



OCEAN FRIENDLY GARDEN of the month

Overview



Beautiful close up



Intimate Detail



An artist's work



Planter Boxes



Order & Creativity



Vegetables in the Boxes

At The Home Of CAM AND RIKKI WEST, Indio Drive

Photos by Rob Nieto (Indio Drive)

This month's Ocean Friendly garden of the month belongs to Cam and Rikki West. The Wests hired long-time friend and designer Robert Nieto to plan the garden in phases as part of a complete renovation of this home at the south end of Indio Drive. Strong geometric elements are present in the succulent mosaic, gas fire pits, raised concrete planters, ipe wood decking and fencing, and in the espaliered fruit trees throughout the landscape.

This Ocean Friendly Garden employs the concepts of CPR (Conservation, Permeability and Retention), with channels cut into existing concrete slabs to allow water infiltration, impervious surfaces that drain into adjacent beds, the use of many climate appropriate native and Mediterranean plants, as well as low-water succulents. Edibles are found at every turn from the espaliered citrus, apple and pineapple guava trees that are interspersed along the fence lines to the packed raised garden planters.

The clay soil has been amended regularly with a mix of aged compost and fresh, organic mushroom compost resulting in soil that acts like a sponge, allowing greater infiltration of water while yielding robust plants that have been maintained successfully without synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides or herbicides. The latest technology in energy efficient low voltage LED lighting was used as well as a smart irrigation controller with a rain sensor to operate the custom multi-zone irrigation system.

A beautiful and private outdoor room features an exquisitely tiled water feature situated near a gas fire pit with aqua blue and amber recycled fire pit glass. The custom stainless steel trellis on the back fence reinforces the geometry of the space while providing structural support for the espaliered three-in-one apples trees.

For more info about the OFG program, contact ofg@slo.surfrider.org or robert@robertnietodesigns.com.



OCEAN FRIENDLY GARDEN

CONSERVATION
of water, energy and habitat

PERMEABILITY
of soil and surfaces lets water slow down and sink

RETENTION
of rainwater and prevention of wet weather runoff



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