

Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 15 Issue 8 Wednesday, June 9, 2021



Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian ... read on Page D16

Using Mother Nature against Mother Nature



A living retaining wall sprouts green on the hillside.



Grosoxx was filled with seed and compost.

Photos Gint Federas

By Jon Kingdon

After 33 years living in Lafayette in the same house, Gint Federas and his wife, Geni, took on a major landscaping project to halt the erosion of their property. “We originally had a retaining wall which directed the water, but it led to extensive erosion of the land below,” Federas said. “We had a lot of ivy which we removed at the direction of the fire marshal which exposed how serious the erosion problem was.”

This was no small project on a property that measures two-thirds of an acre. Federas, who grew up in an urban environment and now considers himself a “gentleman farmer,” weighed his options as to the best way to stabilize the hill. “I considered building retaining walls with wood or blocks, but I felt it was unsightly and extremely expensive,” Federas said. “So, I did a lot of research on retaining walls and I found someone who was doing creek and river remediation with the heavy-duty polypropylene tubular mesh netting (Grosoxx).” The Grossoxx is designed to stabilize

banks and prevent erosion on waterways and shoreline banks. Besides the ecological benefit of using the Grossoxx, when costed out, it was about 80% cheaper than putting in retaining walls.

The first thing Federas did was to remove the non-native trees. “We cut out all of the pine, palm and other non-native trees. Our plan was to make a “permaculture” where native plants, bushes and trees would not need added water or chemicals to be able to grow anything.”

Federas purchased 16,000 feet (over 3 miles) of the Grossoxx, cutting it into two-to-three-foot lengths, tying off one end and filling it with seed and compost. After mixing 300 pounds of seed and 300 tons of compost, it took Federas and three assistants three months to fill up enough Grossoxx to fill in one half of the hill. Fortunately for Federas, “I discovered a Min-FX machine which is custom made by Filtrexx. It filled up the Grossoxx like a sausage machine, far faster than we could manually.”



... continued on Page D4



Orinda ~ 513 Miner Road ~ Pending!

5BD | 5.5BA | 1.1 AC | Guest House | 4CAR | \$4,598,000

Stunning remodel by our very own Kellie Beaubelle! A few features of this stunning contemporary estate include: new chef's kit with show stopping marble and stainless steel backsplash; elegant master retreat with glass walls and water feature; fabulous new front garden entry with hanging lantern; new metal roof; reimagined resort-style backyard where one will enjoy the birds singing while sitting by the sparkling new pool and spa. The home celebrates natural light and inspires indoor/outdoor living in Orinda's coveted Country Club neighborhood.



Glenn & Kellie Beaubelle

925.254.1212

For more information:

TheBeaubelleGroup.com

Email:

Glenn@TheBeaubelleGroup.com

CABRE# 00678426, 01165322



Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	35	\$1,100,000	\$3,100,000
MORAGA	10	\$468,000	\$2,510,000
ORINDA	19	\$1,220,000	\$5,609,500

Home sales are compiled by Cal REsource, an Oakland real estate information company. Sale prices are computed from the county transfer tax information shown on the deeds that record at close of escrow and are published five to eight weeks after such recording. This information is obtained from public county records and is provided to us by California REsource. Neither Cal REsource nor this publication are liable for errors or omissions.

LAFAYETTE

- 976 1st Street, \$1,320,000, 3 Bdrms, 1531 SqFt, 1932 YrBlt, 04-30-21,
Previous Sale: \$750,000, 06-13-06
- 1197 Bacon Way, \$1,775,000, 3 Bdrms, 2039 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 04-27-21,
Previous Sale: \$755,000, 10-02-13
- 3318 Beechwood Drive, \$1,635,000, 4 Bdrms, 1499 SqFt, 1946 YrBlt, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,349,000, 04-23-18
- 3026 Bradbury Drive, \$1,937,500, 3 Bdrms, 1927 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 04-20-21
- 25 Camino Court, \$1,795,000, 3 Bdrms, 3102 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$811,818, 06-09-99
- 4008 Canyon Road, \$2,950,000, 4 Bdrms, 3490 SqFt, 1947 YrBlt, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$2,315,000, 04-13-07
- 426 Castello Road, \$1,950,000, 5 Bdrms, 3069 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 04-22-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,140,000, 11-10-16
- 15 Del Rio Court, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 1863 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$600,000, 08-06-03
- 181 El Dorado Road, \$1,707,000, 3 Bdrms, 1518 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 04-20-21,
Previous Sale: \$610,000, 08-28-12
- 688 Francis Drive, \$1,430,000, 3 Bdrms, 2025 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 04-30-21,
Previous Sale: \$475,000, 11-10-09
- 3527 Hamlin Road, \$2,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 2630 SqFt, 1947 YrBlt, 04-20-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,276,000, 11-05-09
- 669 Jennie Court, \$1,265,000, 3 Bdrms, 1150 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 04-22-21
- 620 Lucas Drive, \$2,050,000, 3 Bdrms, 2323 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$530,000, 08-01-89
- 3320 South Lucille Lane, \$1,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 1651 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 04-19-21,
Previous Sale: \$625,000, 05-10-12
- 3235 Mt Diablo Court #103, \$1,635,000, 2 Bdrms, 1921 SqFt, 2019 YrBlt, 04-28-21
- 3235 Mt Diablo Court #207, \$1,825,000, 2 Bdrms, 2103 SqFt, 2019 YrBlt, 04-28-21
- 2776 West Newell Avenue, \$1,612,000, 6 Bdrms, 2419 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 04-19-21,
Previous Sale: \$599,000, 07-18-01
- 1128 Perales Street, \$1,915,500, 4 Bdrms, 2447 SqFt, 1946 YrBlt, 04-27-21,
Previous Sale: \$655,000, 05-23-11
- 1556 Rancho View Road, \$3,400,000, 5 Bdrms, 3246 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$2,399,000, 02-28-17
- 3260 Rohrer Drive, \$1,905,000, 3 Bdrms, 2416 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 04-21-21
- 855 Santa Maria Way, \$2,400,000, 3 Bdrms, 1904 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 04-27-21
- 1247 Scenic Drive, \$1,625,000, 3 Bdrms, 1780 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 04-30-21
- 4 Shreve Lane, \$1,100,000, 4 Bdrms, 2031 SqFt, 2013 YrBlt, 04-26-21,
Previous Sale: \$769,000, 08-26-14
- 1097 Sierra Vista Way, \$1,851,500, 5 Bdrms, 2013 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 04-22-21,
Previous Sale: \$980,000, 09-23-14
- 508 Silverado Drive, \$1,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 2009 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 04-26-21,
Previous Sale: \$175,000, 12-01-79
- 624 North Silverado Drive, \$1,750,000, 3 Bdrms, 2195 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 04-20-21
- 3547 Springhill Road, \$3,100,000, 4 Bdrms, 3398 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 04-29-21,
Previous Sale: \$2,000,000, 05-19-14
- 41 Sunrise Lane, \$1,325,000, 5 Bdrms, 2424 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 04-23-21
- 3411 Sweet Drive, \$1,605,000, 3 Bdrms, 2197 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 04-20-21
- 3094 Sweetbrier Circle, \$2,395,000, 4 Bdrms, 2371 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$2,210,000, 04-15-19
- 17 Timber Lane, \$1,550,000, 3 Bdrms, 1340 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 04-19-21,
Previous Sale: \$640,000, 01-20-05
- 1208 Vacation Drive, \$1,515,000, 3 Bdrms, 1450 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$920,000, 07-15-14

... continued on Page D13

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Using Mother Nature against Mother Nature

... continued from Page D1

In the end, it only took three weeks to prepare the Grososxx for the other half of the hill.

Federas and his crew started at the bottom of the hill and laid each of the Grososxx side-by-side and row-by-row up the hill. “We held the Grososxx in place using geogrid fabric (geosynthetic material used to reinforce soils), particularly in the steeper area,” Federas said. “This would keep the Grososxx from rolling down the hill and was particularly effective on areas that were steepest. We flattened the Grososxx to key them into the hillside and would lay another layer on them, going up the hill continuously. It’s called Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE),” he said. “In soil engineering terms, the goal is to contain, reinforce, and vegetate. Cosmeti-

cally, the ‘living retaining wall’ adds tens of thousands of flowers and attracts natural pollinators like bees, butterflies and hummingbirds.”

Once the grass seed roots, it ties the Grososxx bags together to form a “living retaining wall” of tubes interlocked above, below and between with root fibers. Deep-rooted, native flowers will replace grass after they start from seed. With over 10,000 planned plantings, buying flats from nurseries would be cost prohibitive.

“We’re ramping up about 1,000 seed plantings each weekend,” said Federas. “All plantings will be deep-rooted and native. Once they get established, their roots will grow deeper through the bag and root several feet into the ground.”

... continued on Page D12

The planting includes vegetables like sweet peas

Photo Gint Federas

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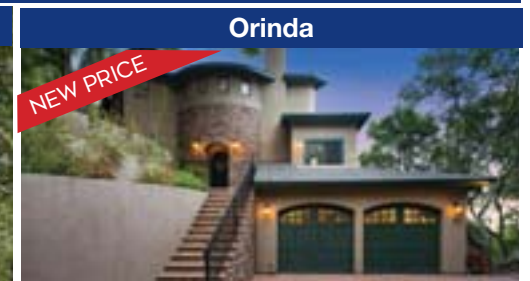
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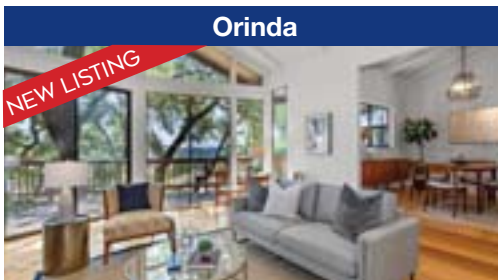
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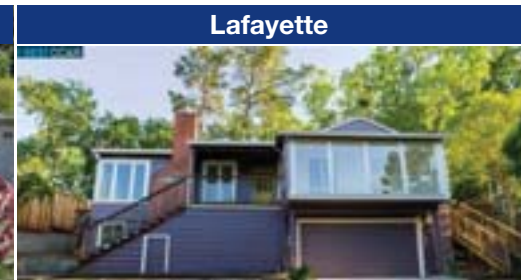
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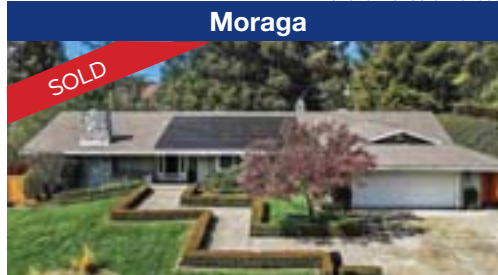
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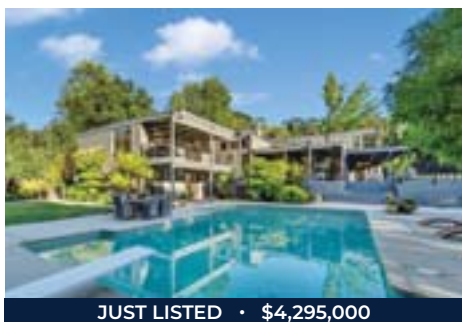
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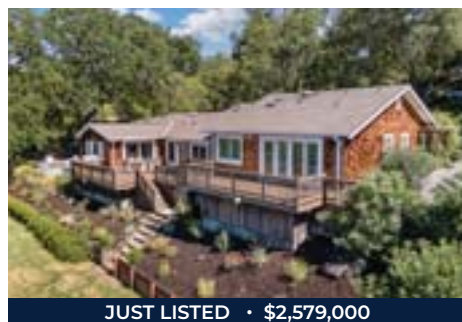


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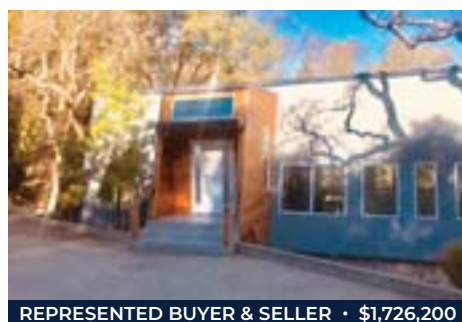
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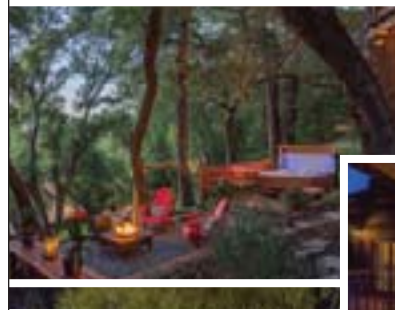
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Using Mother Nature against Mother Nature



Flowers will be deep rooted to conserve water and fertilizer.

Photos Gint Federas



Flowers like this Lupine are growing in pots.

... continued from Page D4

The Federases will be planting numerous flowers for year-round and ever-changing colors. “They are all going to be native, deep rooted flowers like black eyed Susans, echinacea, salvia, lupine, milkweed and African daisies,” Federas said. “It’s important to have them be deep rooted natives because once they deep root, you don’t have to water or fertilize them anymore and they are low maintenance. They’ll seek their own water in the hillside. The tubes shade the dirt below and reduce evaporation, like adding six inches of mulch on top of the soil. Plus, these flowers will attract bees and butterflies and aren’t liked by deer. They will bloom from early spring through late fall. On the shady side, we’re planting Coleus and hosta.”

How many flowers overall will be planted on the property? Thousands and thousands, and then some.

It was on Greenhorizonsenvironmental.com where Federas originally learned about Grosoxx which was invented by Rod Taylor. What must be most satisfying for Federas and his wife is that same website which lists the successful projects using their Grosoxx, the Federas Residence is prominently listed as a case study to emulate.

Federas has been sharing his work on Facebook and welcomes any questions that anyone might have if they are faced with a similar project.

Federas’ next project? “Sleep.”

Correction: In the May 26 article, “The shocking truth about GFCI outlets,” the terms “line” and “load” were swapped; the correct explanation should have read as follows: The outlet has two sets of screws for connecting wires, one is marked Line, where the power comes in, and the other is Load, where the wire and power continue to the next outlet.

Lamorinda home sales recorded

... continued from Page D2

LAFAYETTE ... continued

1064 Viela Court, \$1,930,000, 3 Bdrms, 2078 SqFt, 1950 YrBl, 04-20-21,
Previous Sale: \$235,000, 07-01-85

3344 Walnut Lane, \$2,230,000, 4 Bdrms, 2265 SqFt, 1968 YrBl, 04-20-21

1006 Woodbury Road #102, \$1,520,000, 2 Bdrms, 1495 SqFt, 2015 YrBl, 04-30-21

MORAGA

2026 Ascot Drive, \$736,000, 3 Bdrms, 1687 SqFt, 1972 YrBl, 04-20-21,
Previous Sale: \$455,000, 07-03-14

2129 Ascot Drive #11, \$650,000, 2 Bdrms, 1314 SqFt, 1970 YrBl, 04-28-21,
Previous Sale: \$350,000, 12-11-03

2121 Donald Drive #18, \$468,000, 2 Bdrms, 896 SqFt, 1963 YrBl, 04-19-21,
Previous Sale: \$209,000, 02-06-20

255 Donald Drive, \$1,632,000, 3 Bdrms, 2486 SqFt, 1986 YrBl, 04-20-21

264 Draeger Drive, \$1,950,000, 5 Bdrms, 2790 SqFt, 1971 YrBl, 04-20-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,564,000, 06-29-17

1133 Larch Avenue, \$1,580,000, 3 Bdrms, 1560 SqFt, 1964 YrBl, 04-26-21,
Previous Sale: \$965,000, 07-12-06

219 Paseo Del Rio, \$1,689,000, 4 Bdrms, 2340 SqFt, 1969 YrBl, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,375,000, 10-12-18

73 Sanders Ranch Road, \$2,510,000, 4 Bdrms, 3929 SqFt, 1988 YrBl, 04-27-21

11 Sparrow Court, \$1,862,000, 3 Bdrms, 2573 SqFt, 1969 YrBl, 04-30-21

15 Williams Drive, \$1,975,000, 4 Bdrms, 2664 SqFt, 1985 YrBl, 04-20-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,290,000, 07-27-07

ORINDA

1 Aghalee Road, \$2,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 2010 SqFt, 1966 YrBl, 04-27-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,960,000, 05-26-20

20 Alice Place, \$3,225,000, 4 Bdrms, 4471 SqFt, 1989 YrBl, 04-19-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,305,000, 04-23-98

40 Camino Del Diablo, \$1,730,000, 3 Bdrms, 2146 SqFt, 1986 YrBl, 04-20-21

42 Camino Lenada, \$1,350,000, 2 Bdrms, 1601 SqFt, 1955 YrBl, 04-30-21,
Previous Sale: \$869,000, 08-16-07

135 Camino Pablo, \$1,286,000, 4 Bdrms, 2511 SqFt, 1946 YrBl, 04-20-21

27 Ivy Drive, \$1,220,000, 3 Bdrms, 1520 SqFt, 1954 YrBl, 04-26-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,150,000, 09-11-18

63 Ivy Drive, \$2,020,000, 6 Bdrms, 2965 SqFt, 1957 YrBl, 04-26-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,255,000, 06-30-08

23 Martha Road, \$1,945,000, 4 Bdrms, 2285 SqFt, 1963 YrBl, 04-19-21

63 Moraga Viax, \$1,885,000, 4 Bdrms, 2662 SqFt, 1968 YrBl, 04-23-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,410,000, 04-29-14

38 Muth Drive, \$1,715,000, 4 Bdrms, 2320 SqFt, 1958 YrBl, 04-20-21,
Previous Sale: \$739,000, 12-03-03

37 La Cintilla, \$1,780,000, 3 Bdrms, 2685 SqFt, 1954 YrBl, 04-30-21

63 La Cuesta Road, \$2,900,000, 3 Bdrms, 3637 SqFt, 1931 YrBl, 04-29-21,
Previous Sale: \$2,200,000, 04-08-15

10 La Punta, \$5,609,500, 4 Bdrms, 5508 SqFt, 1940 YrBl, 04-30-21,
Previous Sale: \$238,000, 06-01-78

28 Lost Valley Drive, \$1,900,000, 4 Bdrms, 2338 SqFt, 1973 YrBl, 04-30-21,
Previous Sale: \$945,000, 08-13-10

53 Tappan Lane, \$3,100,000, 5 Bdrms, 3346 SqFt, 1975 YrBl, 04-20-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,405,000, 11-14-17

58 Tomcat Way, \$3,125,000, 4 Bdrms, 4239 SqFt, 2018 YrBl, 04-22-21,
Previous Sale: \$2,620,000, 06-25-19

14 Vista Del Mar, \$2,380,000, 4 Bdrms, 2994 SqFt, 1969 YrBl, 04-21-21,
Previous Sale: \$815,000, 05-01-92

57 Van Ripper Lane, \$1,615,000, 3 Bdrms, 1966 SqFt, 1950 YrBl, 04-27-21,
Previous Sale: \$1,530,000, 11-02-20

3 Woodland Road, \$1,820,000, 3 Bdrms, 1546 SqFt, 1920 YrBl, 04-23-21



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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Fire-retardant and fire-resistant plantings



Photos Cynthia Brian

After weeding, this hillside is blooming with statice, gaura, geranium, calendula, and ice plant.

By Cynthia Brian

Normally the sound of weed-whackers disrupts the tranquility of living the soulful country life, but this year, I am grateful to hear their constant buzzing. With a summer of historical dryness in front of us bringing a looming fire danger, cutting the grasses on hillsides, paths, and in backyards is imperative. I've been working on my property since early February weeding, cutting, pruning, mulching, repairing, and planting in prepa-

ration for a hot, dangerous year. You are encouraged to walk through your landscape and make sure you are also ready for whatever may transpire. We want to keep our community picturesque as well as safe. We all play a part in protecting our precious land and lives.

My articles on creating an Emergency Go-Bag and Wildfire Protection through Landscaping elicited numerous emails and comments (see story links on Page D14). The No. 1 request was to supply a list of plants

that would be fire-retardant and fire-resistant.

When planning a new garden or adding plants to an existing landscape, it is essential to be reminded that no plant is fire-proof. Everything can and will burn if the temperature is hot enough. Also, even if a plant tag indicates that it is fire-resistant, it must be properly maintained, pruned, irrigated, spaced, and positioned in the correct locations to thrive. Plants that have been infested with pests, are too old, or are stressed will be more flammable. Plants that are not nurtured could create a problem for other vegetation. Inspect your botanicals carefully.

... continued on Page D16



Asiatic lilies and Santa Barbara Daisies are both fire-retardant and fire-resistant.

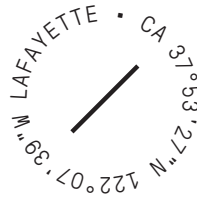
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GARDEN ZONES

ZONE 1: DEFENSIBLE ZONE

Plants within 30 feet of a structure need to be considered for fire-retardance. This is Zone 1, the defensible space of your garden which will be able to withstand extreme heat and flying embers. Plants need to be watered thoroughly, trees are preferably deciduous, and the leaves of plants will be moist, fleshy, and broad.

Groundcovers for this area include:

Lawn grasses
Ajuga
Isotoma
Gazania
Alyssum
Moss
Nasturtium
Vinca
Dwarf Plumbago
Chamomile

Zone 1 Perennials include:

Acanthus
Agapanthus
Artemisia
Bergenia
Canna

Dusty Miller
Shasta Daisy
Chrysanthemum
Coreopsis
Foxglove
Ferns
Geranium
Daylilies
Impatiens
Hosta

Heuchera
Penstemon
Pelargonium
New Zealand Flax
Lamb's Ear
Calla lilies
Bird of Paradise

Zone 1 Shrubs include:
Clematis
Trumpet Vine
Grape

Rose
Privet
Boxwood
Camellia
Photinia
Mock Orange
Gardenia
Hibiscus
Pittosporum
Azalea
Rhododendron
Lilac
Viburnum
Oleander

Zone 1 Vines include:
Clematis
Trumpet Vine
Grape

Jasmine
Bower Vine
Wisteria
Zone 1 Trees include:
Fruit trees
Magnolia
Maple
Redbud
Birch
Pineapple Guava
Dogwood
Crape Myrtle
Liquid Amber
Ornamental Pear
Pepper Tree

ZONE 2: FUEL BREAK

From 31 feet to 70 feet from a structure, and even further up on slopes, is the green-belt area which is designed to halt the fire. Plants in this area are the most fire-retardant with low fuels and high moisture content. These plantings can withstand neglect, freezes, droughts, and even insect infestations and still be fire-retardant. Ground covers don't grow over 18 inches. Trees and shrubs have space between them. In general, although succulents and cactus may not survive a fire, they are the best at retarding one.

Zone 2 Groundcovers include:

Succulents
Ice plant
Yarrow
Artemisia
Morning glory
Coreopsis
Santa Barbara Daisy
Wild strawberry
Gazania
Primrose
Osteospermum
Clover
Verbena

Zone 2 Perennials include:

Yarrow
Dusty Miller
California Poppy
Iris
Gaura
Euphorbia
Chrysanthemum
Coreopsis
Statice
Candytuft
Lupine
Red-Hot Poker
Sage

Yucca Zone 2 Shrubs include:

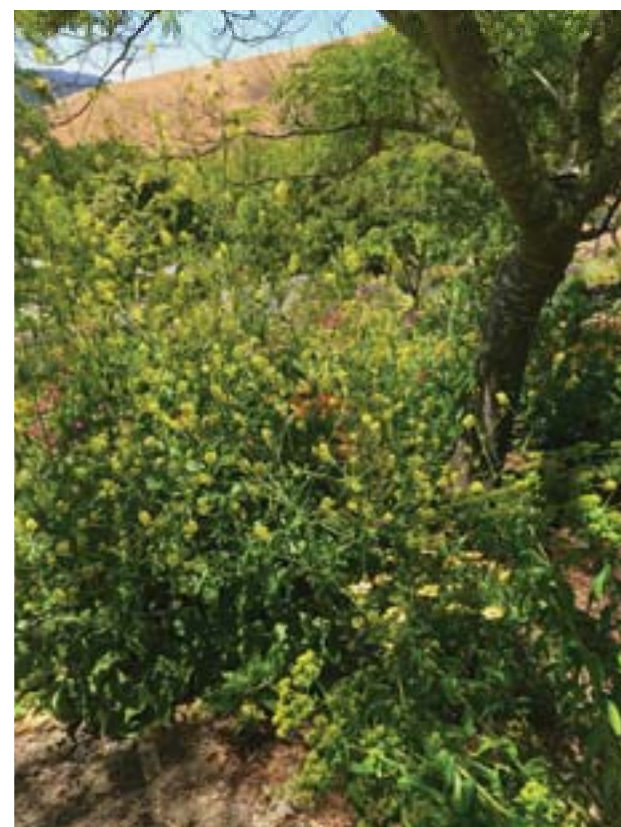
Succulents
Cactus
Oleander
Pomegranate
Rockrose
Zone 2 Vines include:
Virginia Creeper
Lady Banks Rose
Honeysuckle
Nightshade
Senecio Confusus

Zone 2 Trees include:

Carob
Strawberry Tree
Redbud
Honey Locust
Chinese Pistache
California Black Oak
Sumac
Yucca
Joshua Tree



Roses are excellent fire-safe plants. (Mr. Lincoln rose)



Black mustard plant becomes invasive, dries in summer as kindling for fires, and sprouts after fires. Pull it!

Photos Cynthia Brian



Grapes and roses along with love-in-the-mist nigella are fire-safe.



This hillside is prone to wildfire.

GENERAL FIRE-RESISTANT PLANTS

Although no plant is 100% fire-proof, these plants are less likely to burn. Several are already listed for Zones 1 and 2.

Bulbs (tulips, daffodils, iris, hyacinth, freesia, etc. Cut stalks to the ground when leaves are dry)

California redbud	Yellow or Purple	Evening primrose	Locust
Sage	Ice Plant	Daphne	Fruit Trees (varieties of cherry, plum, pear, peach, apricot, pomegranate, fig)
Penstemon	Creeping Phlox	Boxwood	Black Oak
Heather	Lamium	Rhododendron	Hawthorne
Fuchsia	Sedum	Spirea	Birch
Columbine	Succulents	Dogwood	Aspen
Thyme	Veronica	Mock orange	Poplar
Poppy	Armeria	Azalea	Maple
Wild strawberry	Agapanthus	Currant	Manzanita (prune without deadwood)
Common yarrow	Trumpet Vine	Viburnum	Walnut
French lavender	Daylily	Aloe	California Bay
Lantana	Heuchera	Primrose	Laurel
Lilac	Hosta	Candytuft	California Pepper
Coreopsis	Red-Hot Poker	African Daisy	
Ajuga	Lupine	Calendula	
California lilac	Delphinium	TREES:	
Society garlic	Echinacea	Horse Chestnut	
Jasmine	Lamb's ear	Liquid Amber	
Periwinkle	Yucca	Honey Locust	
Alliums	Rose	Crabapple	
Dianthus	Salvia	Purple Robe	

Remember that deciduous plants are less flammable than evergreen. Gray and silver plants have a high mineral and ash content which makes them more fire-resistant. Vegetation with needles or fine, thin leaves is flammable. The more stored moisture a plant has, the more it can withstand a fire. Use less-flammable types of mulch, such as gravel or decorative rock, or a combination of wood bark mulch and decorative rock to dress your garden, retain moisture, and deter weed growth.

To burn, fires need fuel. By removing debris, planting and maintaining a fire-retardant and fire-resistant landscape, cutting down dead trees, thinning dried branches, spacing, pruning, watering, and keeping trees away from roofs, you will diminish the chance of ignition, lower fire intensity, and reduce the spread of a blaze. Your home will have a better chance of surviving a wildfire.

Best of all, you can still create a gorgeous oasis where you can entertain, relax, and socialize.

Firewise volunteers are available to offer advice in neighborhoods. The Orinda Firewise Council supports and educates the public about wildfire resilience. They are seeking landscapers and nurseries to assist with communicating ways in which homeowners can become more wildfire safe by making their property more fire-resistant. To work together with them to empower and beautify the community, go to <https://www.orindafirewisecouncil.org/contact-us>
Website: <https://www.orindafirewisecouncil.org>

You don't want fires to crawl fueled by unkempt low-lying vegetation, high grasses, or mounds of leaves. Get out the weed whackers and go to work. Be fire safe and enjoy a wonderful summer.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing. Congratulations to the graduates and Happy Father's Day to all the great dads.

Links to Lamorinda Weekly "Go Bag" and "Firewise Landscaping" stories:

www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1507/Packing-an-emergency-Go-Bag.html

www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1507/Digging-Deep-with-Goddess-Gardener-Cynthia-Brian-Wildfire-protection-through-landscaping.html



Prune all trees to prevent fire-laddering.



A beautiful arbor of wisteria, roses, and scarlet trumpet vine, all fire-resistant botanicals.



Watered lawn grasses provide a defensive zone.



Cynthia Brian working to make the garden fire-safe.

Cynthia Brian, The Goddess Gardener, is available for hire to help you prepare for your garden. Raised in the vineyards of Napa County, Cynthia is a New York Times best-selling author, actor, radio personality, speaker, media and writing coach as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Be the Star You Are!@ 501 c3. Tune into Cynthia's StarStyle® Radio Broadcast at www.StarStyleRadio.com.

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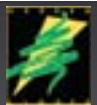
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