

Dear Monarch,

There is a dead plant in the common area by my house! I don't want to look at this dead thing and I'm embarrassed that my friends and neighbors must see it. I'll just rip it out myself.

DEAD PLANTS

Dear Concerned Resident,

Oh no! A dead plant is a disappointing sight indeed. The landscape is a living, dynamic ecosystem that naturally involves death. If this occurs, responsibility falls on your landscape professional to handle the issue.

Some good things to know . . .

- That plant may not be dead! Many plants experience **natural dormancy** that may appear as stress or mortality.
- The plant may be ailing and require care to recover. A **horticultural professional** can determine the best course of action, including replacement. A simple change in horticultural practices may save lots of time and money wasted on unnecessary replacements.
- The removal may be overlooked by landscapers. To ensure a replacement is forthcoming, the landscapers must be aware of the removal and develop a proposal for the **community manager**. The sooner a problem is reported, the sooner it can be solved.
- A dead plant tells a story. By examining the condition of the dead material, we have a better understanding of **why it failed**. Soil conditions, evidence of pests or disease, irrigation irregularities, and environmental issues can all help determine what went wrong and what actions we need to take moving forward.
- Right plant, right place: instead of repeating the problem, we may select a different plant better suited to your situation.
- **Monarch** is staffed with experienced horticulturists and plant health care experts. Our goal is to provide the highest level of care for your landscape with practical, sustainable solutions.



MONARCH FUN FACT

Summer dormancy is a **survival tactic**. Many succulents, grasses, and California native plants rest during the hottest, driest season to **conserve resources**.