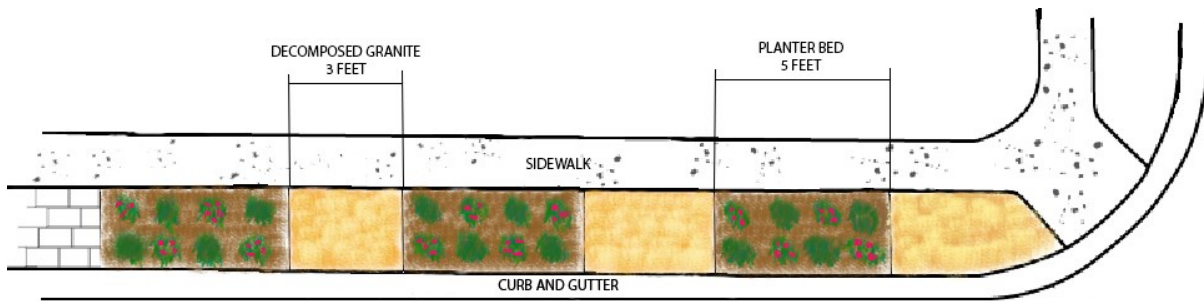
***Please review pages 7 to 8 for guidelines for installing decomposed granite in parkways.**

Specifications for Decomposed Granite (DG)

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide procedural and design guidance for residents considering decomposed granite (DG) installation in City parkways (the landscaped area between the curb and sidewalk).

Decomposed Granite

If you plan to use DG you may not have more than 3 continuous feet of DG without a 5 foot planter. The planter bed must be at least 5 feet in length with plants from the list on page 5. The exposed soil around the plants should be covered with mulch. See the illustration below:



Step 1

Select your type of crushed stone (DG)

Select a 3/8" crushed stone or decomposed granite (DG). Any natural color is suitable.



Step 2

Site Preparation

Prepare the site by removing existing grass and dirt down to 3" below grade. Refer to page 3 for proper turf removal steps.

Specifications for Decomposed Granite (DG)

Step 3

Install Base Material

Spread a Class 2 base material at least 1" thick. This provides a base layer for the crushed stone and allows for better compaction and drainage. Compact the base using a vibrator plate compactor with a 16½" by 22" plate. Vibrator plate compactors can be rented at any local equipment rental yard.



Step 4

Add a Stabilizer

Be sure to add a stabilizer to the crushed stone for durability against foot traffic and weather elements. Stabilizer is a liquid application that binds the crushed stone together making the surface stronger and resistant to foot traffic and weather conditions. Some DG comes pre-mixed with a stabilizer; be sure to confirm with the supplier.

Step 5

Spread crushed stone

Spread the crushed stone at a 2" depth. Install treated lumber or bender board as a boundary for the area.



Step 6

Compact Area

Use a vibrator plate compactor to compact the surface. Lightly apply water, using a hose, to the top of the surface before compacting. Perform 1 to 2 passes on one area at a time versus the whole area. Do not walk on area for at least 12 hours or until the surface has cured.



Other Tips:

- Do not install DG 72 hours before rainfall
- Do not install if the temperature will drop below 40° F
- Cover area with tarp if surface isn't cured before rainfall
- Use a standard vibrator plate compactor with a 16 ½" by 22" plate

Sample Parkways



Sample Parkway



Tips and Helpful Information

Conservation Facts and Tips

- Did you know that up to 60% of the water used in the summer is for your lawn?
- Watering during the heat of the day can account for up to 60% evaporation loss.
- Water your lawn only when it needs it. If you step on the grass and it springs back up when you move, it doesn't need water. If it stays flat, it does need water.
- If you water your grass and trees more heavily, but less often, this saves water and builds stronger roots.
- Weather based irrigation controllers that use weather data to control watering will prevent over irrigation and runoff from your property.
- Raise your lawnmower blade to at least 3 inches to help your lawn establish better root systems and hold on to moisture longer.
- **Aerate and fertilize your yard twice a year.** Aeration will help water to penetrate the soil and fertilizer will help keep your lawn green.
- Check hoses, faucets, toilets and pipes for leaks. A leaky faucet can waste up to two gallons of water per day, and a leaky toilet can waste hundreds of gallons of water a day.
- Put a layer of mulch in planter areas and around trees. Mulch helps to reduce evaporation and protect against weed growth.

Some other facts:

- Gasoline-powered landscape equipment (mowers, trimmers, blowers, chainsaws) account for over 5% of our urban air pollution.
- Residential application of pesticides is typically at a rate 20 times that of farmers per acre, and can have many unintended results.
- Yard wastes (mostly grass clippings) comprise 20% of municipal solid waste collected and most still ends up in landfills.
- Landscaping accounts for more than half the water Californians use at home.

Corona's Drought Ordinance

The City is currently in Stage 2 of the Drought Ordinance.

- No watering between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- Odd numbered addresses can water on Saturday, Monday and Wednesday only. * For example, if your street address is 401 Any Street, the street number ends with a 1, making this an

odd numbered address.

- Even numbered addresses can water on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday only.* If your street address ends with an even number, such as 302 Any Street, then you have an even numbered address.
- Watering on Fridays is prohibited. Since government institutions are not open on weekends, they may water three days per week of the agency's choosing.
- You can have two cycles of five minutes a day, which can also help reduce runoff.
- Drip irrigation times are limited to 90 minutes maximum per watering day.
- Watering during and within 48 hours after rainfall measuring ½" or more is prohibited.
- Street trees must be kept alive.
- Leaks and broken sprinklers must be fixed in a timely manner.
- Water cannot be allowed to runoff property.
- Washing hard surfaces is prohibited.
- Vehicles can only be washed using a bucket and hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle.
- Food establishments are prohibited from providing drinking water to patrons unless requested.
- The overfilling of swimming pools and spas is prohibited. The filling or refilling of ornamental ponds, streams and artificial lakes is prohibited.
- The operation of any ornamental fountain or similar structure is prohibited except for short periods of time to prevent damage, unless the fountain is recirculating.

Resources to Help You Save Water

The Corona Utilities Department's Water Resources Team is here to help you save water through a variety of programs, including FREE water saving devices, and rebate programs. For more information, call one of our team members today at (951) 736-2234 or e-mail them at StopTheDrop@CoronaCA.gov.