

# Host Garden Questionnaire

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Other name for listing in tour guidebook (not required) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Garden address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone \_\_\_\_\_

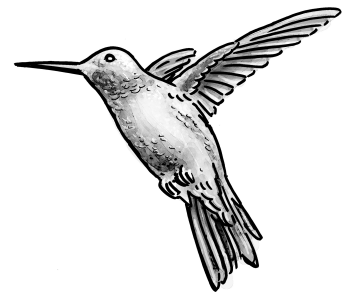
Evening phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to reach you \_\_\_\_\_

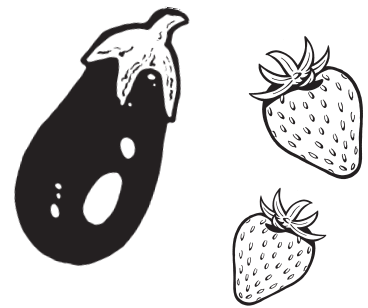
1. Total lot size (including house footprint and garden):
2. What kind of garden do you have? (Check all that apply.)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flower           | <input type="checkbox"/> Collector's plant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable        | <input type="checkbox"/> Hummingbird       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Herb             | <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit            | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife habitat  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Woodland         | <input type="checkbox"/> Creekside         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drought-tolerant | <input type="checkbox"/> Permaculture      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native plant     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____       |



3. Describe your garden.
4. Describe unusual physical features of your garden (For example: creek, extreme shade, extreme slope, difficult soil, etc.)

5. Approximately what percentage of your garden is lawn?
6. Does your garden include native plants?  Yes  No
7. If yes, approximately what percentage is planted with native plants?
8. Do you have a water feature?  Yes  No
9. If yes, please describe the feature.



10. How do you add organic matter to the soil? Cover crop, manure, compost, other.
11. What if any fertilizer do you use?
12. When you began gardening at this site, were there elements that needed correcting that you successfully addressed?

13. Which of the following practices do you currently use in your garden? (Check all that apply.)

### ***Build Healthy Soil***

- Soil has been tested to identify need for appropriate amendments.
- Soil has been tested to identify any contaminants.
- Garden beds are prepared by hand rather than with a tiller.
- After initial preparation, beds are maintained with little or no tilling.
- Sheet mulching is used to establish planting areas or pathways, and as a way to control weeds while improving soil.
- Soil is protected from compaction with clearly defined paths and or raised beds
- Soil is amended with compost.
- Cover crops are grown to enrich the soil.

### ***Reduce Waste in the Garden***

- Active compost bin or worm bin.
- Leaves, chipped plant debris, compost, or other organic materials are used as mulch.
- \*Garden trimmings are used on site for composting or mulching and/or disposed of in green waste cart.
- Plant waste is minimized by not overplanting, overwatering, or overfertilizing.
- Pruning is minimized by choosing plants that are appropriate for the space.
- Sheared hedges are not included in the garden.
- Clippings are left on the lawn after mowing.
- Recycled or salvaged products are used for artistic or functional purposes.

### ***Conserve Water***

- Mediterranean climate or native plants are featured (more than 50% of the garden area is occupied by plants adapted to summer dry climate).
- Plants are grouped by water needs.
- Lawn is minimized or eliminated.
- Efficient irrigation (drip, timers, soaker hoses, etc.) is in place and functioning properly.
- Watering occurs according to need, not a pre-determined schedule.
- Mulch is used in garden beds.
- Rainwater collection or gray water system is in place.



### ***Create Wildlife Habitat***

- Food for wildlife is available through plant selection.
- Water is provided with a small pond, bird bath, or water dish.
- Year-round protective cover is provided with a planting of evergreen trees/shrubs, logs, rocks, or brush pile.
- Garden structure is diverse with layers of ground covers, herbaceous vegetation (non-woody) and/or grasses, shrubs of various heights, and trees.
- Wildlife is encouraged with a variety of plants that flower and set fruit at different times of year.
- Leave some areas of the garden somewhat untidy – let flowers go to seed to provide food for birds, and leave dead leaves and stalks to shelter over-wintering insects.
- Native plants are featured (more than 50% of garden plants are California natives).

### ***Protect Local Watersheds and the Bay***

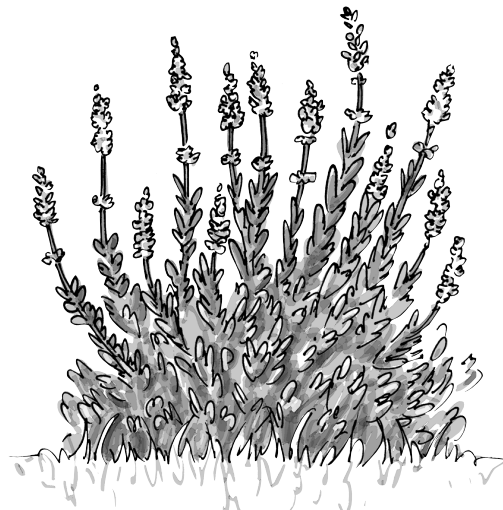
- Permeable materials are chosen for patios, driveways, or other hard surfaces, to allow water to soak in rather than run off.
- Steep slopes are terraced to reduce rainwater run-off and prevent erosion.
- \*Nearly all soil is covered by mulch or plants.
- Synthetic fertilizers are not used.
- \*No invasive species have been planted, and any invasive weeds on the property are being managed to prevent their spread.

### ***Contribute to a Healthy Community***

- \* An integrated approach is used for controlling weeds, insect pests and diseases with least toxic controls used first for safety of children, pets and wildlife.
- Pests and their damage are tolerated to the degree possible. Perfection is not the goal.
- Beneficial insects are encouraged through plant choice.
- Organic vegetable garden provides food.
- Outdoor lights are dim or directed downward to minimize light pollution.
- Hand or electric tools are used instead of gas-powered tools.

### ***Save Energy***

- Trees and shrubs are selected and placed to reduce energy requirements. For example, deciduous trees are planted on the west side of the house to provide shade during the summer and allow sunlight to warm the house in the winter.
- Local garden products and suppliers have been selected.
- Air conditioner is shaded.
- Outdoor lights are energy efficient or solar.
- Pumps for water features are solar powered or energy efficient.
- Please take a few minutes to describe your garden, highlighting special features or history.



14. How experienced are you at gardening?  Beginning  Intermediate  Experienced
15. How long have you gardened at this specific location?
16. Who designed the garden?
17. Who installed the garden?
18. What is the approximate age of your garden?
19. Do you hire outside help for the garden?  Yes  No
20. If yes, what do they do?
21. How did you hear about this tour?
22. Have you gone on any of the previous Bay-Friendly Garden Tours?
23. In order to minimize travel time and reduce emissions, the Tour is organized into geographic clusters. Do you know of any nearby gardeners that might be interested in participating as a host gardener? (Clusters accessible by foot or bike are particularly well received by tour participants.)
24. Will your garden be featured on other tours during the spring of 2010?  Yes  No
25. If yes, please provide the tour date:
26. Visits will be scheduled with potential host gardeners on the following dates: August 14, 15, 16, and 17, or September 18, 19, 20 and 21. Of these, please indicate your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices:
27. Would you be available for a short orientation on October 17 or 24 for next fall's orientation?  Yes  No

Return completed applications, along with a garden photo (if possible), by **August 4th** to:

StopWaste.Org  
Bay-Friendly Garden Tour  
1537 Webster Street  
Oakland, CA 94612