

Landscaping

Can Be Attractive &
FIREWISE

“FIRE SMART” Plant List for SC

Native and Landscape

HIGHLY Flammable Plants (Plants that will ignite faster and burn readily)

SHRUBS

- Arborvitae
- Gallberry
- Hollies
- Junipers
- Podocarpus
- Saw Palmetto
- Wax Myrtle
- Yaupon

TREES

- Eastern red cedar
- Eucalyptus
- Leyland cypress
- Pines

GROUNDCOVERS, BEDDING PLANTS, and VINES

- Pampas grass
- Pine straw

Note: When living in the Wildland Urban Interface areas, it is recommended that these plants NOT be planted adjacent to any wooden structure such as house, fences, or decks. This list is NOT inclusive as other plants with similar characteristics, i.e. low moisture content, high percentage of dead limbs or are under stress, can affect their performance.

TREES

- Ash
- Birch
- Cherry
- Cottonwood
- Crab apple
- Dogwood
- Elm
- Hickory
- Maple
- Oak
- Plum
- Redbud
- Southern Magnolia
- Sweetbay Magnolia
- Tulip tree (Yellow Poplar)
- Willow

LESS Flammable Plants with some fire resistance

SHRUBS

- Azalea
- Barberry (Mahonia)
- Bottlebrush
- Boxwood
- Burning bush
- Butterfly bush
- Camellia
- Cleyera
- Crape myrtle
- Eleagnus
- Forsythia
- Gardenia
- Hydrangea
- Indian Hawthorne
- Ligustrum
- Liriope
- Loripetalum
- Mahonia
- Muhlenbergia
- Oleander
- Philodendron
- Photinia
- Pittosporum
- Privet
- Pyracantha, firethorn
- Rhododendron
- Rose
- Russian olive
- Spirea
- Spirea
- Viburnum
- Weigela
- Witch Hazel



GROUNDCOVERS, BEDDING PLANTS, & VINES

- Blue-eyed grass
- Daylily
- Dusty miller, senecio
- Honeysuckle
- Iris
- Lantana
- Periwinkle
- St. Augustine grass
- Stonecrop
- Trumpet creeper
- Yarrow
- Yellow Jessamine
- Yellow-eyed grass



Note: This list is NOT inclusive. Any plant will burn given sufficient exposure to heat. Plants suffering from moisture stress will also be less resistant fire to than adequately watered plants.

There are no **fire proof plants**, but some are more fire resistant than others.



These “fire smart” plants:

- Are less likely to ignite from a wildfire.
- Burn less intensely when they do ignite, and spread the fire slower.
- Are lower growing or smaller.
- Have stems and leaves that are not resinous, oily, or waxy.
- Have a high moisture content; succulent plants.
- Easy to maintain and prune.
- Have less accumulated debris and fewer dead branches.
- Have an open, loose branching pattern.
- Are drought resistant, requiring less irrigation.