



Sustaining Gardens in the Dry

Demand Management for Gardens and Gardeners

August 2007

Sustaining Gardens in the Dry

- Gardens and gardeners are often the most impacted by water restrictions
- For a large sector of the community a garden is often a major factor in their quality of life, it is important to provide support and advice these people
- There is a lot of practical advice available to help gardens survive hot dry conditions
- There are also a number of practical and affordable things gardeners can do to keep the gardens they love and the style of garden they want while dramatically reducing their water consumption
- It's important to be positive and keep gardening

Sustaining Gardens in the Dry

An integrated strategy for helping Gardens survive high level water restrictions

Target Market:

Residential home owners with gardens

Key messages:

- practical things you can do over summer including behavioural change and useful products
- changing your garden to be more sustainable in the longer term



Sustaining Gardens in the Dry

An integrated strategy for helping Gardens survive high level water restrictions

Vehicles for communication

Internet

Display material for distribution

Products for distribution

DVD material for distribution



Sustaining Gardens in the Dry

Internet

- Sustaining Gardens in dry times
 - web material for local content on savewater.com.au.
 - mulch, compost, rainwater, greywater, efficient irrigation, pot plants and soil additives
- This is information specifically targeted at gardens with little or no access to potable water during very dry conditions. It is not about making longer term changes to your garden, just survival.



Sustaining Gardens in the Dry

Product distribution

The savewater!® Alliance has sourced and compiled a package of water saving garden products that are practical and affordable for water authorities to distribute to their customers.

The catalogue includes trigger nozzles, greywater hoses, conversion kits from spray to drip irrigation systems, greywater diversion and buckets!



Saving water in the home and waterwise gardening

DVD material for distribution

- Adele productions DVD – 40 minute comprehensive DVD showing at the savewater stand

Model Gardens

Display material for distribution

savewater!® Gardens are five styles of gardens using only drought resistant plants

- Cottage
- Formal
- Mediterranean
- Subtropical
- Backyard

These are changes people can make in the longer term to make their gardens more sustainable



The Backyard Garden

The Backyard Garden is a garden for private use and outdoor living. Spaces are used for entertaining, storage and a range of family activities.

A savewater!® Backyard Garden is designed to reduce water by using plants that have low water needs. This means selecting plants from low rainfall climates or those with special water conservation features.



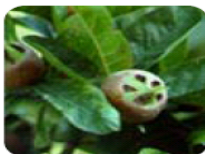
SMALL TREES

Small trees are essential elements in a backyard garden. They can provide shade and shelter, be used for climbing, have attractive form, flowers and leaves and produce edible fruit. Small trees grow anywhere from 5 to 10 metres in height and have a single or multiple trunks. Because trees are large and long-lasting their selection needs careful consideration.



Crepe Myrtle
Lagerstroemia indica

A deciduous tree growing to 8 m in height with attractive peeling bark and colourful autumn foliage. White, pink, or crimson terminal flowers form over late summer. There are a number of varieties of this outstanding small tree. Pruning through biennial pollarding can assist in managing height and flowers.



Medlar
Mespilus germanica

A small deciduous tree to 6 m with good autumn foliage, spring flowers and a useful rounded shape. The small edible fruits must be 'bletted'* before they can be eaten. Several different fruiting cultivars are available. (* Allowed to over-ripen, becoming soft to the touch).



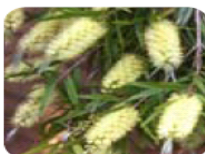
Quince
Cydonia oblonga

One of the toughest and delightful small trees is the Quince. This small tree can grow to 5 m and has beautiful white-pink flowers in spring. The edible fruits form over summer and can be harvested in Autumn. Some light pruning and removal of basal suckers is needed.



Swamp Mallet
Eucalyptus spathulata
subsp. spathulata

Originating from the south-west of Western Australia, this small, evergreen tree tolerates the toughest and most difficult garden sites. Fast growing, it has a useful rounded shape and attractive flaky-orange bark. It is also a great tree for children, for climbing and the interesting buds, flowers and fruits.



Willow Bottlebrush
Callistemon salignus

Larger than most Callistemon, this small tree to 7 m in height produces small creamy-yellow bottlebrush flowers in late winter, followed by bright pink new growth in spring. It tolerates waterlogged and compacted soils and produces an excellent weeping form when mature. Responds readily to pruning as needed.