What does a drought tolerant landscape look like?

What are some good plants to use?

**TREES**
- California Pepper Tree
- California Bay Laurel
- Chinese Pistache
- Majestic Beauty Full Leaf Olive
- Shantung Maple

**GRASSES**
- Blue Fescue
- Deer Grass
- Pacific Reed Grass
- Berkeley Sedge
- Mexican Feather Grass

**PERENNIALS**
- California Aster
- Pink Agapanthus
- Chamomile
- Douglas Iris
- Cleveland Sage

**SHRUBS**
- Dwarf Myrtle
- Dwarf Yedda Hawthorn
- Spanish Lavender
- Apricot Sunrise
- Violet-Flowered Lupine

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For more plant suggestions, please visit our website: http://www.cityofsantamaria.org/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-division

What about artificial turf?

Be aware of these issues.

**HEAT**
Unlike real grass, artificial turf retains heat, making the surrounding air noticeably warmer. Many times, irrigation systems are necessary to cool the turf off.

**UPKEEP**
Artificial turf must be swept, hosed down, and sanitized weekly for cleaning and to maintain drainage. Tears and stains require repair as well. In some cases, weeds can grow and need to be removed.

**RUNOFF**
Artificial turf inhibits the natural process of infiltration and increases the amount of stormwater runoff. The runoff also leaches heavy metals that end up in rivers and oceans.

**COST**
The upfront costs to install artificial turf are high and maintenance costs are still a consideration. In many cases, the lifetime costs can exceed that of regular turf.

**AESTHETICS**
Though the appearance of artificial turf has improved, it still does not mimic live vegetation. In addition, without proper maintenance, the turf would become torn and stained over time.

**BACTERIA**
Unlike real grass, artificial turf does not decompose things like blood, sweat, skin cells, and animal feces. It must be hosed off with water and chemicals regularly to prevent bacteria from breeding.

Artificial turf does not qualify as landscape area in some districts in the City. Check with a Planner for details.