Ocean Friendly Gardens Criteria

Conservation

Plants
_____ Non-invasive, climate-appropriate and grouped according to water need (hydrozoned), unless edible or food forest.
_____ Local native plant material is utilized for at least 10% of the visible garden area.

Turf Grass Areas
_____ No turf grass OR
_____ Climate-appropriate: average rainfall keeps it healthy. Maintained organically.

Irrigation
_____ No automatic irrigation system is utilized, OR
_____ High efficiency irrigation system with no water waste.

Permeability

Healthy, Living Soil
_____ A minimum of 2 inches to 4 inches of natural woodchip mulch is present in all planted and open areas, preferably with some leaf material, excluding areas around the crown of woody plants and trees.
_____ Use of compost, and no use of pesticides, herbicides or fungicides.
_____ No landscape fabric (weed cloth) is used.

Hardscape
_____ Walkways and patios direct rainwater to landscaping, use pavers, use permeable materials, or are made permeable by creating gaps and filling in with gravel or plants.

Retention
Re-direct It
_____ Where feasible, roof gutters/downspouts, roofs without gutters/downspouts, and drains are directed away from impermeable surfaces and into landscaping, a permeable area, or into retention/detention devices if the first two are not an option.

Soak It Up
_____ The garden design captures as much of the rainfall from rooftops and other impermeable surfaces as possible by using contours, swales and dry creek beds, or retention/detention devices when necessary.

OFG Map
_____ OK to post the garden.  _____ Sq. Ft. roof area.  _____ Sq. Ft. garden area.

surfrider.org/ofg -- check here for the long form version, with additional best practices.