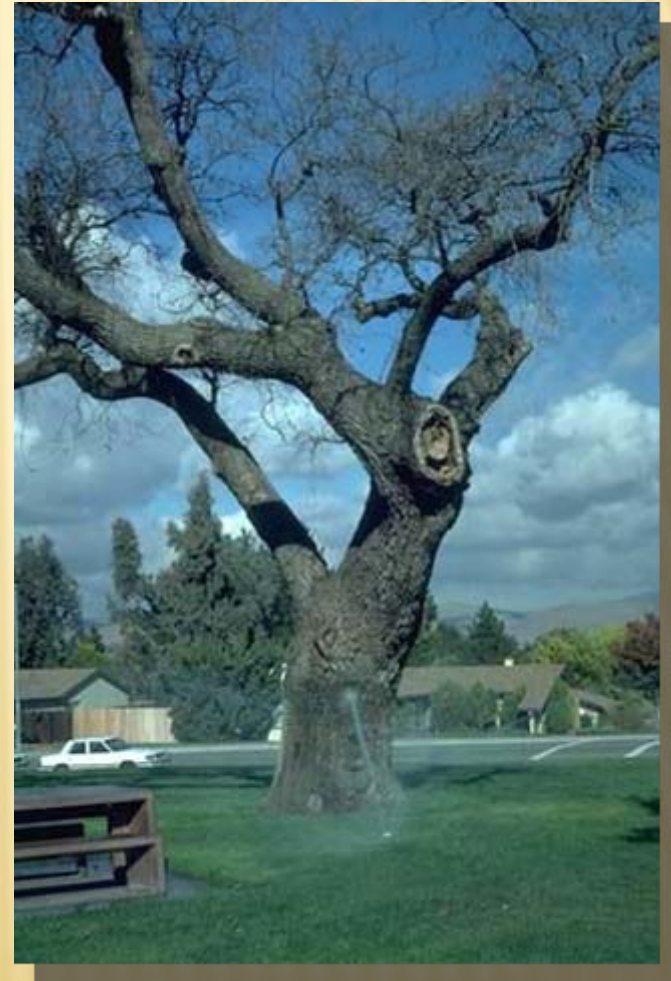# 4. CONSERVE WATER

- Mulch
- Plant selection
- Minimize turf
- Rainwater collection
- Efficient irrigation systems
- Audit your irrigation system
- Manage your irrigation

5. CONSERVE ENERGY

Plant trees to minimize energy use

- -shade paved areas
- -shade west and south side with deciduous trees
- -shade air conditioners
- -design outdoor lighting carefully

Shaded Parking Lots

By increasing shade to 50% in all parking lots in Sacramento, the annual benefits will increase to $4 million from reduced fuel evaporation. **" *Greg McPherson-Center for Urban Forestry Research***

Tree placement:

Trees provide habitat for wildlife

West

Fruit and nut trees provide spring flowers, autumn color and a harvest

NORTH

Trees provide privacy and protection from strong winds

South

Summer shade from deciduous trees placed on either south or west sides can lower utility cost by 10- 15% and allow for solar heating in winter months

East

Street trees provide shade and reduce reflective heat

Trees add curb appeal and increase property values
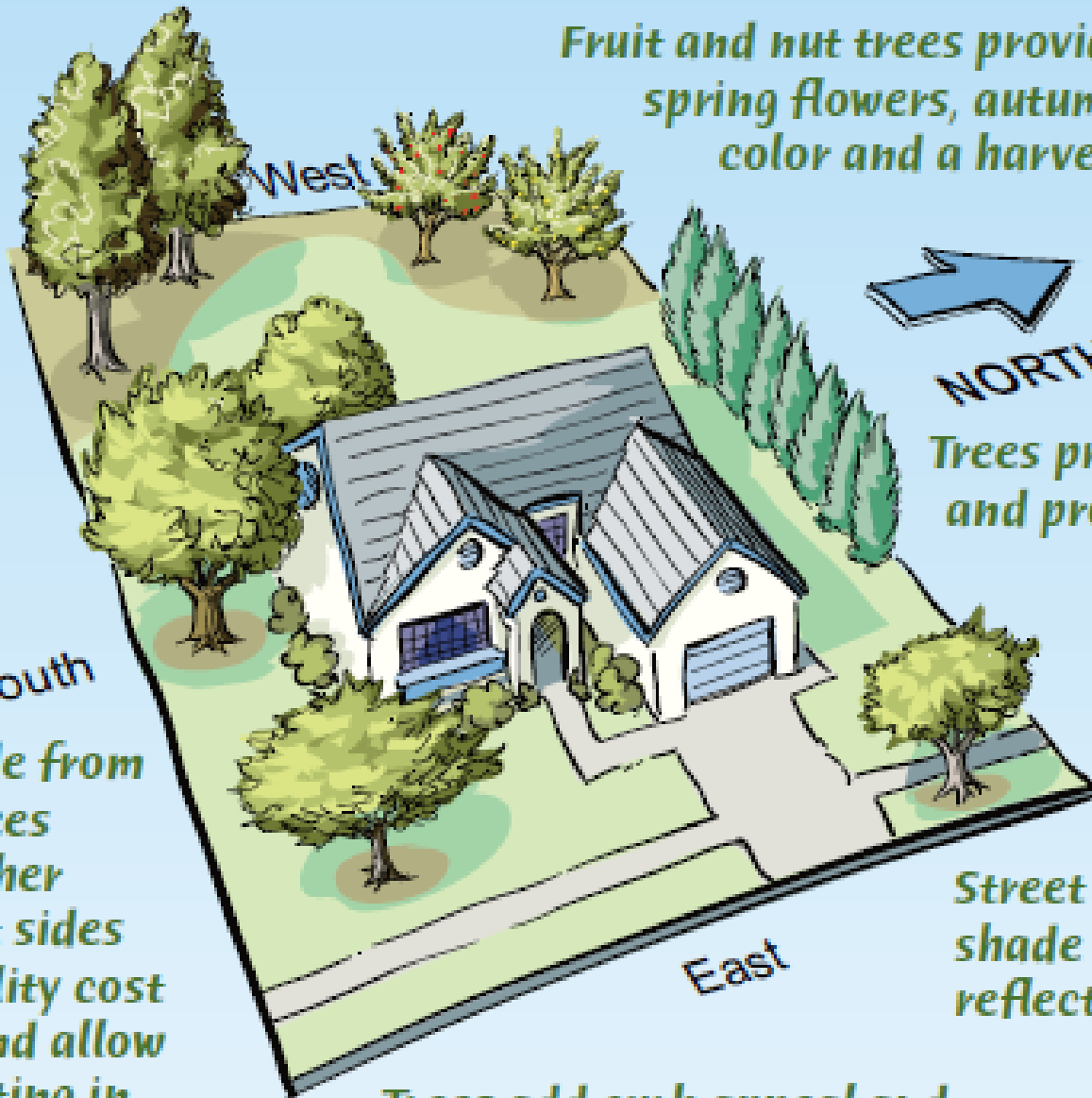
6. PROTECT WATER AND AIR QUALITY

- Use IPM
- Minimize decorative turf areas
- Keep soil covered with mulch
- Keep organic matter on site
- Minimize impervious surfaces
- Plant trees
- Maintain irrigation system properly
- Prevent run-off
- Use proper equipment

Reduced Pesticide Use
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

- IPM Pest Cards
- IPM Interactive Kiosk

http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu

7. CREATE AND PROTECT WILDLIFE HABITAT

- Create landscapes with diverse plantings

- Provide water and shelter

- Avoid pesticide use

- Conserve or restore natural areas and wildlife corridors
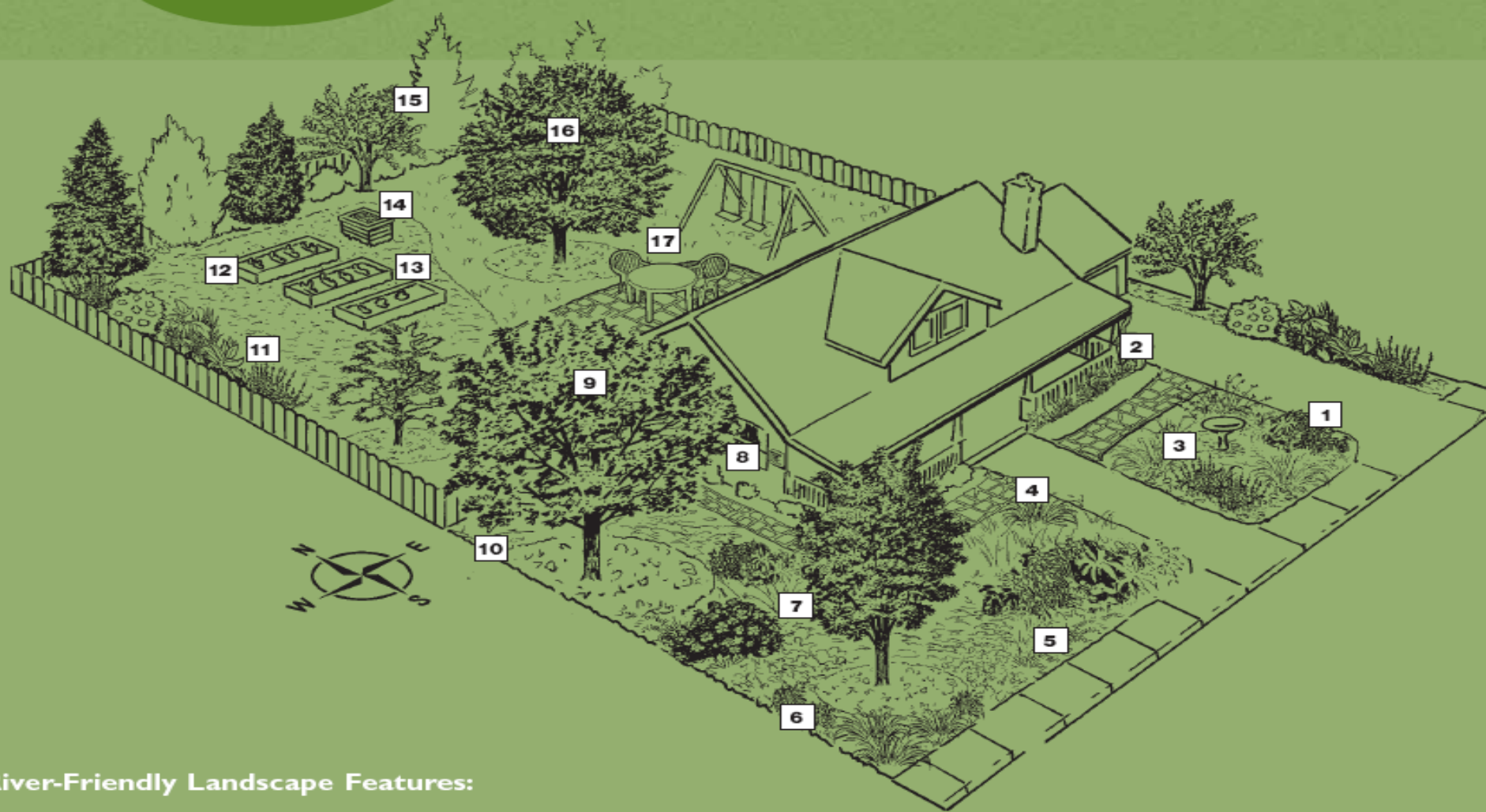
River-Friendly Landscape Features:

1 Permeable paving on driveway and walkway to front door

2 Water from roof channeled to cistern

3 Water for wildlife habitat

4 Pavers with spaces and low water use plants between

**5** Front lawn replaced by diverse plantings with many California native groundcovers, shrubs and trees, but no invasive species

6 All plants given the space to grow to their natural size

7 Plants selected to match the microclimates

8 Irrigation controller waters hydrozones according to plant needs, soil moisture and weather

9 Deciduous trees placed to the west & southwest of the house & patio for summer cooling

10 Repository for leaves to collect under trees as mulch

11 Mulched paths keep soil covered

12 Drip irrigation for vegetable beds, shrubs, trees and elsewhere where feasible

13 Raised beds are constructed from plastic or composite lumber

14 Compost bin recycles plant and kitchen debris

15 Evergreen windbreak blocks north winter winds

16 Trees not topped but pruned properly

17 Small lawn in backyard where family will use it

In Summary…

- Sustainable landscape practices are gardening practices that not only save you money by saving energy, water, and time; they will help to improve environmental quality.
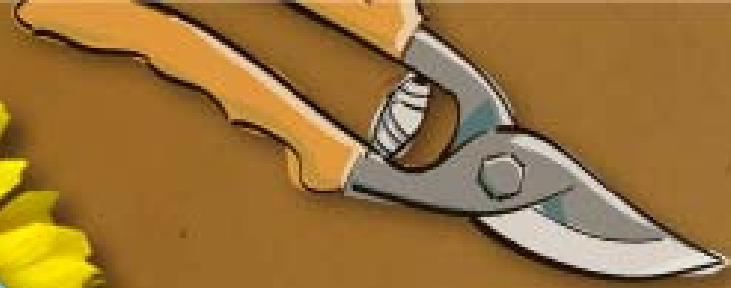
Master Gardener Program

University of California Cooperative Extension ANR

For more information on sustainable landscape practices go to:

http://www.sacramentostormwater.org/SSQP/Riverfriendly/Documents/River Friendly_Guidelines.pdf

Special thanks to the Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership (SSQP), used with permission and assistance from the StopWaste.org in Alameda County. The River Friendly Landscape Guidelines are a Sacramento revision of the Bay-Friendly Landscape Guidelines originally published by StopWaste.org in 2003

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