

VISTOSO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BASIC LANDSCAPING GUIDELINES and PLANT LISTS

Owner Responsibility

An Owner must submit a modification request for all proposed landscape changes in the home's front, rear, back, or side yards, including plants and hardscape changes. The Architectural & Landscaping Change Form (ARC Form) is available on the Vistoso Community Association (VCA) website - <https://ranchovistosohoa.com>. The online form is an editable pdf document. Fill in your account information and project details once complete, Save-As a new document, and email to askvca@ranchovistosohoa.com. The Architectural & Landscaping Change Form is printable. Once submitted to the VCA management company for review, the Architectural and Landscaping Review Committee (ALRC) then approves or denies the request.

No work may start before the ALRC 's approval. If you require any accommodations regarding an Architectural & Landscaping Change, contact the office directly at (520) 354-2729. Further information about landscaping is on the VCA website inside the Design Guidelines document located under the Resident Information Tab → Helpful Documents. If an Owner resides in a designated sub-association, all proposed landscaping modifications require sub-association approval before the VCA can review the request. The Owner should review the VCA and their sub-association's Design Guidelines and Governing Documents before submitting a request. Upon sub-association approval, the request is then forwarded to the VCA for final review by the master association's ALRC.

Landscape Requirements

The VCA Guidelines require a minimum amount of vegetation be planted in the front yard of the home. Plants that are in decorative pots or planters are not eligible to meet the minimum vegetation requirements of the front yard. The number of plants required varies by the width of each property at the curb.

Lot frontage of 55' or more requires a minimum:

- TREE - one plant that is 6' tall from top of root ball to top of plant
- SHRUB – four plants each in a minimum 5-gallon nursery container.

Lot frontage of 40' – 55' requires a minimum:

- TREE – one plant that is 6' tall from top of root ball to top of plant
- SHRUB – three plants each in a minimum 5-gallon nursery container.

- ❖ A Saguaro plant at least 4' tall from top of root ball to top of plant can be substituted for a tree.
- ❖ An Ocotillo plant at least 5' tall from top of root ball to top of plant can be substituted for a tree.
- ❖ Any tree whose mature height may exceed 25' is prohibited, except for indigenous plants which may naturally grow taller.
- ❖ Desert Category plants in 5-gallon minimum size pot can be substituted for shrubs.
- ❖ Any Shrub whose mature height may exceed 10' is prohibited, except for indigenous plants which may naturally grow taller.

Note: all height measurements are measured from the average natural grade of the lot.

Landscape Materials

Mineral landscape features, such as decorative gravel, rocks, and boulders will be limited to natural earth tone materials indigenous to the Rancho Vistoso area. Prohibited colors and materials are white, black, and red lava rock, artificially colored rock, and reflective materials and/or colors. Decorative gravel will be 1/2" to 1" screened (no decomposed granite). Rip Rap rocks or River Rock will be 4" to 6" in size. Decorative accent boulders will be size and shape appropriate for area, no manufactured stone, and shall not exceed 30" in height from ground level.

VCA BASIC LANDSCAPING GUIDELINES APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A – PERMITTED PLANT LIST

APPENDIX B – PERMITTED OASIS PLANT LIST

APPENDIX C – PROHIBITED PLANT LIST

APPENDIX D – PLANTS-POISONOUS OR CAUSE IRRITATION/INJURY TO HUMANS AND PETS

APPENDIX E – ARCHITECTURAL & LANDSCAPING REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

APPENDIX A -PERMITTED PLANT LIST

These plants are permitted for common project landscape improvements in the front, rear, back or side yards of your home. As well as anywhere visible to others in the Rancho Vistoso community. All plants on this list are suitable for our specific climate in Oro Valley; Sonoran Desert (USDA Zone 12 or Sunset Zones 9 a and b). Not all plants are suitable for every location. Take note of each plant’s specifics such as growth rate, mature size, and other characteristics such as litter, pollen, and water requirements. This list is divided into plant classifications - Trees, Shrubs, Desert Plants, Ground Covers, Vines, and Annuals/Perennials. The abbreviation spp. means it applies to many species within a genus, but not to all. The abbreviation cvs. means cultivars, plants which differ in some way from the species, or are hybrids.

PERMITTED TREES

Botanical Name	Common Name	Notes
Acacia abyssinica	Abyssinian Acacia	
Acacia aneura	Mulga Acacia	
Acacia berlandieri	Guajillo	
Acacia constricta	Whitethorn Acacia	
Acacia farnesiana 'Sweet Sierra'	Podless Sweet Acacia	
Acacia greggii	Catclaw Acacia	
Acacia pendula	Weeping Acacia	
Acacia schaffneri	Twisted Acacia	
Acacia willardiana	Palo Blanco	
Caesalpinea mexicana	Yellow Mexican Bird of Paradise	Up to 15'
Callistemon citrinus	Lemon Bottlebrush	
Celtis pallida	Desert Hackberry	
Celtis reticulata	Netleaf or Western Hackberry	
Cercis canadensis var. mexicana	Mexican Redbud	
Chilopsis linearis	Desert Willow	
Cordia boissieri	Texas Olive	
Ebenopsis ebano	Texas Ebony	
Eysenhardtia orthocarpa	Kidneywood	
Fraxinus greggii 'Libby Davison'	Littleleaf Ash	
Fraxinus velutina 'Bonita', cvs. to 20'	Velvet Ash	
Leucaena retusa	Golden Leadball	
Lysiloma watsonii var. thornberi	Feather Bush	
Olea Europaea (fruitless only)	Olive Swan Hill or Wilson Hill, hybrids	
Olneya tesota	Desert Ironwood	
Parkinsonia 'Desert Museum'	Desert Museum Palo Verde	
Parkinsonia floridum	Blue Palo Verde	
Parkinsonia microphyllum	Littleleaf or Foothill Palo Verde	
Parkinsonia praecox	Palo Brea	

<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic	
<i>Prosopis</i> spp.	Mesquite	
<i>Sambucus mexicana</i>	Mexican Elderberry	
<i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	Texas Mountain Laurel	
<i>Ungnadia speciosa</i>	Mexican Buckeye	
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste Tree, Monk's Pepper	

PERMITTED SHRUBS

<i>Acacia angustissima</i>	White Ball Acacia	
<i>Acacia cultriformis</i>	Knife-leaf Acacia	
<i>Acacia greggii</i>	Cat-claw Acacia	
<i>Aloysia wrightii</i>	Wright's Oregano, Lemon Verbena	
<i>Ambrosia dumosa</i>	White Bursage	
<i>Anisacanthus thurberi</i>	Desert Honeysuckle	
<i>Asclepias linaria</i>	PineLeaf Milkweed	
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly Milkweed	
<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	Four-Wing Saltbush	
<i>Atriplex lentiformis breweri</i>	Brewer Saltbush	
<i>Atriplex polycarpa</i>	Desert Saltbush	
<i>Buddleia marrubifolia</i>	Wooly Butterfly Bush	
<i>Caesalpinia gilliesii</i>	Yellow Bird of Paradise	
<i>Caesalpinia mexicana</i>	Mexican Bird of Paradise (yellow)	4' - 6'
<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>	Mexican Red Bird of Paradise	
<i>Calliandra californica</i>	Baja Fairy Duster	
<i>Calliandra eriophylla</i>	Fairy Duster	
<i>Celtis pallida (ehrenbergia)</i>	Desert Hackberry	
<i>Cordia parvifolia</i>	Littleleaf Cordia	
<i>Cotoneaster</i> spp.	Cotoneaster	
<i>Dalea</i> spp.	Dalea	
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	Hopseed Bush	
<i>Encelia farinosa</i>	Brittlebush	
<i>Eremophila maculata</i>	Emu Bush	
<i>Ericameria laricifolia</i>	Turpentine Bush	
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> var. <i>poliofolium</i>	Flattop Buckwheat	
<i>Fallugia paradoxa</i>	Apache Plume	
<i>Fraxinus greggii</i>	Gregg's Evergreen Ash	
<i>Hyptis emoryi</i>	Desert Lavender	
<i>Jatropha cardiophylla</i>	Limberbush	
<i>Justicia californica</i>	Chuparosa	
<i>Justicia spicigera</i>	Mexican Honeysuckle	
<i>Lantana</i> spp.	Lantana	
<i>Larrea tridentata (divaricata)</i>	Creosote Bush, Greasewood	
<i>Leucophyllum</i> spp.	Texas Ranger, Rain Sage	
<i>Lycium exsertum</i>	Lycium	
<i>Lycium fremontii</i>	Wolfberry	

Mimosa biuncifera	Wait-a-Minute Bush	
Photinia fraseri	Fraser's Photinia	
Poliomintha maderensis	Mexican Oregano	
Rhus microphylla	Littleleaf Sumac	
Rhus ovata	Sugar Bush, Sugar Sumac	
Rosa Banksiae	Lady Bank's Rose	
Rosmarinus spp.	Rosemary	
Ruellia brittoniana	Mexican Petunia	
Ruellia californica	Sonoran Desert Ruellia	
Ruellia peninsularis	Baja Ruellia	
Salvia clevelandii	Cleveland Sage	
Salvia greggii cvs.	Salvia	
Salvia leucantha	Purple Mexican Bush Sage	
Santolina spp.	Santolina	
Senna artemisioides	Feathery Senna	
Senna wislizenii	Cassia, Shrubby Senna	
Simmondsia chinensis	Jojoba, Goat Nut	
Tecoma hybrids	Orange Bells	
Tecoma stans angustata	Yellow Bells	
Teucrium chamaedrys	Germander	
Vauquelinia californica	Arizona Rosewood	

PERMITTED DESERT PLANTS

Agave americana	Century Plant	
Agave americana var. marginata	Variegated Century Plant	
Agave americana var. medio-picta	White Striped Century Plant	
Agave 'Blue Glow'	Blue Glow Agave	
Agave bovicornuta	Cow's Horn Agave	
Agave colorata	Mescal Ceniza	
Agave filifera	Agave	
Agave havardiana	Havard's Century Plant	
Agave lophantha (univittata)	Agave	
Agave macrocantha	Black-Spine Agave	
Agave murpheyi	Murphey's Agave	
Agave ocahui	Acahui Agave	
Agave ovatifolia	Whale's Tongue Agave	
Agave palmeri	Palmer Agave	
Agave parryi huachucensis	Huachuca Agave	
Agave parryi truncata	Artichoke Agave	
Agave victoriae-reginae	Victoria Regina Agave	
Agave vilmoriniana	Octopus Agave	
Agave weberi	Weber's Agave	
Aloe barbadensis	Aloe Vera	
Aloe 'Blue Elf'	Blue Elf Aloe	
Aloe ferox	Cape Aloe	

<i>Asclepias subulata</i>	Desert Milkweed	
<i>Bulbine frutescens</i>	Bulbine	
<i>Carnegiea gigantea</i>	Saguaro	
<i>Cephalocereus senilis</i>	Old Man Cactus	
<i>Cereus peruvianus</i>	Peruvian Apple Cactus	
<i>Cereus peruvianus</i> 'Monstrosus'	Peruvian Apple Cactus	
<i>Cleistocactus strausii</i>	Silver Torch Cactus	
<i>Dasyliirion acrotriche</i>	Green Desert Spoon	
<i>Dasyliirion quadrangulatum</i>	Toothless Desert Spoon	
<i>Dasyliirion wheeleri</i>	Desert Spoon	
<i>Echinocactus grusonii</i>	Golden Barrel	
<i>Echinocereus</i> spp.	Hedgehog, Rainbow Cactus	
<i>Echinopsis candicans</i>	Argentine Giant	
<i>Echinopsis</i> hybrids	Easter Lily Cactus	
<i>Echinopsis terscheckii</i>	Argentine Saguaro	
<i>Euphorbia antisiphilitica</i>	Candelilla	
<i>Euphorbia resinifera</i>	Moroccan Mound	
<i>Ferocactus</i> spp.	Barrel Cactus	
<i>Fouquieria splendens</i>	Ocotillo	
<i>Hesperaloe funifera</i>	Giant Hesperaloe	
<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i>	Red Yucca	
<i>Mammillaria</i> spp.	Mammillaria Cactus	
<i>Muhlenbergia</i> spp.	Muhly	
<i>Nolina microcarpa</i>	Bear Grass	
<i>Opuntia</i> spp.	Prickly Pear, Cholla	
<i>Pachycereus marginatus</i>	Mexican Fence Post	
<i>Pachycereus schottii</i> 'Monstrosus'	Totem Pole Cactus	
<i>Pedilanthus macrocarpus</i>	Lady's Slipper	
<i>Stenocereus</i> (<i>Lemaireocereus</i>) <i>thurberi</i>	Organ Pipe Cactus	
<i>Trichocereus</i> spp.	Trichocereus Cactus	
<i>Yucca glauca</i>	Small Soapweed Yucca	
<i>Yucca schottii</i>	Mountain Yucca	
<i>Yucca</i> spp.	Yucca	

PERMITTED GROUND COVERS

Acacia redolens 'Desert Carpet'	Prostrate Acacia	
Chrysactinea mexicana	Damianita	
Dalea capitata	Dalea	
Dalea greggii	Trailing Indigo Bush	
Euphorbia rigida	Gopher Plant	
Gazania rigens	Trailing Gazanias	
Lantana hybrid 'New Gold'	New Gold Lantana	
Melampodium leucanthum	Blackfoot Daisy	
Oenothera stubbei	Chihuahuan Evening Primrose	
Rosemarinus officinalis 'Huntington Carpet'	Prostrate Rosemary	
Rosemarinus officinalis 'Prostratus'	Trailing/Creeping Rosemary	
Santolina chamaecyparissus	Lavender Cotton	
Santolina virens	Green Santolina	
Teucrium chamaedrys	Trailing Germander	
Teucrium majoricum	Mediterranean Carpet	
Verbena spp.	Verbena	

PERMITTED VINES

Antigonon leptopus	Queen's Wreath	
Bignonia capreolata	Cross Vine	
Bougainvillea spp.	Bougainvillea	
Campsis radicans	Trumpet Creeper	
Cissus spp.	Grape Ivy	
Ficus pumila	Creeping Fig	
Gelsemium sempervirens	Carolina Jasmine	
Hardenbergia violacea	Lilac Vine	
Hedera spp.	Ivy	
Lonicera japonica 'Halliana'	Hall's Honeysuckle	
Lonicera sempervirens	Coral Honeysuckle	
Lonicera x americana 'Pam's Pink'	Pam's Pink Honeysuckle	
Lonicera x heckrottii	Gold Flame Honeysuckle	
Macfadyena unguis-cati	Cat's Claw Vine	
Passiflora foetida	Passion Vine	
Pyracantha spp.	Pyracantha	
Rosa banksiae	Lady Bank's Rose	
Rosa spp.	Climbing Rose	
Trachelospermum jasminoides	Star Jasmine	
Wisteria sinensis	Chinese Wisteria	

PERMITTED ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS

Aster bigelovii	Aster	
Aster tanacetifolius	Aster	
Bahia absinthifolia	Desert Daisy	
Bailey multiradiata	Desert Marigold	
Convolvulus spp.	Bush Morning Glory	
Gaura lindheimeri	Gaura	
Lupinus arizonicus	Lupine	
Lupinus sparsiflorus	Desert Lupine	
Lupinus succulentus	Arroyo Lupine	
Penstemon baccharifolius	Cutleaf Penstemon	
Penstemon barbatus	Beardtongue Penstemon	
Penstemon eatoni	Eaton's Penstemon	
Penstemon spp.	Penstemon	
Penstemon superbus	Superb Penstemon	
Psilostrophe cooperi	Paper Flower	
Salvia chamaedryoides	Blue Chihuahuan Sage	
Salvia farinacea	Mealy-cup Sage	
Senna covesii	Desert Senna	
Sphaeralcea ambigua	Globe Mallow	
Viguiera deltoidea var. parishii	Golden Eye	
Zinna acerosa	Desert Zinna	
Zinna grandiflora	Rocky Mountain Zinnia	

APPENDIX B – PERMITTED OASIS PLANT LIST

The plants on this list can only be planted behind privacy walls, such as rear, back or side yards. These plants are designated Oasis as they need a large amount of water to survive the desert climate. It is suggested to plant them close to the home where irrigation is available. We encourage Owners to be 'water wise' when selecting plants for landscaping. Palms cannot be located within' of the property lines and are not permitted to overhang privacy walls. All dwarf fruit and citrus trees shall be maintained to grow no closer than 3' from privacy walls. The use of palms, fruit and citrus trees is discouraged due to high pollen count, aesthetic inconsistency, and high-water use.

OASIS ZONE TREES

Botanical Name	Common Name	Notes
Albizia julibrissin	Mimosa	
Citrus and Fruit spp	Dwarf Citrus and Fruit	Max size 8' x 8'
Eriobotrya japonica	Loquat	
Lagerstroemia indica	Crape Myrtle	
Magnolia grandiflora	Little Gem Magnolia	
Palms spp	Dwarf Palms	Max height 20'
Photinia fraseri	Fraser's Photinia	
Podocarpus macrophyllus	Yew Pine	
Prunus cerasifera	Purple Leaf Plum, Krauter Vesuvius	
Punica granatum	Pomegranate	

OASIS ZONE SHRUBS

Abelia grandiflora	Glossy Abelia	
Acanthus mollis	Bear's Breech	
Aucuba japonica	Japanese Aucuba	
Bougainvillea	Bougainvillea	
Buxus microphylla japonica	Boxwood	
Calistemon viminalis	Little John Dwarf Bottlebrush	
Euonymus spp.	Boxleaf	
Euryops pectinatus	Euryops Daisy	
Fatshedera lizei	Fatshedera	
Feijoa sellowiana	Pineapple Guava	
Gardenia jasminoides	Gardenia	
Hamelia patens	Firecracker Bush	
Hibiscus rosa-sinensis	Hibiscus	
Ilex cornuta	Chinese Holly	
Jasminum mesnyi	Primrose Jasmine	
Jasminum spp.	Jasmine	
Myrtus communis 'Boetica'	Myrtle	
Myrtus communis 'Compacta'	Myrtle	
Nandina domestica	Heavenly Bamboo	
Philodendron selloum	Split Leaf Philodendron	
Pittosporum tobira	Mock Orange	
Pittosporum tobira 'Variegata'	Variegated Mock Orange	
Pittosporum tobira 'Wheeleri'	Wheeler's Dwarf Mock Orange	
Plumbago auriculata	Cape Plumbago	
Podocarpus gracillior	Fern Pine	
Podocarpus macrophyllus	Yew Pine	
Podocarpus macrophyllus 'Maki'	Compact Yew Pine	
Punica granatum	Pomegranate	
Raphiolepis indica cvs. to 4'	Indian Hawthorne	
Rosa hybrids	Rose	
Russelia equisetiformis	Coral Fountain	
Strelitzia regina	African Bird of Paradise	
Tagetes palmeri	Mount Lemmon Marigold	
Tecomaria capensis	Cape Honeysuckle	
Xylosma congestum	Shiny Xylosma	

OASIS ZONE ACCENT PLANT, VINES, AND GROUND COVERS

Agapanthus spp.	Blue Lily of the Nile	
Asclepias curassavica	Blood Flower	
Asparagus densiflorus 'Myers'	Foxtail Fern	
Beaucarnea recurvata	Ponytail Palm	
Brahea armata	Mexican Blue Palm	
Butia capitata	Pindo Palm	
Chamaerops humilis	Mediterranean Fan Palm	

Cyperus alternifolius	Umbrella Plant	
Equisetum hyemale	Horsetail	
Moraea bicolor	Fortnight Lily	
Morea iridioides	Butterfly Iris	
Phoenix roebelenii	Pygmy Date Palm	
Sabal minor	Palmetto Palm	
Trachycarpus fortunei	Windmill Palm	
Aptenia cordifolia	Hearts and Flowers	
Asparagus densiflorus sprengeri	Asparagus Fern	
Liriope muscari	Liriope	
Myoporum parvifolium	Trailing Myoporum	
Ophiopogon japonicus	Mondo Grass	
Ruellia brittoniana 'Baby Katie'	Dwarf Ruellia	
Tradescantia pallida 'Purpurea'	Purple Heart	
Ilex Vomitoria	Stokes's Dwarf Yaupon Holly (Male)	

APPENDIX C – PROHIBITED PLANT LIST

The plants on this list are prohibited both by the VCA and/or the Town of Oro Valley. These plants may not be used in landscaping anywhere on the property. They are prohibited due to 1) their invasive characteristics, 2) their aesthetic or inappropriateness to the desert environment, 3) their high pollen count, 4) their high requirement of water, or 5) their height. Owners will be required to remove any prohibited plant. Owners are also responsible to remove invasive, noxious and parasite plants such as Mistletoe, Dodder, Buffelgrass.

Some Citrus, Fruit, Olive and Palm trees are permitted within the backyard and privacy walls – see Appendix B Permitted Oasis Plant List.

No artificial or plastic flowers, trees, or shrubs are permitted in landscaping that is visible to neighboring properties and/or from common areas.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Notes
Any non-native tree whose mature height may exceed 25' is prohibited		
Any non-native shrub whose mature height may exceed 10' is prohibited		
Ailanthus Alstissimo	Tree of Heaven	
Arundo Donax	Giant Reed	
Bamboo spp.	Bamboo Species	
Brassica Toumefortil	Sahara (African) Mustard	
Baccharis Sarothroides	Desert Broom	
Bromus Rubens	Red Brome	
Centaurea Melintensis	Malta Starthistle	
Chamaecyparis	False Cypress	
Citrus Trees Large (non-dwarf)	Citrus Trees taller and wider than 8'	
Cupressus	Cypress	
Cuscuta	Dodder	
Cynodon Dactylon	Common Bermuda Grass	
Eleagnus angustifolia	Russian Olive	
Eragrostis	Lehman Lovegrass	
Eucalyptus (all varieties)	Eucalyptus (all varieties)	
Fruit Trees Large	Fruit Trees taller and wider than 8'	
Juniperus	Juniper or Cedar	

APPENDIX D - PLANTS-POISONOUS OR CAUSE IRRITATION/INJURY TO HUMANS AND PETS

We encourage Owners to use caution when considering these plants. We urge all Owners to consult a nursery before purchasing any plants. Ask your local veterinarian for guidance and please research any plant for potentially harmful reactions before purchasing or planting.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Notes
Cycas revoluta	Sago Palms	
Euphorbia	Euphorbia varieties	
Gelsemium sempervirens	Carolina Jasmine	
Lantana	Lantana	
Nandina domestica	Heavenly Bamboo	
Wisteria sinensis	Chinese Wisteria	

- *Please reference Arizona Humane Society/ poisonous plant list, University of CA extension service and ASPCA toxic plants list.*