

**MAINTENANCE GUIDEBOOK IV
LANDSCAPE AND GENERAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
CHAPTER FOUR - GROUND COVER AND VINES**

SECTION A GENERAL

1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter is designed to present selected information for effective and economical maintenance of ground covers and vines. It is not intended to limit or restrict HAs in programming or developing practices compatible with their respective environments, but should serve only as a guideline. HAs are encouraged to obtain additional information from such local resources as the County or State Cooperative Extension Agents, agronomists, horticulturists, and university or college environmental and agricultural extension services.

2. RESIDENT COOPERATION

Successful upkeep of ground covers and vines requires attention from both residents and grounds personnel, and demands continued maintenance by staff on a year-round basis. Refer to Chapter One, Section A-3, for information concerning resident cooperation.

3. EQUIPMENT

Refer to Chapter Three, Section A-3, Equipment and Materials, for a list of common tools and materials usually required in the maintenance of ground cover and vines.

SECTION B GROUND COVER LIST

GROUND COVERS

Botanical Name COMMON NAME	Exposure	Zone	Height	Growth Rate	Group	Remarks
<i>Ajuga reptans</i> CARPET BUGLE	S-SS	3-9	2-4'	M to F	E	Blue or white flowers
<i>Hedera helix</i> ENGLISH IVY	SS-S	5-10	6-8'	S to M	E	Good for shade, erosion control
<i>Hemerocallis species</i> DAYLILY	S-SS	3-10	2-3'	M to F	D to E	Hardy, many flower colors
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i> EVERGREEN CANDYTUFT	S-SS	4-10	6-8'	M	E	White flowers in spring
<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Sargentii' SARGENT JUNIPER	S	4-10	1-2'	M	C	Very hardy, winter color
<i>Juniperus conferta</i> SHORE JUNIPER	S	4-10	24-30'	M	C	Hardy
<i>Juniperus conferta</i> 'Blue Pacific' BLUE PACIFIC JUNIPER	S	6-10	10-12'	M	C	Blue-gray foliage, short vertical stems
<i>Juniperus conferta</i> 'Emerald Sea' EMERALD SEA JUNIPER	S	6-10	10-12'	M	C	Blue-gray foliage, compact
<i>Juniperus davurica</i> ('Parsonii') PARSONS JUNIPER	S	6-10	18-24'	M to F	C	Very hardy, poor soils
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> 'Plumosa' ANDORRA JUNIPER	S	6-10	1-2'	S	C	Good for slopes, poor soils
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> 'Plumosa Compacta' ANDORRA COMPACTA JUNIPER	S	3-10	1-2'	S	C	Denser, more compact than Andorra
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> , 'Wiltoni' BLUE RUG CARPET JUNIPER	S	2-10	4-6'	M	C	Hugs ground, bluish foliage
<i>Juniperus procumbens</i> 'Nana' DWARF JAPGARDEN JUNIPER	S	6-10	6-8'	VS	C	Suitable for small spaces
<i>Liriope Muscari</i> LIRIOPE	SS	4-10	8-15'	M	E	Violet flowers, erosion control
<i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i> MONDO GRASS	SS-SH	8-10	5-6'	M	E	Make dense mat
<i>Phlox subulata</i> MOSS PHLOX or THRIFT	S	2-10	3-4'	M to F	E	Rose, white, lilac flowers
<i>Vinca minor</i> COMMON PERIWINKLE	SS-SH	4-10	5-6'	F	E	Purple flowers, erosion control
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> 'Coloratus' PURPLE LEAF EUONYMUS	S-SS	5-10	6-18'	F	BLE	Orange fruit in fall

Exposure

S - Sun
SS - Semi-Shade
SH - Shade

Growth Rate

F - Fast
M - Medium
S - Slow
VS - Very Slow

Group

BLE - Broad-leaved Evergreen
C - Conifer
D - Deciduous
SE - Semi-Evergreen

SECTION C VINES LIST

VINES

Botanical Name COMMON NAME	Zone	Growth Rate	Group	Remarks
Akebia quinata FIVELEAF AKEBIA	5-9	S to M	D	Hardy, easy to grow, dark, rich foliage
Bougainvillea hybrids BOUGAINVILLEA	9-10	M	D	Large, colorful flowers
Celastrus orbiculatus ORIENTAL BITTERSWEET	5-9	M	D	Red and yellow berries
Clematis x jackmanii JACKMAN CLEMATIS	6-9	M	D	Large purple, lavender-pink, or white flowers; fertile, well-drained soil
Clematis paniculata SWEET AUTUMN CLEMATIS	5-9	M	D	Fragrant white flowers in late summer
Gelsemium sempervirens CAROLINA YELLOW JESSAMINE	7-10	M	BLE	Yellow, trumpet-like flowers; hardy, one of the best vines; rich, well-drained soil
Hedera helix ENGLISH IVY	6-10	S to M	BLE	Dark green foliage, semi-shade
Hydrangea anomala petiolaris CLIMBING HYDRANGEA	5-9	M	D	Large clusters white flowers, one of best vines.
Jasminum officinale CLIMBING JASMINE	7-10	M	BLE	Fragrant white flowers
Rosa banksia BANKSIA ROSE	4-9	F	SE	Yellow flowers, tolerates many soils
Rose species	4-9	F	D	Numerous varieties and colors, subject to disease and insects

<u>Growth Rate</u>	<u>Group</u>
F - Fast	BLE - Broad-leaved Evergreen
M - Medium	D - Deciduous
S - Slow	SE - Semi-Evergreen

SECTION D SELECTION, PLACEMENT, AND SPACING

1. GROUND COVERS

Low-growing ground covers have a variety of functions in the landscape. They are used in areas that are inaccessible or difficult for mowing equipment to reach like steep slopes and parking lot islands. Ground covers may also be used in pedestrian spaces, such as at building entrances and courtyards.

2. VINES

Vines should be selected and planted very carefully. Many vines climb by means of tendrils and disks, or root-like hold-fasts, which can damage wood or masonry walls. Maintenance, like painting and repair work, can be difficult and costly if vines must first be removed. Generally, vines should be restricted to arbors, trellises, and structures other than buildings.

SECTION E MULCHING

Mulching is the application of shredded bark or other appropriate materials over the soil around plants. Refer to Chapter Two, Section E for mulch types and application methods.

SECTION F PRUNING

Pruning has a variety of uses and benefits. Refer to Chapter Two, Section F for general pruning information.

1. ASSESSING PLANTS FOR PRUNING

Prune damaged ground cover and vines or those that pose health or safety hazards. If storm damage occurs, prune during the week immediately following the storm. Prune ground cover and vines to eliminate diseased or damaged growth and to maintain a natural appearance. Prune when the following conditions are observed:

- Dead or dying stems
- Nuisance growth. Cut vines that likely to interfere with electrical or telephone lines;
- Excessive growth. Trim vines and ground covers that have grown "out-of-control" and out of their planting beds.

2. TECHNIQUE

When pruning with hand shears, prune 1/4 inch above a side bud at approximately a 45 degree angle. Vines should be trimmed from the soil line to the ends of growth. This thinning out will encourage new growth throughout the plant, resulting in a more attractive plant. Ground covers should be clipped like shrubs to control their growth.

Dispose of all trimmings and other pruning products on-site to recycle for soil improvement. Diseased

or infected clippings should be disposed of off-site.

3. SCHEDULE

Refer to Chapter Nine - Scheduling for information on coordination of pruning with other landscape maintenance activities.

SECTION G WATERING

Refer to Chapter Two, Section G for guidelines concerning irrigation systems and watering quantities.

SECTION H FERTILIZING

Fertilization promotes good color, stimulates growth, and enhances a plant's ability to withstand adverse environmental conditions and disease. Refer to Chapter Two, Section H for fertilization information.

SECTION I PLANT-PROBLEM DIAGNOSIS

Refer to Chapter Two, Section I for a plant-problem diagnosis table.

SECTION J GROUND COVER AND VINE REMOVAL

See Chapter Three, Section J for plant removal information.

SECTION K CLEANUP

See Chapter Two, Section L for information on site cleanup.

SECTION L SCHEDULE

See Chapter Nine - Scheduling for schedule information.

END OF CHAPTER FOUR