



PETS & PLANTS IN SOUTH PARK



Pets and their owners are an integral part of the South Park community, but pet waste is hard on the plants in sidewalk-adjacent tree wells and parkways.

Frequent usage by pets creates a barren landscape, or requires property owners to spend thousands of dollars every few months to replace plantings. Smells and mess associated with dog waste also contribute to an unpleasant, unhealthy pedestrian realm and discourage street life.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Addressing this issue requires simultaneous mitigation from multiple angles – design, materials, education, enforcement, and maintenance. The following recommendations are designed to serves as a primer on best practices for property owners and managers establishing and maintaining landscaping elements in South Park.

DOG WASTE AREAS

- Each building should have at least one (or more) specific dog waste areas at ground level (dog run or tree well specifically for dog waste.
- Dog waste area should have a material specifically to filter dog urine (relatively heavy pond stones (Mexican Pebbles), wood chips, decomposed granite, artificial turf, etc.), marking post, sign advising children not to touch the rocks and doggie waste bags.









PLANTED TREE WELLS AND PARKWAYS

- Tall (but below 36"), firm, hedge-like plants on the perimeter of parkway or tree well. Perimeter plants should be planted close enough to each other that do not allow dogs to cross into the planted area.
- Entire planted area should be filled with thick vegetation

 no areas that seem inviting for dogs to wander in or for dog owners to lift the dog up and place in the planted area.
- When initially planted, plants should be large enough that large dogs cannot step over them.
- Tree well guards or fences may be helpful in keeping dogs from trampling plants, but are probably not sufficient on their own (dogs can still urinate on the plants and large dogs can step over them).





MAINTENANCE PRACTICES

- Sidewalks should be power washed at least weekly, with spot washing as necessary
- Sidewalks around building should be monitored daily and all pet waste removed
- Dog waste areas and parkway plants facing sidewalks should be rinsed daily to dilute urine
- Enzymes or bacteria to break down dog urine should be applied daily to the dog waste area (see specific products in appendix a)
- Buildings should communicate dog etiquette through frequent e-blasts and one-on-one education
- Signs prohibiting dog use and surveillance camera activity should be used as a deterrence tool, but are not sufficient alone
- Buildings should build plant replacement into their budgets

APPENDIX A: RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

URINE COMBATING PRODUCTS

- Uricide: Pet odor eliminator and stain remover
- Turf Fresh: Turf cleaner and odor eliminator
- Namco Liquid Alive Enzyme: Odor eliminator

TREE GUARDS

Curb Allure: High quaility modular metal tree guards

PLANT RECOMMENDATIONS

Carissa Macrocarpa – Natal Plum



Fortnight Lily



Dianella – Variegated Flax Lily



Boxwood



Mexican Sage



Burkwood Osmanthus



Japanese Spindle Tree



Dwarf Bottle Brush



STUDIO-MLA IN SOUTH PARK

WHERE DOGS AND PLANTS CAN LIVE TOGETHER

As the South Park neighborhood continues to grow, so has the increase in our furry companions. Dogs may help to reinforce a sense of community through interaction with neighbors, but these furry friends can also become harmful to plants that help to define our local streets. Studio-MLA recommendations include:

- 3 different streetscape conditions that allow flexibility for specific site conditions
- Plant palette
- Plant spacing
- Rinsing (or wash-downs)

Note these recommendations do not include trees species as these selections are part of a broader review with the City of Los Angeles Urban Forestry division.



SOUTH PARK

Where dogs and plants can live together!

(3) different streetscape conditions are depicted below as recommendations depending on site applicability.



PLANTING OPTION 1

- Low Planter Rail (12" high)
- Dog-resistant plants on perimeter
- Accent plants on interior

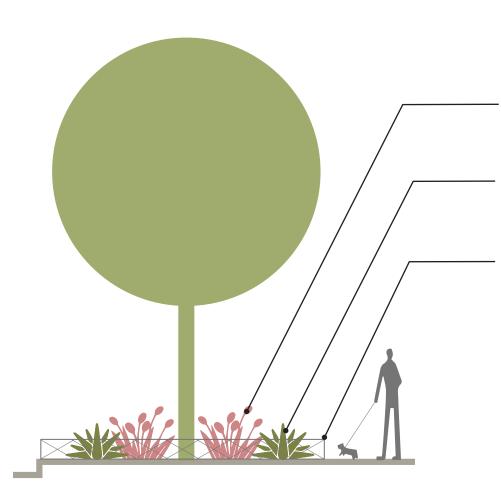
PLANTING OPTION 2

- Dog-resistant plants on perimeter
- Accent plants on interior

PLANTING OPTION 3

- No understory planting
- Decomposed Granite around tree





PLANTING OPTION 1

Accent plants on interior that are protected from dogs' urine

Dog-resistant plants on perimeter

that can withstand salt, compounds, and extensive nitrogen/ammonia exposure

Low Planter Rail (12" high) to discourage dogs from entering the planting bed and trampling plants

PLANT SPACING

It is highly encouraged to tightly space plants along the perimeter to discourage dogs from entering planting beds. If possible, shrubs should be installed no smaller than 5 gallon size. Plant spacing is recommended below:

- 5 gallon shrubs to be planted 18"-24" on center
- 15 gallon shrubs to be planted 24"-30" on diameter

RINSING

Overhead irrigation and periodic rinsing (as part of a weekly maintenance program) will encourage removal of toxins to leaves and aid in diluting planting soil to provide better plant performance.

PERIMETER PLANT SUGGESTIONS



Natal Plum Carissa macrocarpa 'Tuttlei' or 'Tomlinson' varieties Perimeter Plant





Mat Rush Lomandra 'Breeze' or 'Platinum Beauty' Perimeter Plant



Dwarf Myrtle Myrtus c. 'Compacta' Perimeter Plant





Western Sword Fern Polystichum munitum Perimeter Plant





INTERIOR PLANT SUGGESTIONS



Fortnight Lily Dietes bicolor Interior Plant



Hesperaloe Hesperaloe spp. (Red or Yellow varieties) Interior Plant





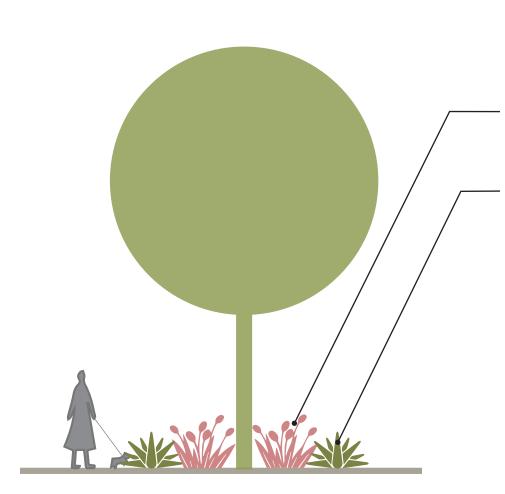












PLANTING OPTION 2

Accent plants on interior that are protected from dogs' urine

Dog-resistive plants on perimeter

that can withstand salt, compounds, extensive nitrogen/ammonia exposure, and light trampling

PLANT SPACING

It is highly encouraged to tightly space plants along the perimeter to discourage dogs from entering planting beds. If possible, shrubs should be installed no smaller than 5 gallon size. Plant spacing is recommended below:

- 5 gallon shrubs to be planted 18"-24" on center
- 15 gallon shrubs to be planted 24"-30" on diameter

RINSING

Overhead irrigation and periodic rinsing (as part of a weekly maintenance program) will encourage removal of toxins to leaves and aid in diluting planting soil to provide better plant performance.

PERIMETER PLANT SUGGESTIONS



Dwarf Coyote Bush* Baccharis p. 'Pigeon Point' 'Twin Peaks 2' or 'Pozo Surf' Perimeter Plant





Silver Carpet Dymondia margaretae Perimeter Plant



Green Spire Euonymus Euonymus japonicus 'Green Spire' Perimeter Plant



Star Jasmine Trachelospermum jasminoides Perimeter Plant



INTERIOR PLANT SUGGESTIONS



Little John Bottlebrush Callistemon v. 'Little John' Interior Plants





Rosemary Rosmarinus o. 'Blue Spires' Interior Plant





Coyote Mint Monardella villosa Interior Plant



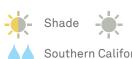


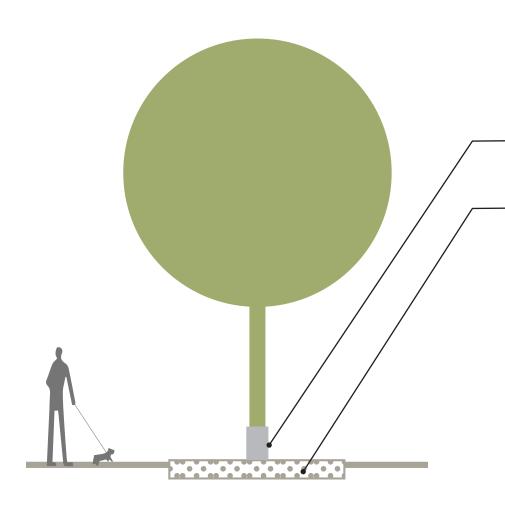


* Dwarf Coyote Bush prefers ample space to grow. However, these species are somewhat adaptive to trimming/hedging to limit overall size.









PLANTING OPTION 3

Tree Skirt / Tree Guard protects from dogs' urine

Decomposed Granite

within tree wells as an approved streetscape alternative to understory planting

TREE SKIRT / TREE GUARD

It is highly encouraged to provide a temporary tree skirt/tree guard at the base of newly installed trees. After the tree has been installed for (1) year, the tree skirt/tree guard should be removed. The intent is that the tree guard will protect the base of the tree during the first few months of establishment. 2' high, Corrugated Plastic Tree Guards (not perforated) or similar should be considered for this application.

DECOMPOSED GRANITE (DG)

Decomposed granite is a City of Los Angeles approved tree well material and should be used only where understory planting is not feasible. DG should be compacted and stabilized around the tree well avoiding compaction directly

RINSING

Although overhead irrigation may be less common in DG tree wells, periodic rinsing (as part of a weekly maintenance program) will promote diluting planting soil to flush out toxins and relieve unwanted odors.