



# SmartSlope L I V I N G R E T A I N I N G W A L L S



## **Superior Aesthetics**

attractive. customizable. natural.

## **Unmatched Strength**

wet-cast concrete.  
true mechanical connection of module and reinforcement.

## **Ecosystem Services**

mitigates urban heat island effect.  
reduces impervious surface.  
creates urban habitat.  
guaranteed plant performance.

## **Light Environmental Footprint**

low input. less concrete.  
manufactured locally.

## **Ease of Install**

lightest weight-to-coverage ratio in the industry.  
less concrete, less labor, less time.

## **Functional and Versatile**

versatility in range of batter (50 to 70 degrees).  
largest plant pocket of any vegetated retaining wall.

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## WHY NOT BUILD A SMARTER RETAINING WALL?

SmartSlope is a vegetated retaining wall system that utilizes open-celled precast concrete modules and polymeric reinforcement strap. Modules are stacked in a staggered pattern to create planting pockets. Upon grow-out, the entire face of wall is covered with vegetation. SmartSlope is ideal for residential and commercial applications.

### Technical Highlights

Coverage (SF of wall per module)	1.85 SF
Module Dimensions	20" W x 8" H x 15" D
Module Weight (without fill)	90 lbs
Color	Charcoal Olive
Accepts Irrigation Lines	Yes
Compatible Engineering Software	MSEW and SRW
See also the SmartSlope technical data sheet.	

### Plant Selections

Meadow (grasses, wildflowers)	1. See cover page.
Xeriscape (hardy succulents)	2. See top of this page.
Woody (evergreen shrubs and vines)	3. See left.
Flowering (sun-loving, long-blooming)	4. See left.
Shade (shade-loving foliage plants)	5. See left.
See also the SmartSlope planting guide.	







## SmartSlope Plants

Furbish is committed to providing our customers with fully vegetated retaining walls. That is why we provide only select plants and soil blends. To choose plants for your project, review the five plant palettes below, then give us a call. We will help you develop a site-specific planting design that we will warrant, and that meets your design objectives.

SmartSlope plants are produced to our specifications by trusted growers. Each species is provided in the appropriate size to ensure success, be that plugs, pints, quarts, cuttings, or bare root. Through our Stewardship program, we ensure that vegetative coverage meets expectations. Expect over 80% coverage of the wall within the first two years; some fast-growing plants will provide nearly full coverage in one growing season.

### Plant Selections

Meadow (grasses and wildflowers)

Xeriscape (hardy succulents and similar drought-tolerant species)

Woody (evergreen shrubs and vines)

Flowering (sun-loving, long-blooming plants)

Shade (shade-loving foliage plants, some bloomers)

### Soil Selections

Mid-Atlantic Blend (suitable for most applications)

Biofiltration Blend (designed to absorb stormwater)

Rock Garden Blend (ideal for the Xeriscape plant palette)



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## Meadow Plant Palette

Native North American grasses are the workhorses of the Meadow plant palette. Native North American wildflowers add diversity and interest.

**Ecosystem Services:** Plants in this hardy collection have developed root systems that extract water from deep within the soil, making them great choices for drought tolerance and for use in stormwater management systems. Many species in this collection provide habitat or sources of pollen, or reduce stormwater nutrient load, or provide phytoremediation services. Most of this collection tolerates very hot and dry conditions, similar to succulents, improving their ability to mitigating the urban heat island effect. Many are salt-tolerant.

**Light:** Full sun to part sun

**Moisture:** Well-drained to dry soils; some grasses are appropriate for shoreline conditions

**Form/Habit:** Predominantly tall, upright, mounding

**Bloom Color:** Varies, grasses produce mostly wheat-colored blooms or seeds. Wildflower blooms include yellows, reds, oranges, purples, pinks and whites.

**Winter Interest:** Wheat-colored to bronze dried foliage.

### Accent Plants

*Achillea*, Moonshine, Yarrow  
*Aesclepias tuberosa*, Butterfly weed  
*Aster ericoides* 'Snow Flurry', Heath aster  
*Aster oblongifolius* 'October Skies'  
*Coreopsis verticillata* 'Moonbeam' and 'Zagreb', Yellow tickseed  
*Echinacea purpurea*, Coneflower  
*Gaura lindheimeri*, Beeblossom  
*Rudbeckia fulgida*, Black-eyed Susan  
*Scutellaria incana*, Hoary skullcap  
*Solidago* 'Little Lemon', Goldenrod  
*Solidago rugosa* 'Fireworks', Goldenrod

### Plants for Wall Coverage in Single-Species Masses

*Arrenatherum bubosum* 'Variegatum', Bulbous Oat Grass  
*Carex flacca*, Blue sedge, Blue Zinger  
*Carex morrowii* 'Ice Dance', Variegated sedge  
*Carex muskingumensis*, Palm Sedge  
*Chasmanthium latifolium*, Northern sea-oats  
*Pennisetum alopecuroides* 'Hameln', Dwarf fountain grass  
*Pennisetum orientale*, Oriental fountain grass

### Plants for Wall Coverage in Multi-Species Masses

*Bouteloua curtipendula*, Sideoats grama  
*Bouteloua gracilis*, Blue grama  
*Bouteloua gracilis* 'Blonde Ambition', Blue grama  
*Eragrostis spectabilis*, Purple love grass  
*Panicum ararum*, Bitter panic grass, Dewy Blue  
*Panicum virgatum*, Switchgrass  
*Panicum virgatum* 'Shenandoah', Switchgrass



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## Xeriscape Plant Palette

Most plants in this collection are succulents: hardy, drought-tolerant plants that store water within their leaves and stems, such as Cacti and Sedums.

**Ecosystem Services:** As succulents thrive in conditions that are inhospitable to many other plants, these plants are often the best choices to provide the ecosystem services of cooling and stormwater management in urban areas. Several of these plants bloom at critical times of the year, making them a welcome source of nectar for beneficial pollinators.

**Light:** Full sun

**Moisture:** Well-drained and dry soils

**Form/Habit:** Varies, with some exceptions, most are low mounding or cascading

**Bloom Color:** Varies, includes yellows, reds, pinks and whites

**Winter Interest:** Moderate: most are evergreen, but not showy

### Plants for Wall Coverage

*Callirhoe involucrata*, Poppy mallow or wine cups  
*Delosperma cooperi*, Ice Plant  
*Delosperma 'Lesotho Pink'*, Ice Plant  
*Oenothera fruticosa 'Fireworks'*, Sundrops  
*Opuntia cooperi*, Prickly Pear Cactus  
*Phedimus takesimensis*, Golden Carpet  
*Santolina chamaecyparissus*, Lavendar Cotton  
*Sedum 'Autumn Fire'*, Stonecrop  
*Sedum kamtschaticum*, Stonecrop  
*Yucca filamentosa*, Adams Needle

### Accent Plants

*Allium cernuum*, Allium  
*Allium montanum*, Allium  
*Allium schoenoprasum*, Chives  
*Iris sp.*, German bearded iris  
*Sedum* species as seasonally available.  
*Talinum calycinum*



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## Woody Plant Palette

SmartSlope’s large planting pocket allows use of some woody plants, including some evergreen shrubs. Whereas most herbaceous plant collections will extend approximately 12-18” from the face of wall, allow 24” to 36” for stems of shrubby plants to extend from the face of wall.

**Ecosystem Services:** In addition to significant benefits of cooling and beauty, some plants in this collection provide nectar for beneficial pollinators. Woody plant stems also provide additional shelter, which may occasionally makethewallattractivetonestingbirds.

**Light:** Full sun for shrubs, sun to part shade for vines

**Moisture:** Varies; most tolerate dry soils

**Form/Habit:** Vines will cascade and climb along the wall; shrubs will cascade or mound

**Bloom Color:** Varies

**Winter Interest:** High; jasmine, rosemary and Juniper are evergreen, all have persistent stems

### Shrubs for Wall Coverage

- Caryopteris clandonensis* ‘Dark Knight’, Bluebeard
- Caryopteris clandonensis* ‘Worcester Gold’, Bluebeard
- Forsythia suspensa*, Weeping forsythia
- Hypericum calycinum*, St. John’s wort
- Jasminum nudiflorum*, Winter jasmine
- Juniperus conferta* ‘Blue Pacific’, Blue Pacific Juniper
- Juniperus horizontalis* ‘Wiltonii’, Blue Rug Juniper
- Juniperus procumbens* ‘Nana’, Prostrate Juniper
- Kerria japonica*, Japanese yellow rose
- Rosmarinus officinalis*, Rosemary

### Vines for Wall Coverage

- Campsis radicans*, Trumpet vine
- Clematis tangutica*, Clematis
- Clematis virginiana*, Virgin’s bower
- Gelsemium sempervirens* ‘Margarita’, Carolina yellow jessamine
- Lonicera sempervirens*, Trumpet/coral honeysuckle
- Parthenocissus virginiana*, Virginia creeper
- Wisteria frutescens* ‘Amethyst Falls’, American wisteria
- Wisteria macrostachya* ‘Blue Moon’, Kentucky wisteria



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## Flowering Plant Palette

Although all our collections bloom, this sun-loving plant palette is full of long-blooming colorful plants, including some fragrant herbs. This plant palette is ideally suited for accents, entrance features and many residential applications.

**Ecosystem Services:** In addition to significant benefits of cooling, stormwater management, & beauty, many plants in this collection provide nectar for beneficial pollinators, and some are edible herbs.

- Light:** Full sun to part shade
- Moisture:** Most require moist well-drained soils; several of these plants prefer dry soils
- Form/Habit:** Varies from low upright and mounding to trailing
- Bloom Color:** All colors under the sun
- Winter Interest:** Minimal

### Plants for Wall Coverage

- Artemisia schmidtiana* 'Silver Mound', Wormwood
- Aster ericoides* 'Snow Flurry', Heath aster
- Aster oblongifolius* 'October Skies', Aster
- Callirhoe involucrata*, Poppy mallow or wine cups
- Dianthus gratianopolitanus* 'Firewitch', Cheddar Pinks
- Gaura lindheimeri*, Beeblossum
- Geranium maculatum* 'Espresso', Wild geranium
- Geranium* 'Rozanne', Cranesbill
- Iberis sempervirens* 'Snowflake', Candytuft
- Lavandula angustifolia*, Lavendar
- Perovskia* 'Little Spire', Russian sage
- Pycnanthemum muticum*, Mountain mint
- Rosmarinus officinalis*, Rosemary
- Salvia greggii* 'Ultra Violet', Hybrid sage
- Salvia nemorosa* 'May Night', Garden sage

### Accent Plants

- Allium cernuum* or *montanum*, Allium
- Allium schoenoprasum*, Chives
- Geum coccineum* 'Koi', Avens
- Geum* 'Flames of Passion', Avens
- Iris sp.*, German bearded iris
- Origanum laevigatum* 'Rosenkuppel', Ornamental oregano
- Pycnanthemum muticum*, Mountain mint
- Ruellia humilis*, Wild petunia
- Thymus serpyllum*, Thyme



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## Shade Plant Palette

Several plants that thrive in dry North American woodlands also thrive in SmartSlope in shaded locations. Foliage plants dominate the Shade palette.

**Ecosystem Services:** In addition to benefits of cooling, stormwater management, and beauty, use of SmartSlope in forested areas allows for slope stabilization without the introduction of hard surfaces into ecosystems. If used within or adjacent to woodlands, SmartSlope may provide nesting opportunities.

**Light:** Part shade to full shade

**Moisture:** Varies; most tolerate dry soils

**Form/Habit:** Varies

**Bloom Color:** This is primarily a foliage collection; most have insignificant blooms

**Winter Interest:** Moderate; most are deciduous

### Plants for Wall Coverage

*Carex flacca*, Blue sedge, Blue Zinger  
*Carex morrowii* 'Ice Dance', Variegated sedge  
*Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*, Plumbago or leadwort  
*Chrysogonum virginianum* var. *australe*, Green and gold  
*Euphorbia amygdaloides*, Wood spurge  
*Helleborus Brandywine*, Lenten-rose  
*Heuchera x villosa* 'Mocha', Hairy alumroot  
*Hosta sieboldiana*, Big blue hosta  
*Parthenocissus virginiana*, Virginia creeper  
*Phlox stolonifera*, Creeping phlox  
*Pycnanthemum flexuosum*, Appalachian mountain mint  
*Pycnanthemum muticum*, Mountain mint  
*Tiarella cordifolia*, Foamflower  
*Viola walteri* 'Silver Gem', Prostrate blue violet

### Accent Plants

*Aquilegia* 'Biedermeier', Hybrid columbine  
*Aquilegia canadensis* 'Little Lanterns', Dwarf wild columbine  
*Geum fragarioides*, Appalachian barren strawberry  
*Heuchera americana*, Alumroot  
*Monarda bradburiana*, Eastern bee balm  
*Polystichum acrostichoides*, Christmas fern  
*Rubus calycinoides*, Creeping raspberry



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