<table>
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<th>Water Wise Lawn Alternatives</th>
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| **Berkeley Sedge**  
**or European Grey Sedge**  
*Carex tumulicola* or *C. divulsa*  
(C. tumulicola is CA Native)  |
| Planted from plugs. Both species are clump-forming and can be mowed early on to keep from clumping; otherwise they can be used as meadow. Highly adaptable to slopes, sun, or shady areas. Ideal to plant during summer. |
| **Blue Grama**  
*Bouteloua gracilis*  
(CA Native)  |
| Planted from seed. Spreads slowly and tolerates foot traffic. The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden has two blue grama lawns available to view. Ideal to plant during summer. |
| **Blue Sedge**  
*Carex flacca* or *Carex gluaca*  |
| Planted from plugs. A silver-blue evergreen sedge that spreads moderately slowly, but steadily and can tolerate foot traffic. Grows to about 6” but can also be mowed. Ideal to plant during summer. |
| **Common Yarrow**  
*Achillea millefolium*  
(CA Native)  |
| Planted from seed or plugs. Mow about every 6 weeks, or less if the surface is not going to be walked on. Flowers without mowing. Ideal to plant during winter. Yarrow lawn can be viewed at SB Botanic Garden. Great for in between pavers. |

Water Conservation Program (805) 564-5460 or SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterWise
Lawn Care

• Reduce the size of your lawn to match your needs for recreation
• If you are removing lawn, thoroughly research which method you would like to use. We recommend sheet mulching in order to improve soil health and permeability, however this method does take longer than other methods. It is important to ensure that the previous lawn/weeds are removed before planting a new lawn.
• Water wisely according to the weather. Use the Watering % Adjust posted weekly on our website to adjust your timer. www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterWise
• Improve the efficiency of your irrigation system: Make sure you have a pressure regulator and either use low precipitation or rotating nozzles, or a sub-surface drip system.
• Check your irrigation system regularly. Since lawns are irrigated at night, mis-aligned or broken irrigation components can go undetected.
• Reduce mowing frequency to allow grasses to grow longer and shade the soil/roots to reduce evaporation.
• Become familiar with your lawn alternative, many water wise lawn alternatives go dormant during the year and do not need watering during their dormancy period.