Ocean Friendly Gardens Criteria

**Conservation**

**Plants**
- ___ Non-invasive and climate-appropriate, unless edible
- ___ Grouped by water need
- ___ At least 10% of the plants are natives

**Turf Grass Areas**
- ___ No turf grass, OR kept to a minimum AND
- ___ Climate-appropriate (rainfall keeps it healthy), maintained organically, and consider inter-seeding with nitrogen-fixing plants such as clover

**Irrigation**
- ___ Hand watering OR
- ___ High efficiency irrigation system (drip, rotator sprinkler)
- ___ Automatic irrigation controller, if present, has a rain shut-off device

**Permeability**

**Healthy, Living Soil**
- ___ A minimum of 2 to 4 inches of natural mulch
- ___ If fertilizing is needed, use of compost or worm castings and not commercial fertilizer
- ___ No use of pesticides, herbicides or fungicides
- ___ No landscape fabric (weed cloth)

**Hardscape**
- ___ Walkways and patios direct rainwater runoff to landscaping. They are made permeable by use of pavers or permeable materials OR by creating gaps and filling in with gravel or plants. For a next step, do the same for driveways.

**Retention**

**Re-direct It**
- ___ Rainwater from the roof is directed to landscaping or a permeable area OR
- ___ To rain tanks that overflow into permeable areas if that is not possible

**Soak It Up**
- ___ Use simple contours such as bio-swales, dry creeks, and basins
- ___ Use of dry wells or the like if rainfall volume and lack of landscape space demands it

**OFG Map**
- ___ OK to post the garden ______ Sq. Ft. roof area ______ Sq. Ft. garden area

For the list of additional best practices, go to surfrider.org/ofg