



CENTRAL UTAH WATER

Qualifying For The Landscape Incentive Program

Utah
Water
Savers



Program Goals

Landscapes incentivized by this program should:

- Conserve water
 - Provide holistic ecological benefits
 - Be set up for long-term success
 - Beautify a neighborhood
 - Encourage others!
-



Topics covered in this class:

- Types of eligible projects
 - Non-functional lawn
 - The 5 steps to convert a landscape
 - Program rules, application, and process
 - Project maintenance and inspiration
 - Available resources
-



Program Options

Lawn Removal



Switch To Drip



Lawn Removal

- Must have existing lawn that is living and maintained
- Project area must be at least 200 square feet

Lawn that is dead, overly weedy, or removed prior to a site visit will NOT be eligible for the program



Examples of Disqualified Lawn

Weeds



Examples of Disqualified Lawn

Dead Lawn



Examples of Disqualified Lawn

Removed Lawn



Switch To Drip

- Must have existing planting beds watered overhead spray within the planting bed
- Project area must be at least 200 square feet

Qualifying planting beds are defined spaces with existing, intentional, ornamental plants.



What is Non-Functional Grass?



Non-Functional Grass

Creates Waste

- Narrow Spaces
- Inefficient Irrigation



Non-Functional Grass

Challenging Growing Conditions

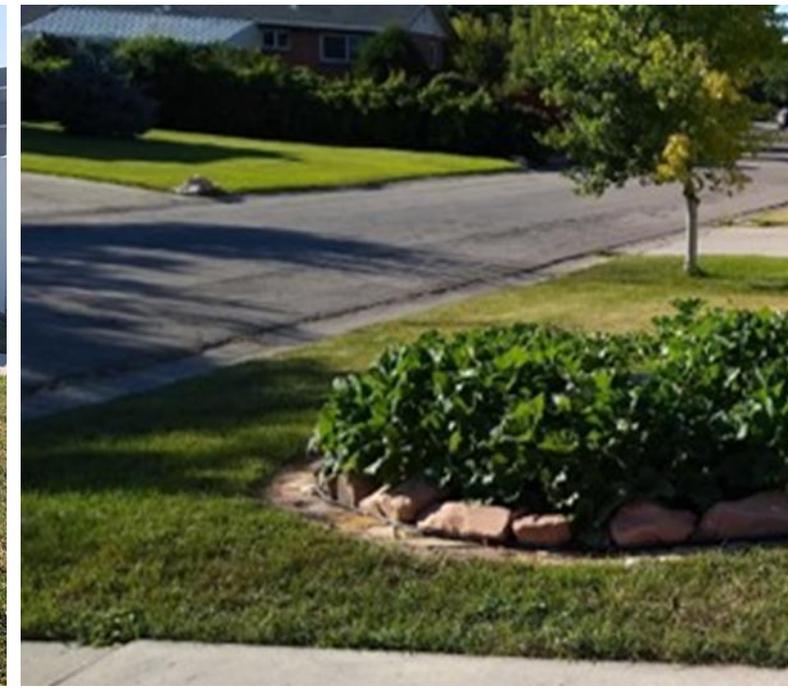
- Heavy traffic
- Exposure problems
- Heat damage



Non-Functional Grass

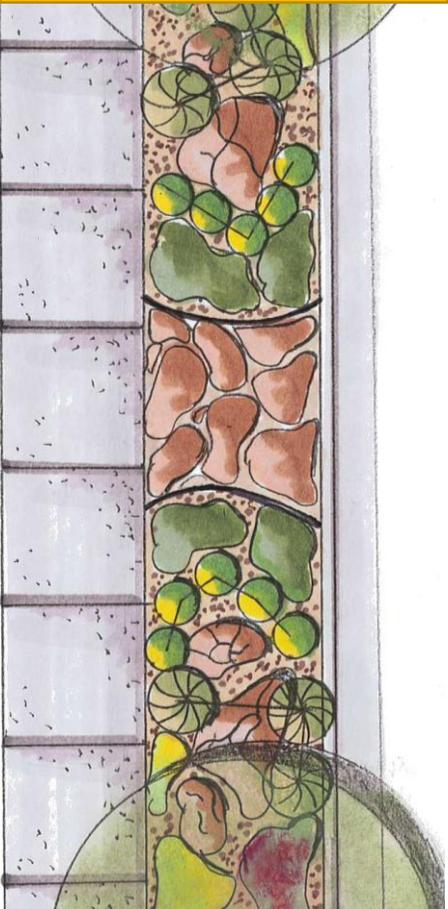
Is it hard to maintain?
How often is it used?

- Difficult to access
- Obstructed space
- Rarely used



Steps for Converting a Landscape

1 Plan & Design



2 Remove Lawn



3 Install Drip



4 Add Hardscape



5 Plant & Mulch



Ordinances and Regulations

- Don't get a fine! Check local regulations and codes
 - HOA's may have additional requirements
 - Park strips are owned by the city but maintained by you
-

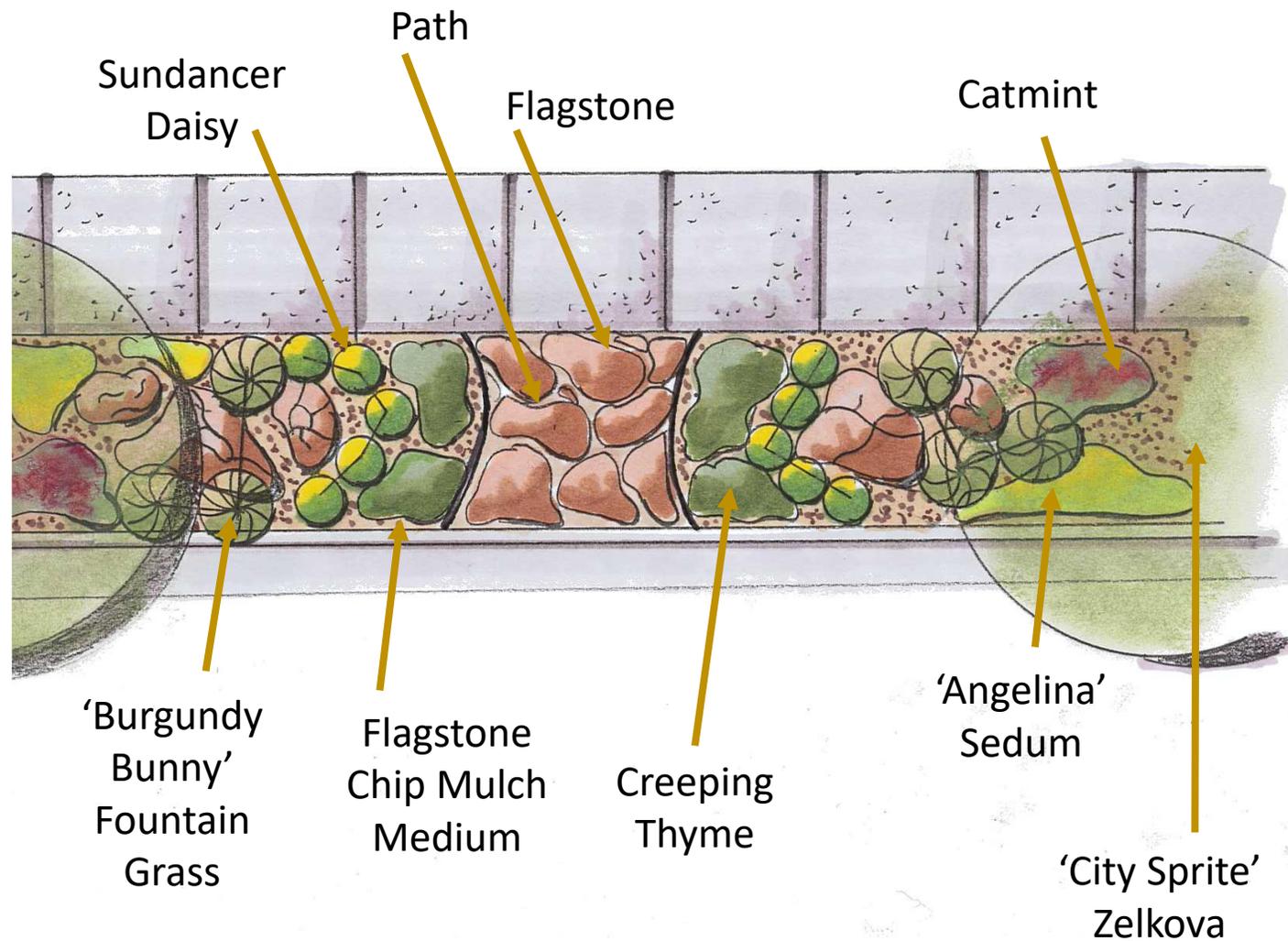
*Real results from past class participant



1

Plan & Design

- Paths, plants, and drip irrigation
- Proper plant selection is important
- Plants should be waterwise, salt tolerant, and tough



1

Plan & Design

- Define the project order
- Determine how the areas affect one another
- Consider accessibility during demolition and construction



Additional Resources

Free Classes through CUWCD

Classes

Some information shared in a class could potentially vary from rules or requirements of the Landscape Incentive Program. If you are participating in the program, be sure to follow the rules and requirements at utahwatersavers.com to ensure program compliance.

[SHOW ALL](#) [CUWCD](#) [ONLINE](#) [OREM LIBRARY](#) [LEHI](#) [HEBER](#) [SANDY](#)

Landscape Classes



Qualifying for a Landscape Incentive

Savannah Peterson - Central Utah Water

Saturday, Feb 21
10:00 - 11:30 AM

CUWCD Office
1426 E. 750 N. Bldg 2, Orem

Looking to make your yard more water-efficient? Did you know there's an incentive to help cover some of the costs? Take this class to learn about the program requirements and discover ways to ensure a successful project. Review the rules and the application process so you're better prepared to qualify for a landscape incentive.

[Register Now](#)



Win the War Against Weeds

Taun Beddes - USU Extension / KSL Greenhouse Show

Wednesday, Feb 25
7:00 - 8:00 PM

Online Class

No matter the state of your landscape, there seems to always be a battle going on with weeds. Part of your defense should be an understanding of the specific weeds you're fighting so you can take the best measures to bring them down. This class will review some of the more common local weeds and established methods for battling them so you can be victorious and win the war against weeds in your yard!

[Register Now](#)

Questions about Classes

801-226-7145

Past Classes

- A Touch of Evergreen
- A Touch of Evergreen Handout
- Basic Drip: In-line vs Point Source
- Bluegrass Alternatives
- Deer-Resistant Landscapes
- Exploring Plant Communities
- Fall Yard Care
- Grass Matrix Gardens
- Landscape Incentive Program (2025)
- Landscape Incentive Program (2025)
- Landscaping in Utah for Beginners
- Ornamental Grasses
- Perennials for Your Yard
- Plant Combinations
- Preventing Water Stress in Trees
- Selecting a Contractor
- Selecting Trees
- Small Space Landscaping
- Tree Irrigation Handbook
- Trees for Northern Utah

[Data Collection Notice](#)

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Localscapes Resources

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Switch2Drip

How to switch your planter beds from overhead spray to drip irrigation.



Mix and Match Park Strip Picks

Use this guide to select plants for your park strip that will thrive in tough conditions and meet city code size requirements. Select one plant from each category, then repeat throughout your park strip to ensure all season beauty.

[Download](#)



Download Designs

We've taken the guesswork out of landscape design with these ready-made plans that are adaptable to any size lot. Not ready for a full-scale Localscapes? Get started with one of our easy park strip designs.

[Download](#)



Get The Guide

Learn what Localscapes are all about and get some great tips that will help get you started in your own yard. This guide will answer your questions and walk you through the 5 elements that make designing for Utah easy.

[Download](#)



Localscapes Rewards

Get cash for installing your dream landscape (seriously)! Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District is providing incentives for homeowners who install Utah-friendly Localscapes within its service area, which includes most of Salt Lake County.



Localscapes Design Grid Paper

This oversized grid paper will make it easy to start designing your landscape to scale.

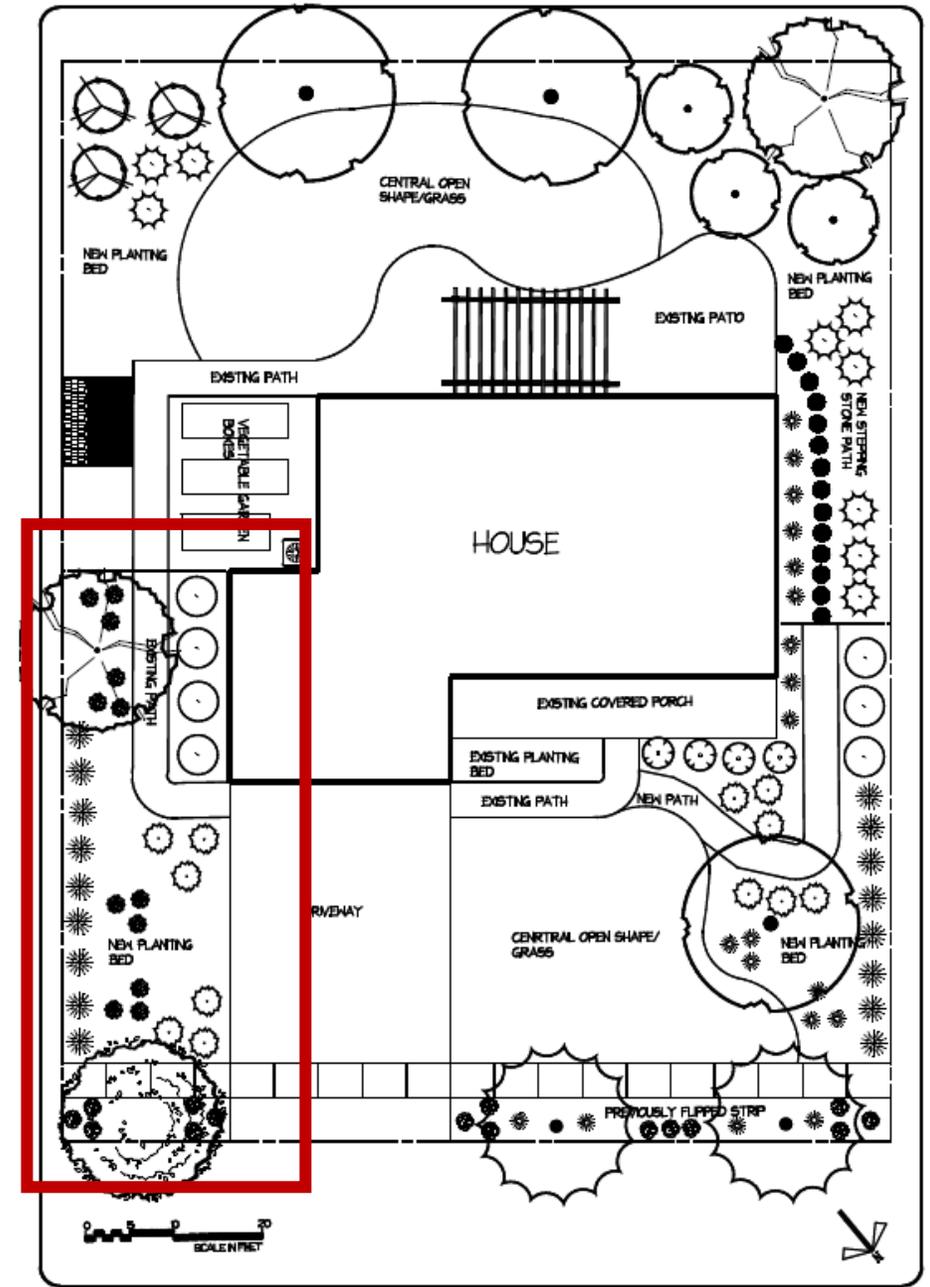
[Download](#)



Requirement: Project Plan

Landscape Incentive applications require a project plan and detailed description of what the project will be.

Project Description:
We plan to remove 700 square feet of grass in the side yard and convert it to a planting bed with perennial plants, drip irrigation and covered with mulch. We will include a chat path that leads to the back yard.



Utah
Water
Savers



Requirement: Fill out an application

Once your design
is complete, you
are ready to apply
for the Landscape
Incentive Program

Utah Water Savers

Home Resources **Sign In**

Earn money for saving Utah's water.

As part of Utah's water conservation efforts, get rewarded for participating in water-saving programs like water-smart landscaping, toilet replacement, and smart sprinkler controller installation.

Apply for a program today!

Returning user First time user

GO TO APPLICATIONS **GET STARTED**

[See if you're eligible for the Landscape Incentive Program here](#)

www.utahwatersavers.com





Requirement: Before Photos

- Landscape Incentive Program application requires before photos of the project area/s
- Completed projects are not eligible



Utah
Water
Savers



Requirement: First Site Visit

After submitting your application, you will be notified of an appointment for a site visit. You must complete this visit **BEFORE** you begin any work on your project.

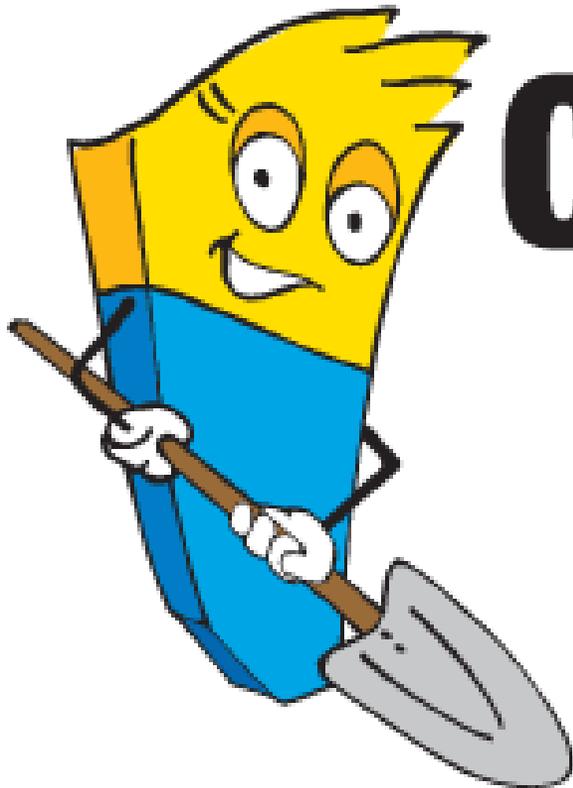


FREE Utility Line Locating Service

Know what's below.



Call 811 before you dig.



BLUE STAKES OF UTAH

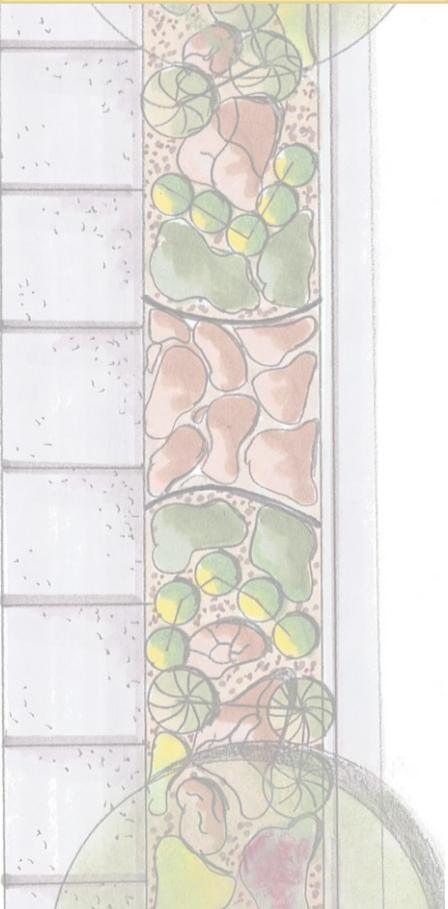
UTILITY NOTIFICATION CENTER, INC.

www.bluestakes.org

1-800-662-4111

Steps for Converting a Landscape

1 Plan & Design



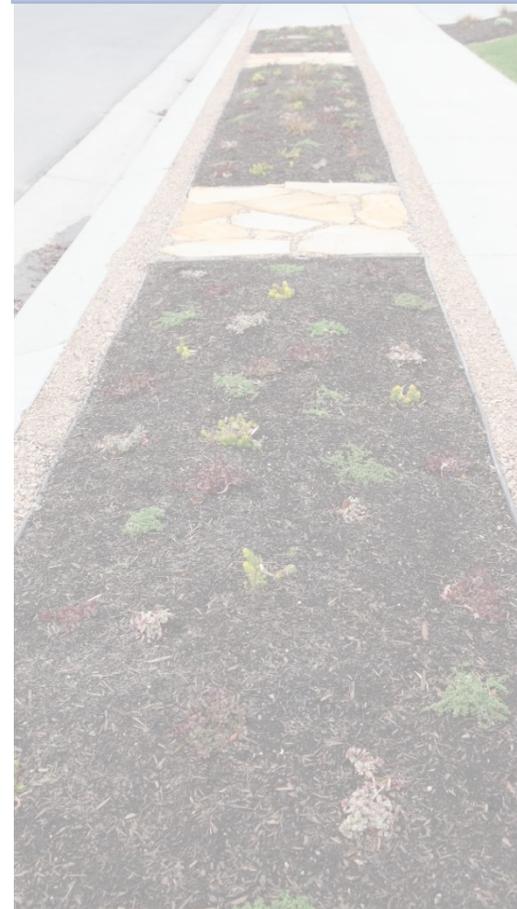
2 Remove Lawn



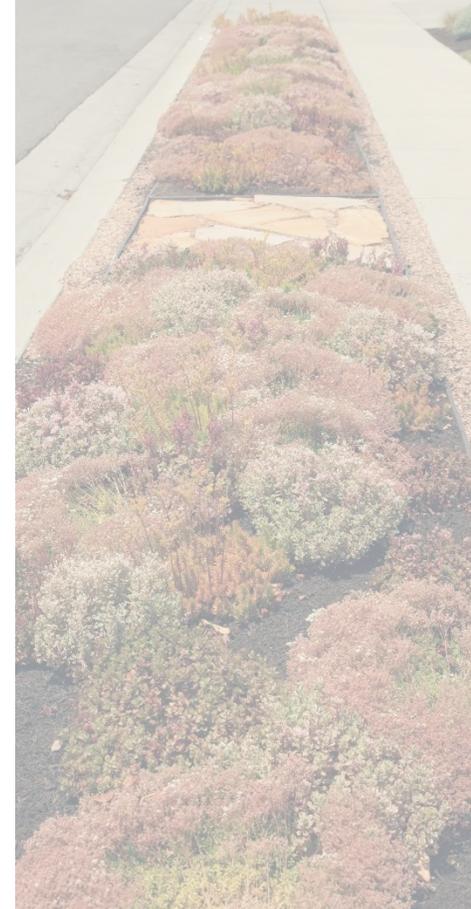
3 Install Drip



4 Add Hardscape



5 Plant & Mulch



2

Kill Existing Lawn

- Lawn needs to be killed down to the roots before removal
- This can be done with plastic sheets or Glyphosate (herbicide)

Plastic Sheets



Herbicides



2

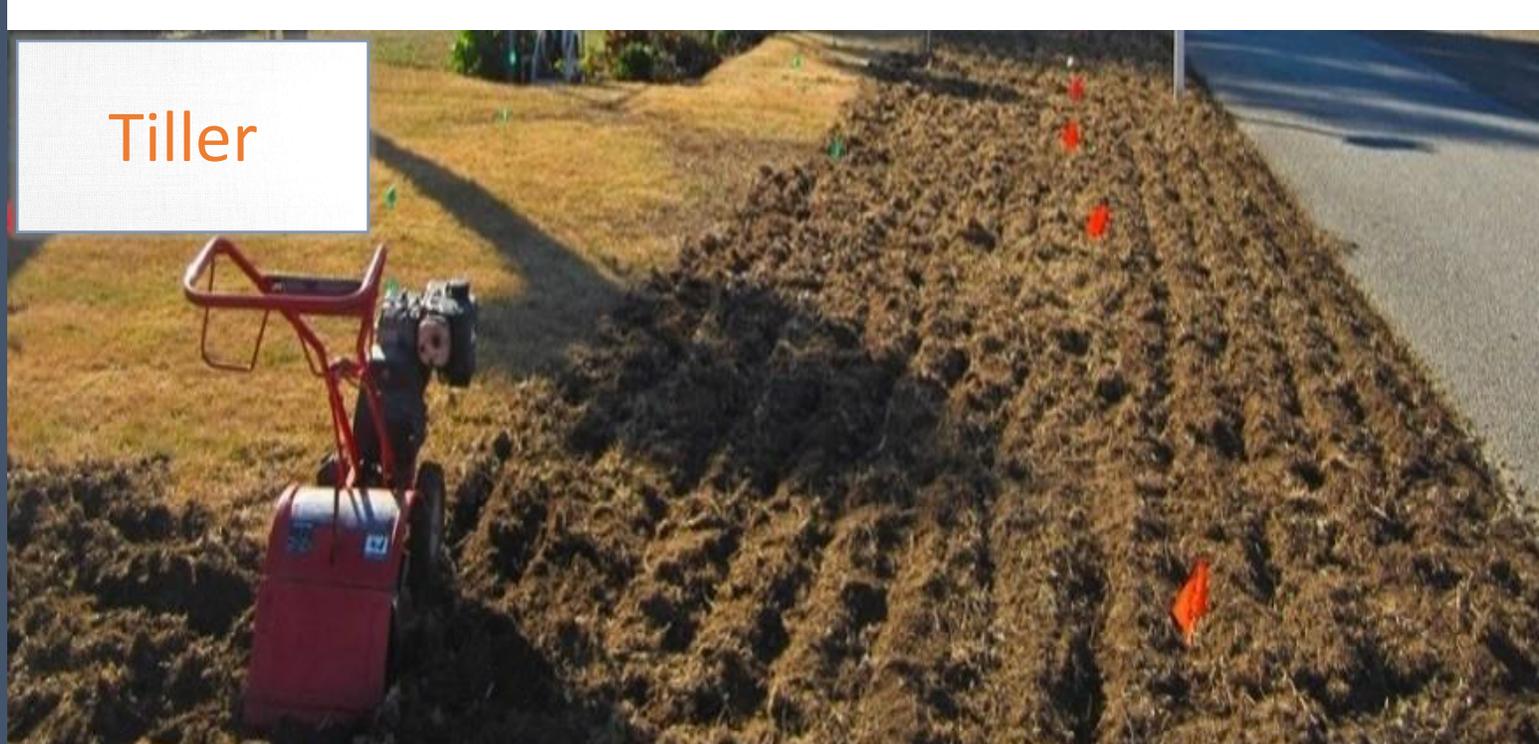
Remove Existing Lawn

- Lawn can be removed with a sod cutter or tiller
- Mark existing sprinkler heads with flags or sticks
- Be careful when removing lawn around existing trees

Sod
Cutter



Tiller



2

Remove Existing Lawn

- Lawn and soil should be removed 3-4" below the sidewalk
- This will help to retain a thick layer of mulch



Below
Sidewalk

Steps for Converting a Landscape

1 Plan & Design



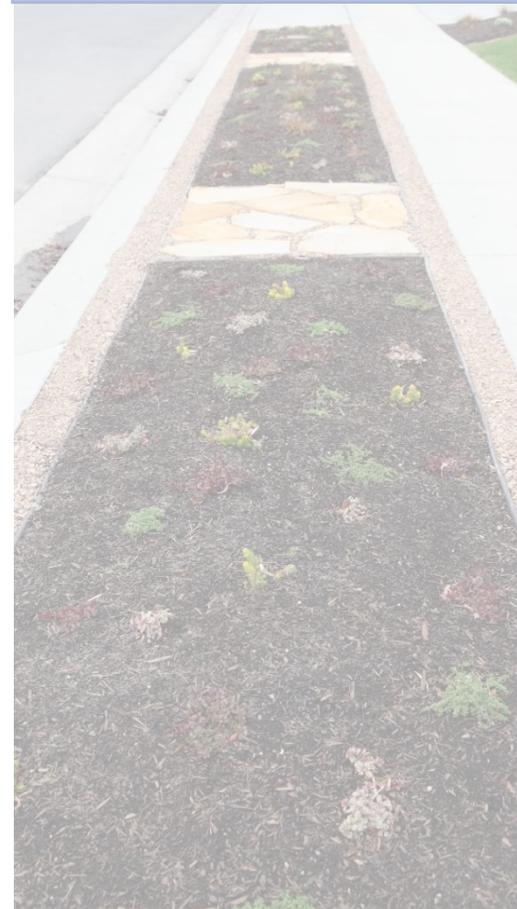
2 Remove Lawn



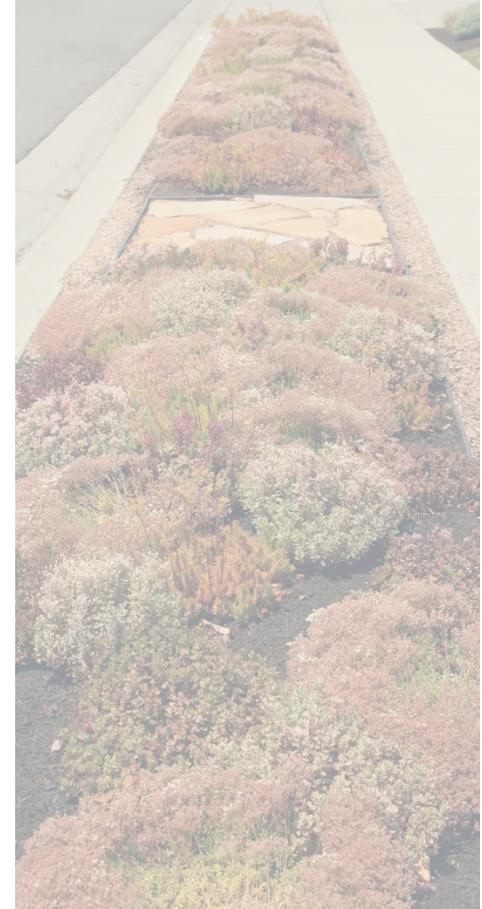
3 Install Drip



4 Add Hardscape



5 Plant & Mulch



Why Drip Irrigation?

- More efficient than spray irrigation
- Reduces evaporation
- Provides targeted application and deep soil infiltration (water gets to deep roots)





Requirement: Drip Irrigation

- Only one type of drip irrigation per zone
- Include a pressure reducer and filter
- Drip is on a separate zone from overhead spray/lawn



3

Install Drip

- Converted areas must use one type of drip irrigation, either in-line or point source
- Using one type helps the system run as designed and makes maintenance easier

Inline



Point Source





Install Drip

In-line Drip Irrigation

- It is best to install in-line drip in a grid pattern
 - This will evenly water the plants as they grow
-



3

Install Drip

Inline Drip Irrigation

- Best used in planting beds with high density plantings
 - Grid pattern can conform to any shape
-





CENTRAL UTAH WATER
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Existing Trees: Inline Drip

Create squares or circles with inline drip around trees to ensure adequate water





Install Drip

Point Source Irrigation

- Run blank distribution tubing down the length of the planting bed
 - Run individual lines to each plant. Add additional lines if the plant requires more water
-





CENTRAL UTAH WATER
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Existing Trees: Point Source Drip

Add multiple lines
with emitters
around the tree and
away from the
trunk





Requirement: Drip Irrigation

- Drip emitters may not exceed 5 gallons per hour





Requirement: Non-Qualifying Drip Irrigation

Micro-sprays, bubblers, adjustable emitters, and soaker hoses do not qualify as drip irrigation for this program and may not be used in a drip zone.



Not
Eligible



Not
Eligible



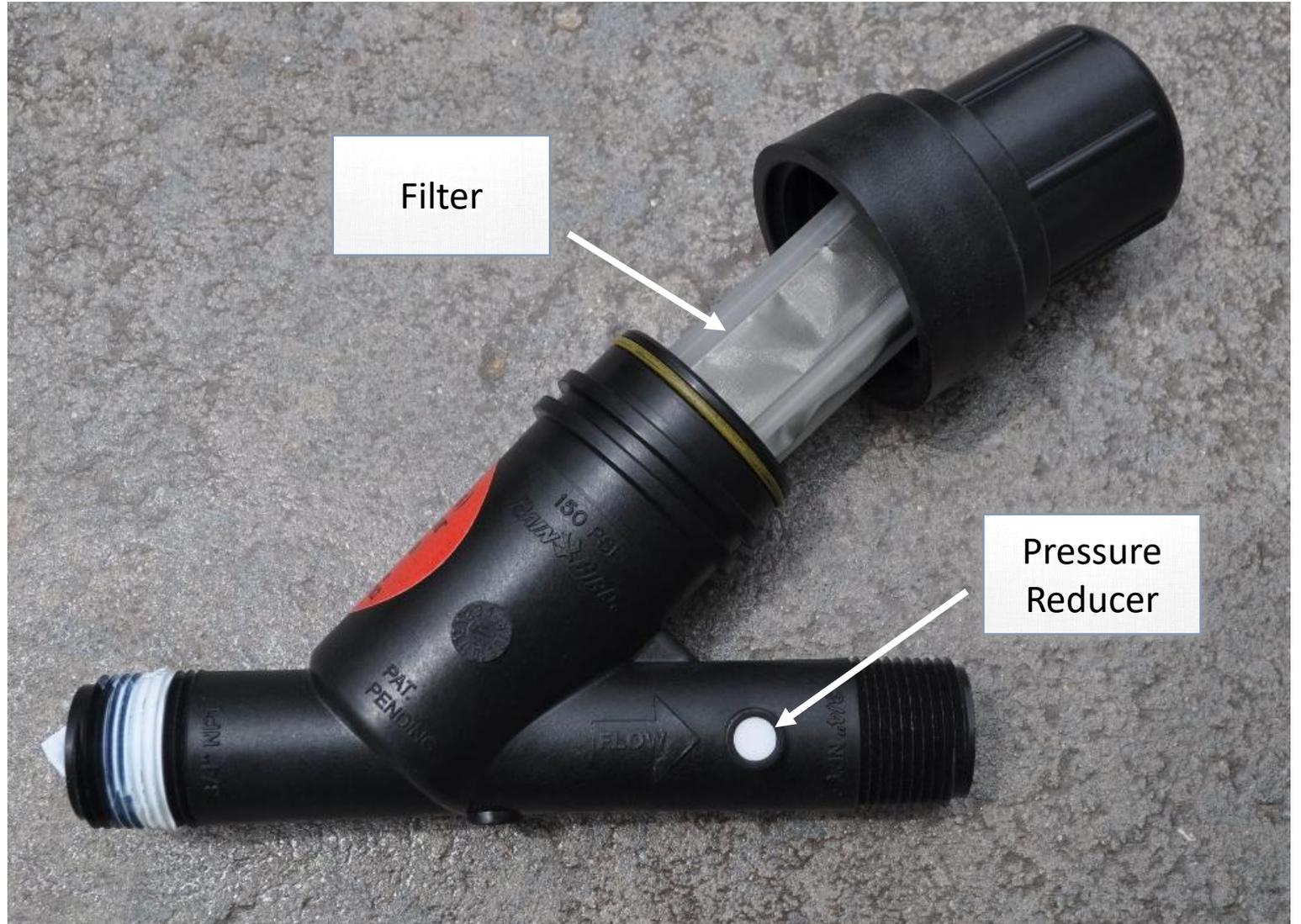
Not
Eligible





Requirement: Filter and Pressure Reducer

- Each drip irrigation zone must have a pressure reducer and filter
- Filters must be accessible for maintenance and verification



Drip Irrigation Filter/Pressure Reducer Options



Sprinkler Valve:

- Used for lawn
- Spray sprinkler heads



Drip Irrigation Valve:

- Used for drip
- Includes filter and pressure reducer

Drip Irrigation Filter/Pressure Reducer Options



Sprinkler Head:

- Used for lawn
- Overhead sprinkler heads



Retrofit Head:

- Used for drip
- Includes filter and pressure reducer

Drip Irrigation Filter/Pressure Reducer Options

PVC :

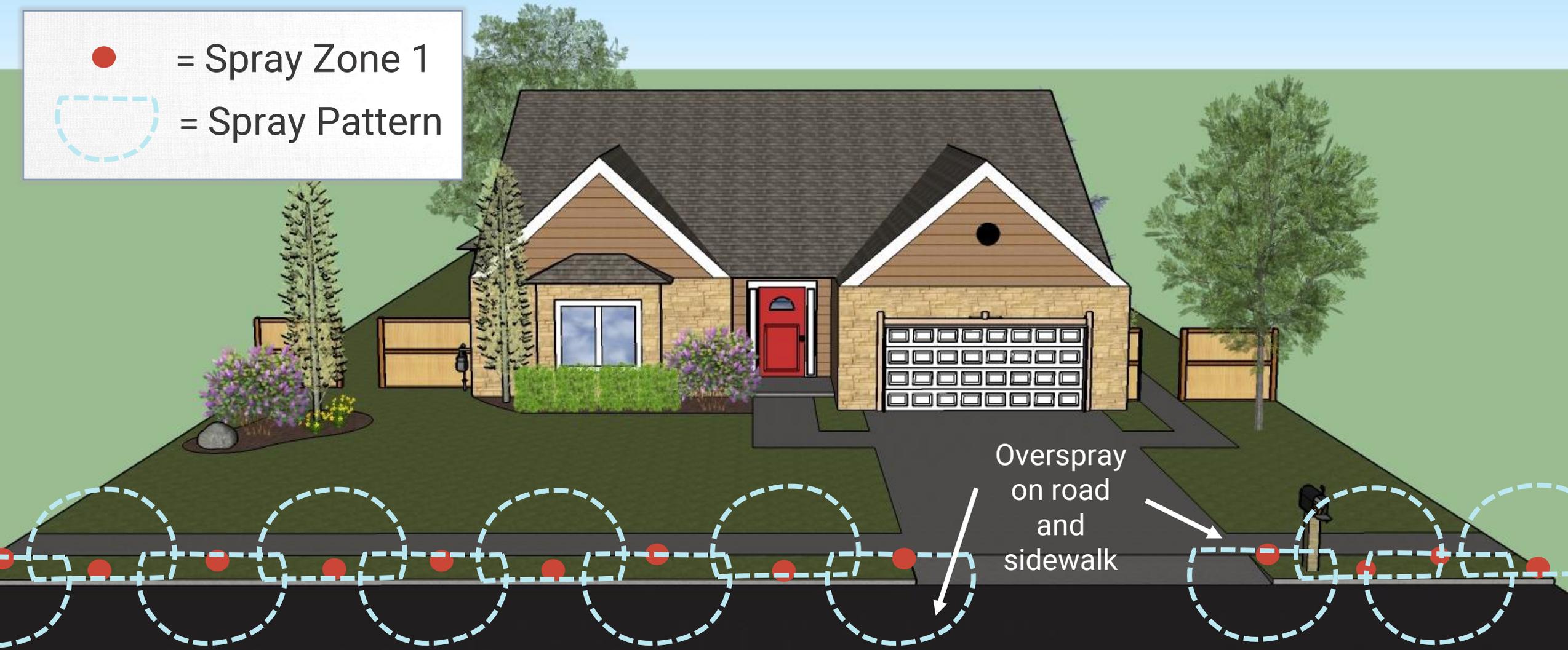
- After valve, before drip line

Be sure to leave the filter accessible for maintenance and for the 2nd visit so that you can receive your rebate



Existing Irrigation

● = Spray Zone 1
○ = Spray Pattern



Configuring the Drip Zone

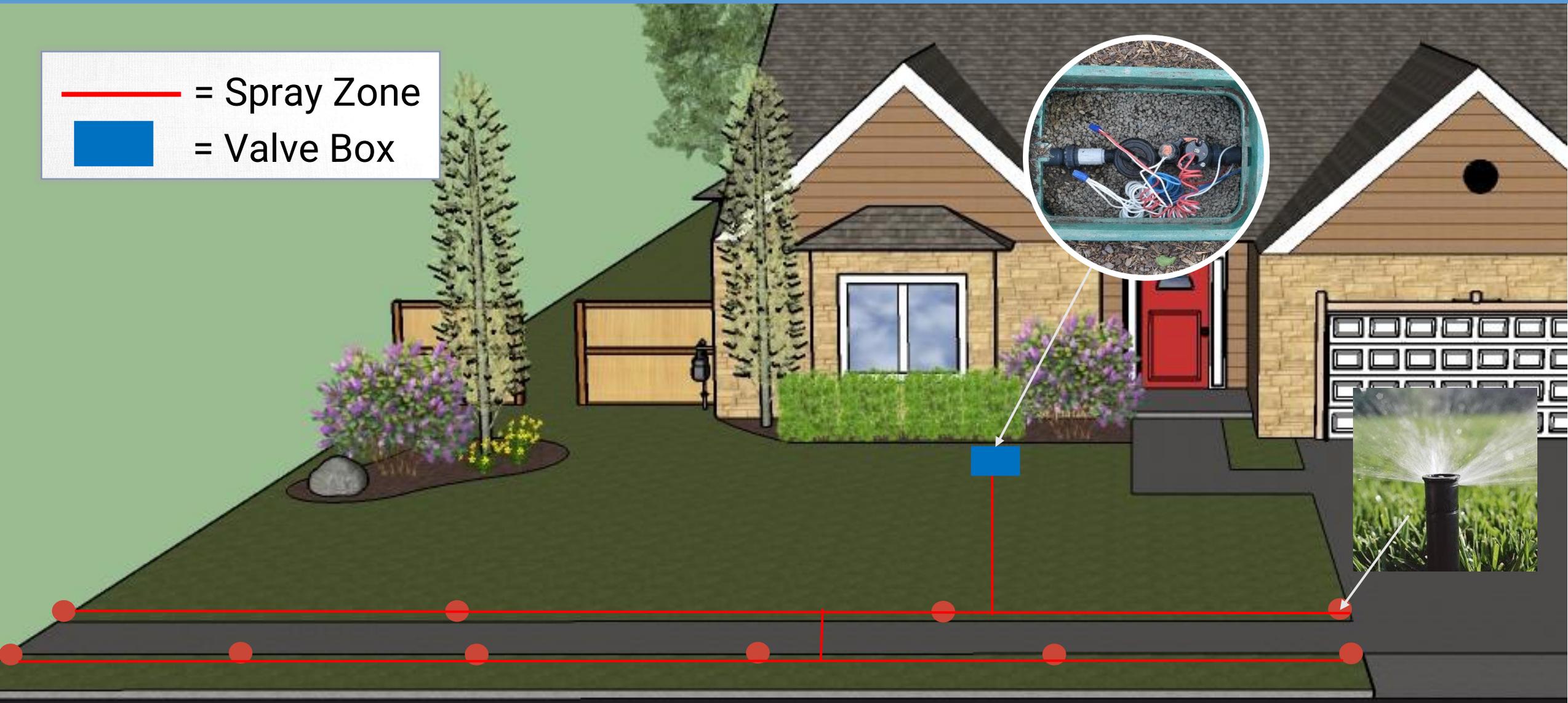
- = RETROFITTED Sprinkler Head
- = CAPPED Sprinkler Head
- = Drip Irrigation Tubing



TIP: No need to dig up all the old pipe, just cap off unnecessary spray heads.

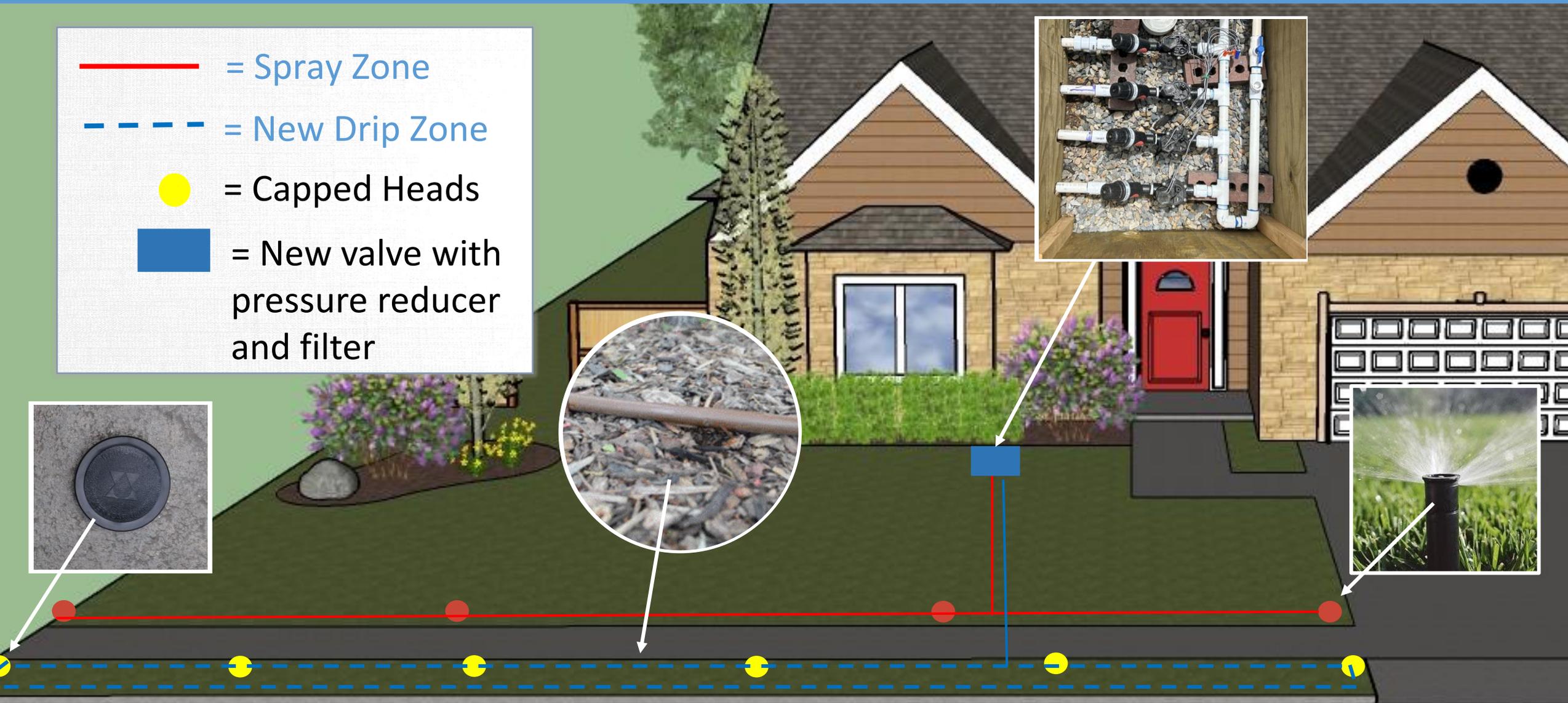
Existing Irrigation

— = Spray Zone
■ = Valve Box



Configuring the Drip Zone

-  = Spray Zone
-  = New Drip Zone
-  = Capped Heads
-  = New valve with pressure reducer and filter



Existing Irrigation



- = Spray Zone 1
- = Valve Box

Configuring the Drip Zone



- = Capped Heads
- = PVC threaded elbow



Steps for Converting a Landscape

1 Plan & Design



2 Remove Lawn



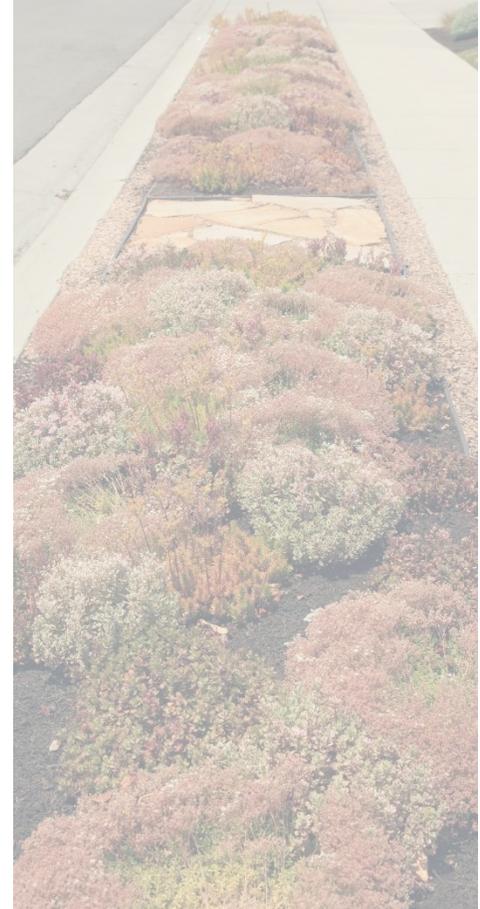
3 Install Drip



4 Add Hardscape



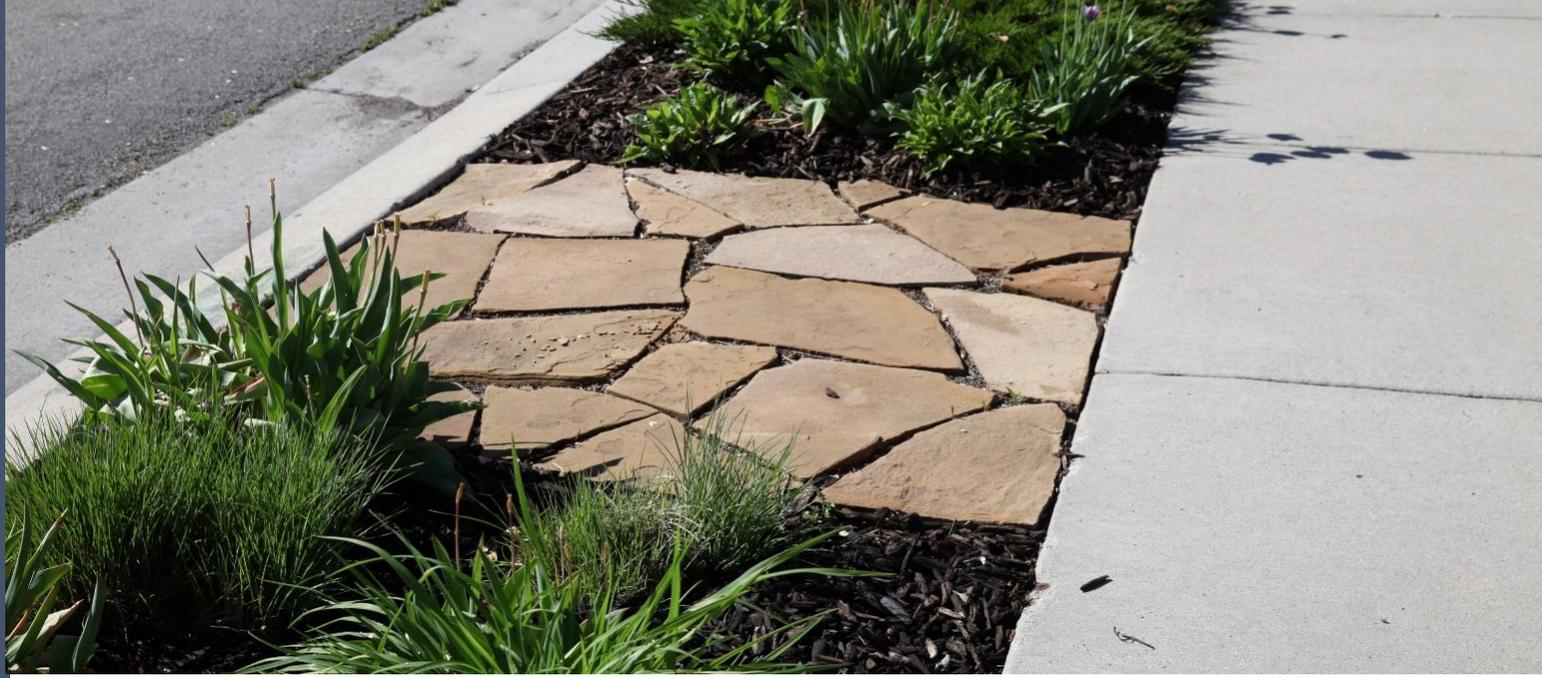
5 Plant & Mulch





Add Hardscape

- Create pass-through areas throughout the landscape
- Make sure the path is large enough for safe passage





Requirement: Permeable Materials

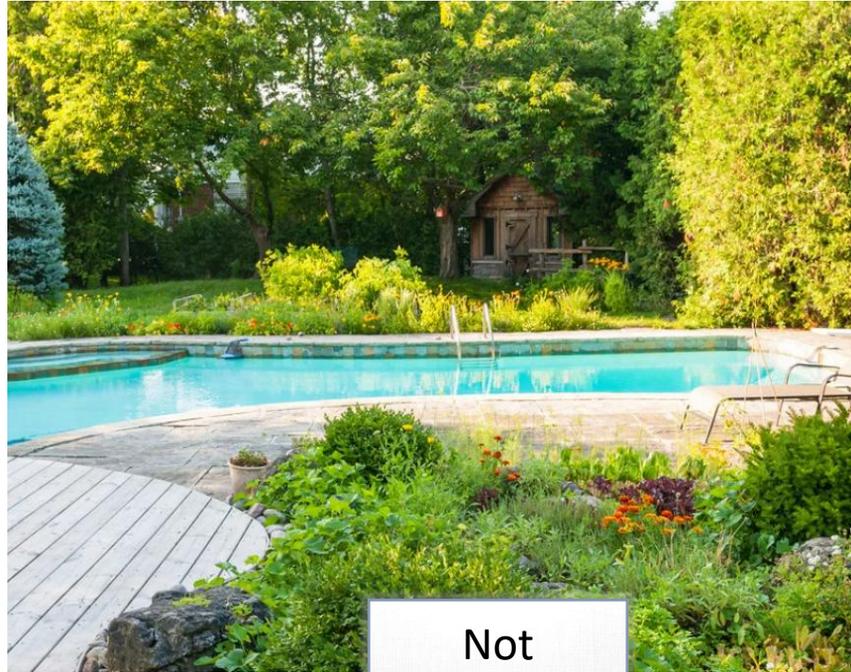
Hardscape must
be permeable to
water and air





Requirement: Materials

Artificial turf, impervious hardscapes, and water features will not be included in incentive square footage



Not
Eligible



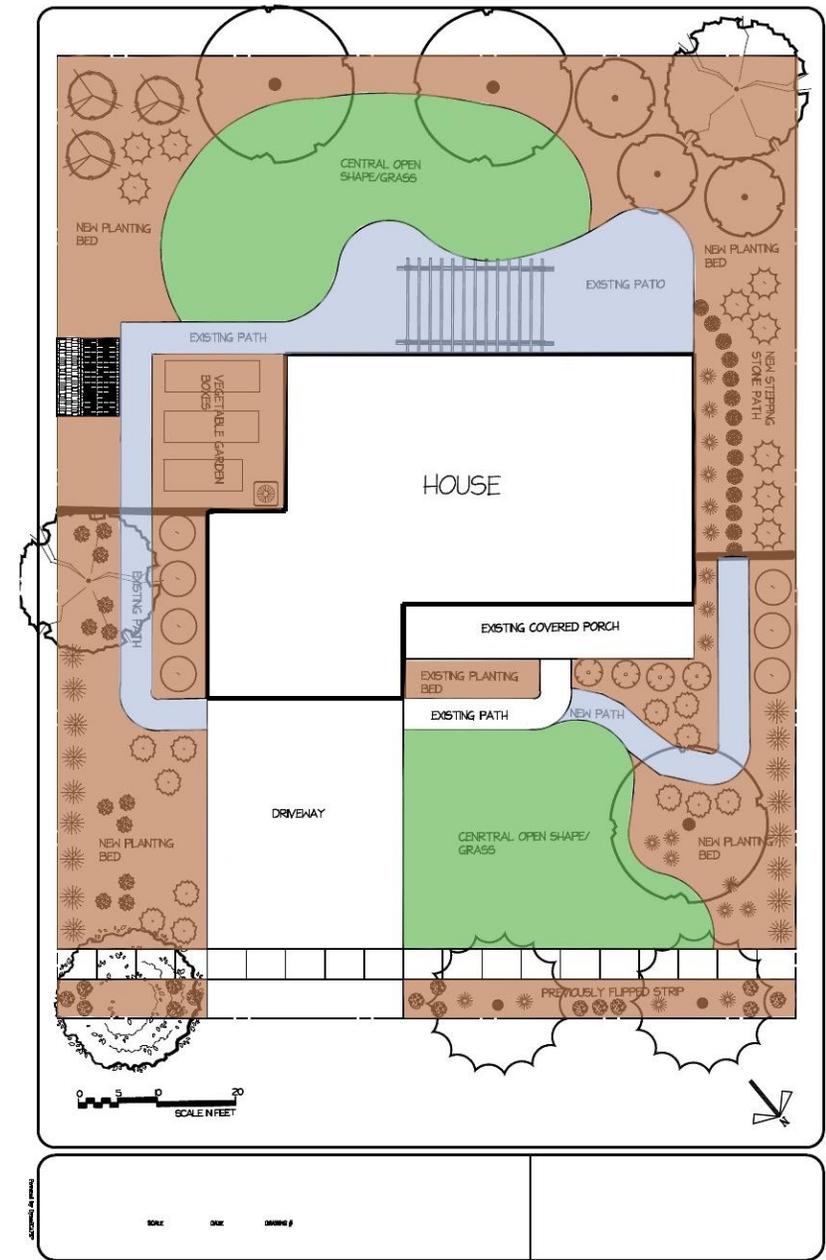
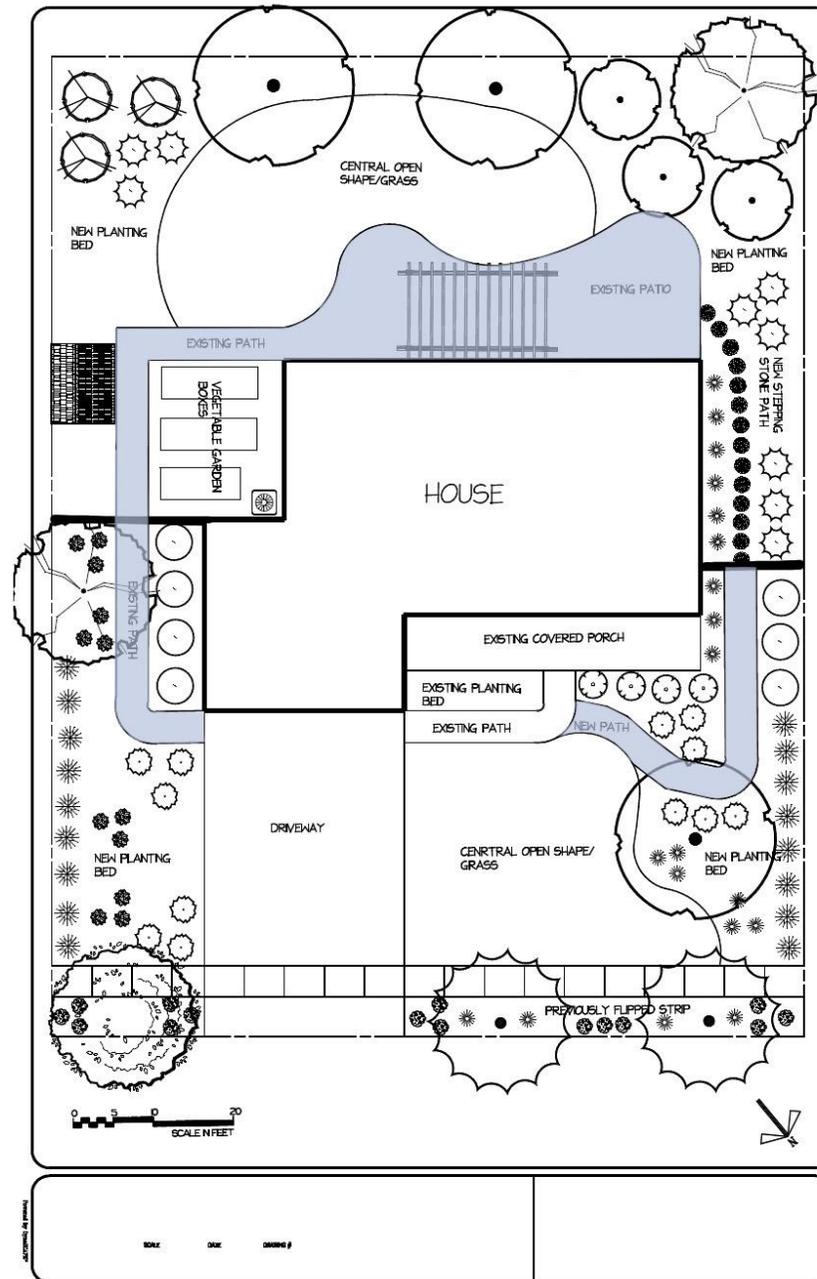
Not
Eligible





Requirement: Landscape Area

Hardscape
cannot exceed
50% of the front
yard or 75% of
the back yard



4

Hardscape Considerations

Drip & Hardscape

Run blank drip tubing through a conduit below a hardscape for ease of maintenance



4

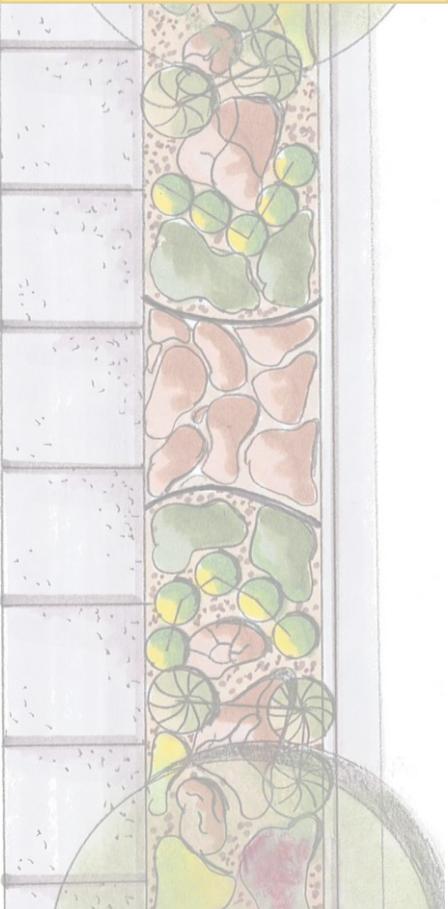
Hardscape Considerations

- Hardscape materials should be kept away from any existing or new trees
- This helps maintain the health of the tree and the integrity of the hardscape



Steps for Converting a Landscape

1 Plan & Design



2 Remove Lawn



3 Install Drip



4 Add Hardscape



5 Plant & Mulch



Why are plants important?

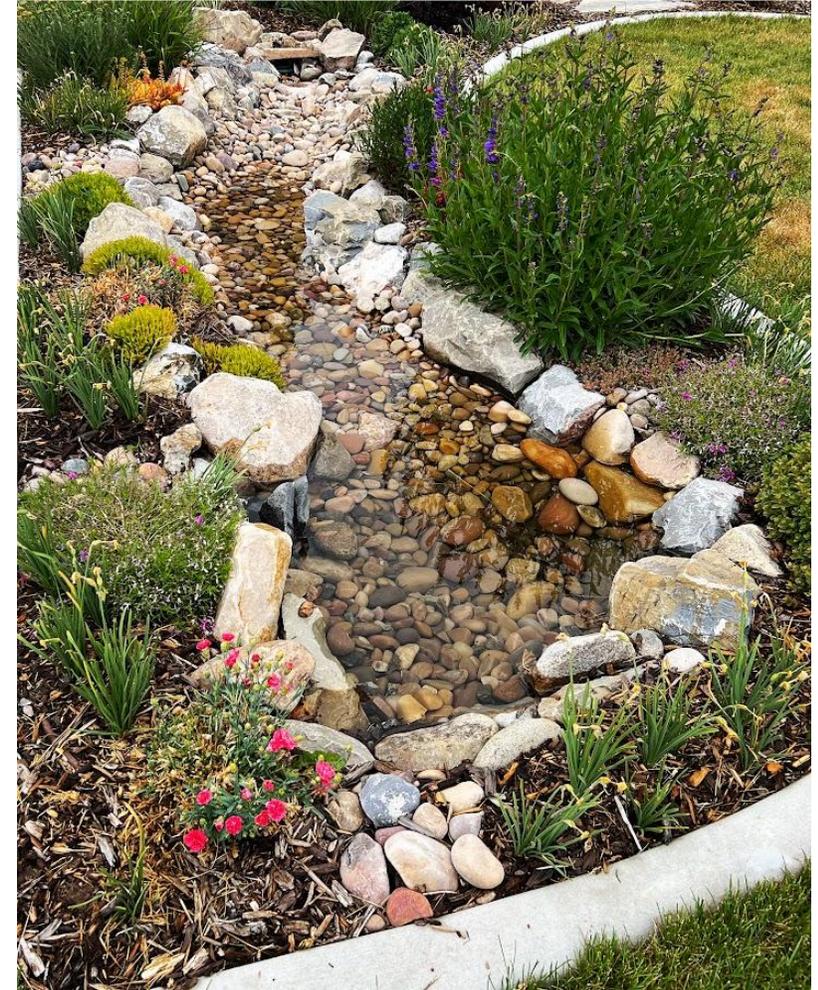
Reduce Urban heat island



Supports Wildlife



Improves Water Quality



5

Plants

- Plants should be waterwise, compact, and tough
- Salt tolerance is recommended for the park strip



*Real results from past class participant



Requirement: Plant Height

Plants in the park strip must be shorter than 24" tall to not block sight lines from the driveway or road

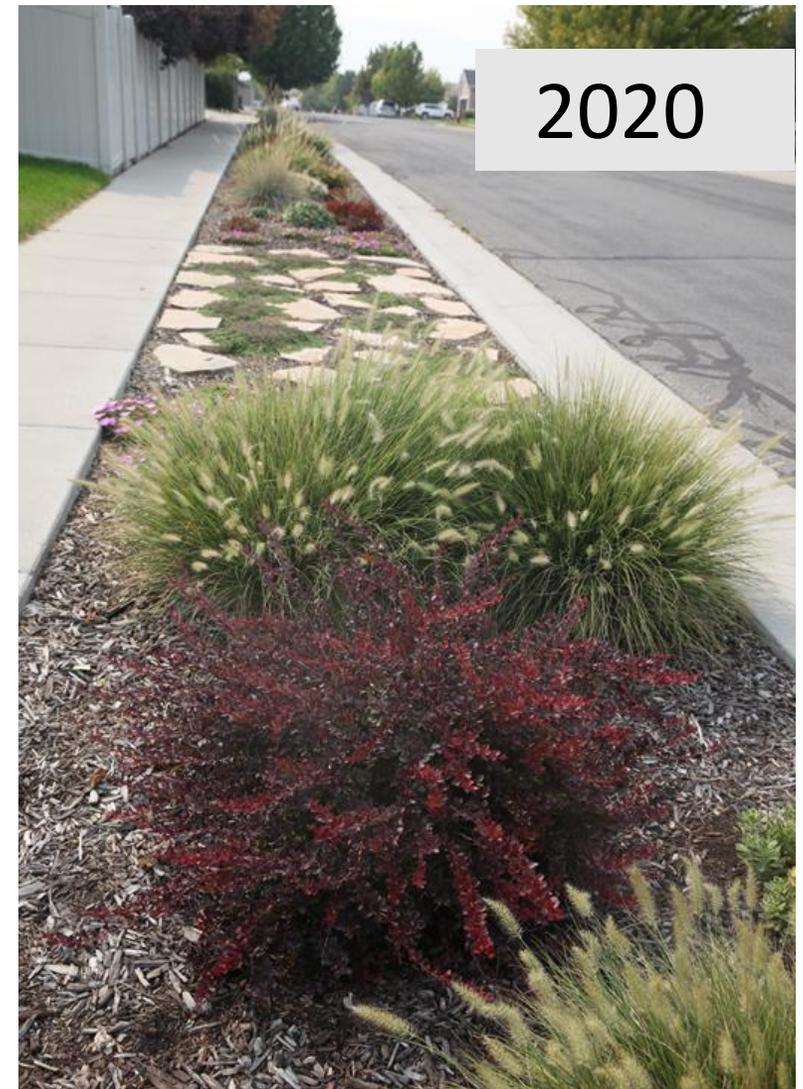




Requirement: Plant Coverage

Plants must cover
50% of the converted
area at maturity

Bulbs, annuals, and
trees do not count
toward the
requirement





Plants

Plants should be the correct size for the area they are planted in





Plants

We strongly discourage
the removal of existing
healthy trees





Treebate Requirements:

- Trees must have a canopy at least 10 ft tall and wide at maturity
- Trees must be single stemmed with a minimum 1-inch caliper at the time of purchase





Treebate Requirements:

- Trees planted within 10 feet of a building or within park strips less than 10 feet wide are not eligible
- Plant tags for new trees must be provided at the final visit



5

Mulch

- Cover the ground with mulch
- Helps retain soil moisture and reduce weeds
- Material is a matter of personal preference

Gravel or
River Rock



Bark or
Compost



Chat or
DG





Requirement: Mulch

3-4" of mulch are
required

Mulch can be rock, wood
chips, composted mulch,
etc.



5

Mulch

- Plant in the soil
- Taper the thick mulch layer away from the plants
- Replenish as often as needed to maintain thickness



**Utah
Water
Savers**



Requirement: Final Visit

Request a final visit through your Utah Water Savers Application prior to your completion deadline

Include photos of the completed area



Key Requirements

- You cannot begin your project until it has been **approved**
- Project area must be at least **200 square feet**
- The project **cannot** create **non-functional grass** areas
- **50% plant coverage** at maturity
- 3-4 inches of **mulch**
- Drip system on its **own zone** with **dedicated filter and pressure reducer**
- Only **one type of drip** irrigation per zone
- The water must be on for your **2nd visit**

Park strip plants must stay below 24" in height



Planting Bed Maintenance

Tips and techniques to keep it low maintenance and beautiful.



Establishment Watering

- Drip irrigation takes much longer
 - New plants can't handle long periods without water
 - Water every other day for the first two weeks
 - After the first two weeks you can scale back the watering to 2-3 times per week or as needed
-



Established Watering

- Waterwise planting beds should be watered deeply and infrequently
 - Once plants are established, they should be watered once per week for about 1 hour
-



Weed Control Recipe

1. Water with drip irrigation
2. Apply 3"-4" of mulch
3. Avoid soil compaction
4. Minimize soil disruption
5. Use herbicides only AFTER trying the first four steps

*Real results from past class participant



Maintenance Mistakes

- Landscape fabric kills the soil
 - Only works on weeds temporarily
 - Decreases plant health
 - Should only be used under hardscape
-



Project Inspiration

Ideas from
successful
incentive projects



Plant Repetition



Create Curb Appeal



Lawn
Park Strip
(July)

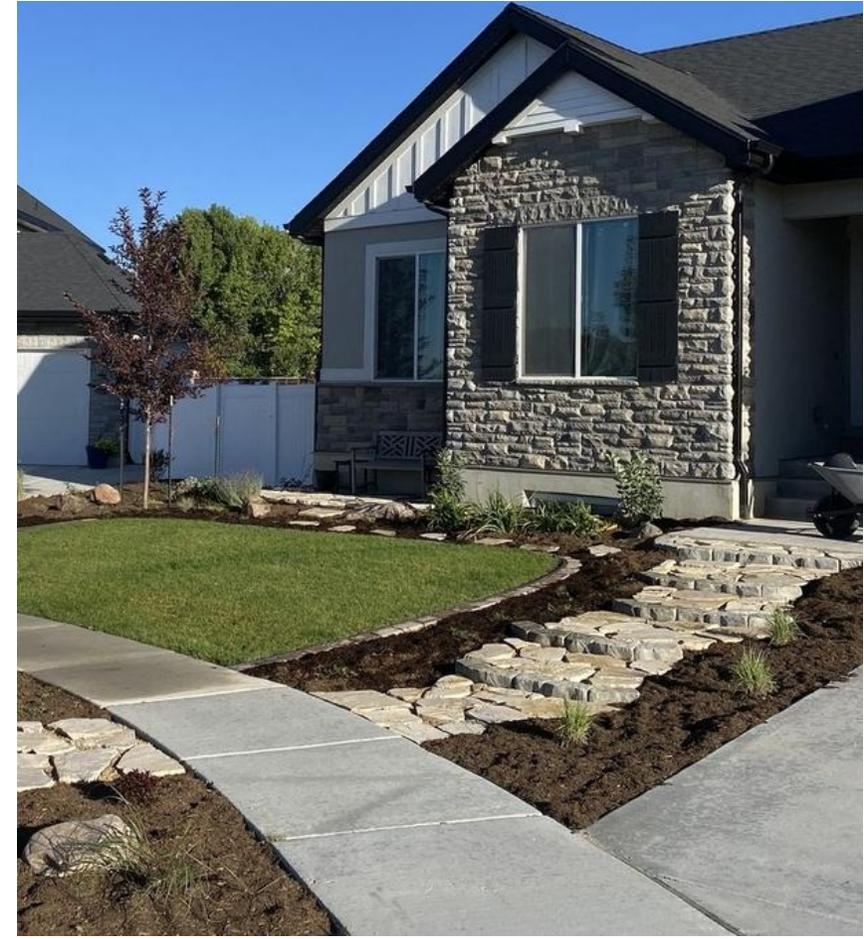
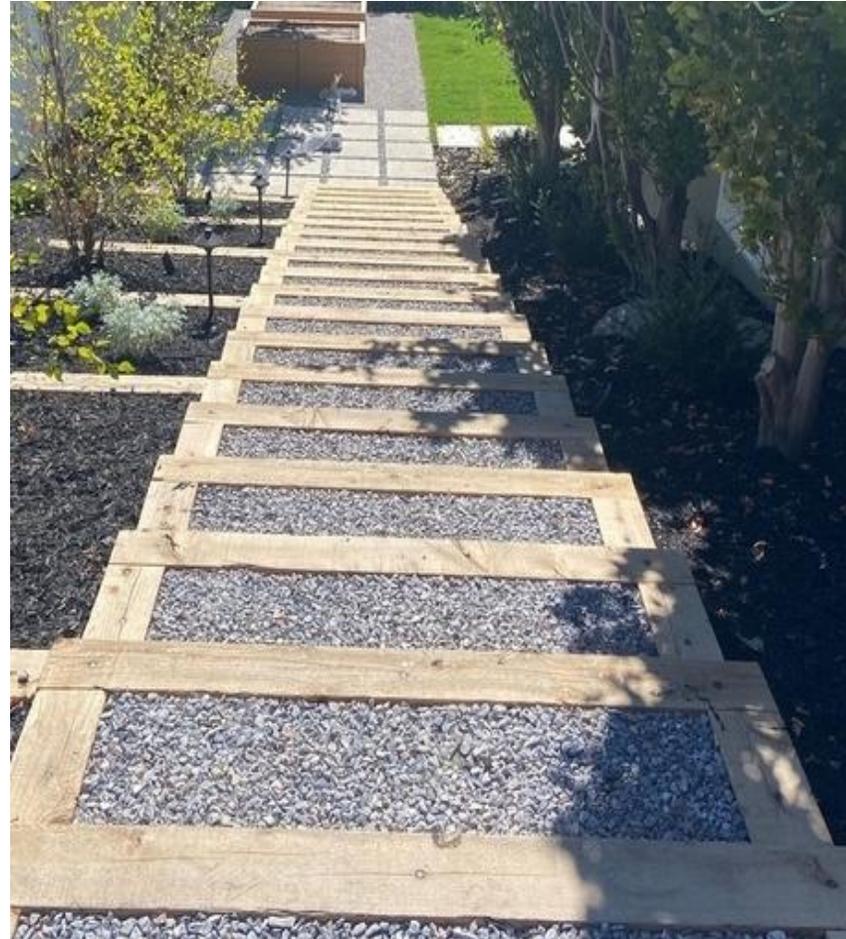
Flipped
Park Strips

Lawn
Park Strip

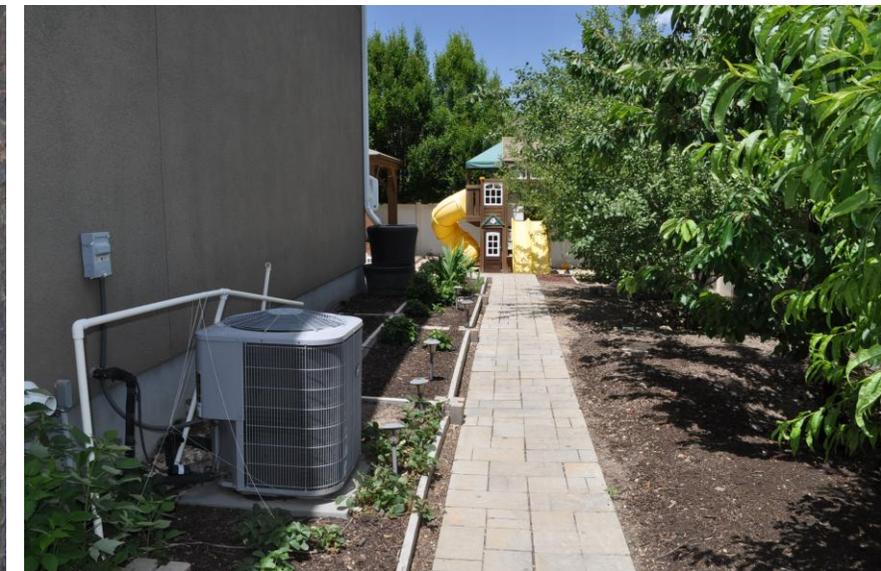


*Real results from past class participant

Path Projects



Path Projects



Side Yard Conversion

BEFORE



AFTER



Side Yard Conversion

BEFORE



AFTER



Debunking Misconceptions

- Workload
 - Incentives covering the cost
 - Future water use/need for irrigation
 - Aesthetics
-



Resources:

Facebook



Localscapes Work Group

<http://facebook.com/groups/localscapes>



Utah Water Savers

1.4K likes · 1.5K followers



Learn More

Following

Message

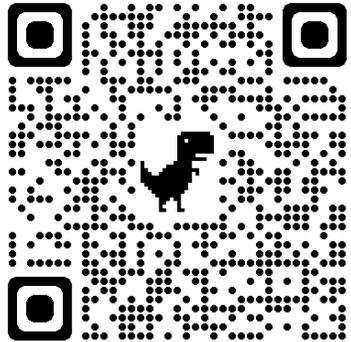
<https://www.facebook.com/utahwatersavers>





CENTRAL UTAH WATER
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Plant Database



◀ Back to search



After Midnight Coneflower

Common Name: After Midnight Coneflower

Botanical Name: Echinacea 'After Midnight'

Plant Type: Perennial

Light Requirements: Partial Shade, Sun

Bloom Time: Summer

Bloom Color: Purple

Water Requirements: Low

Height: 12"

Width: 12"-14"

Hardiness Zones: 3-8

Deer Resistant: Yes

Utah Native: No

Goes well with



Becky Shasta Daisy



Firewitch Dianthus



Baby Gold Goldenrod

cuwcd.gov/plants





Plant Database



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Find Waterwise Plants

Search by: common name, botanical name, family, or variety

Advanced Search Filters

Plant Type

Garden Area

Bloom Season

Irrigation Requirement

Localescapes Planting Design Elements

Bloom Color

Foliage Color

Foliage Interest Utah Native Nativar Deer Resistant Salt Tolerant Pollinator Friendly
 Erosion Control Groundcover Evergreen Foodscape

Alphabetical Plant Search: [All](#) [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

Conservation Garden Park
 801-256-4400
 8275 South 1300 West
 West Jordan, Utah 84088

Apr 8 - 6:30pm Mon-Sat
 May-Aug 8 - 8pm Mon-Sat
 Sep-Oct 8 - 6:30pm Mon-Sat
 Nov-Mar 8 - 5pm Mon-Fri

Open year round. Closed [some holidays](#).

Visit Find Plants Events & Classes Landscaping Help Rent Facility Volunteer Jobs About Contact

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ConservationGardenPark.org/plants





Conservation Garden Park

8275 S 1300 W
West Jordan



Sego Lily Garden

1472 E Sego Lily Dr.
Sandy

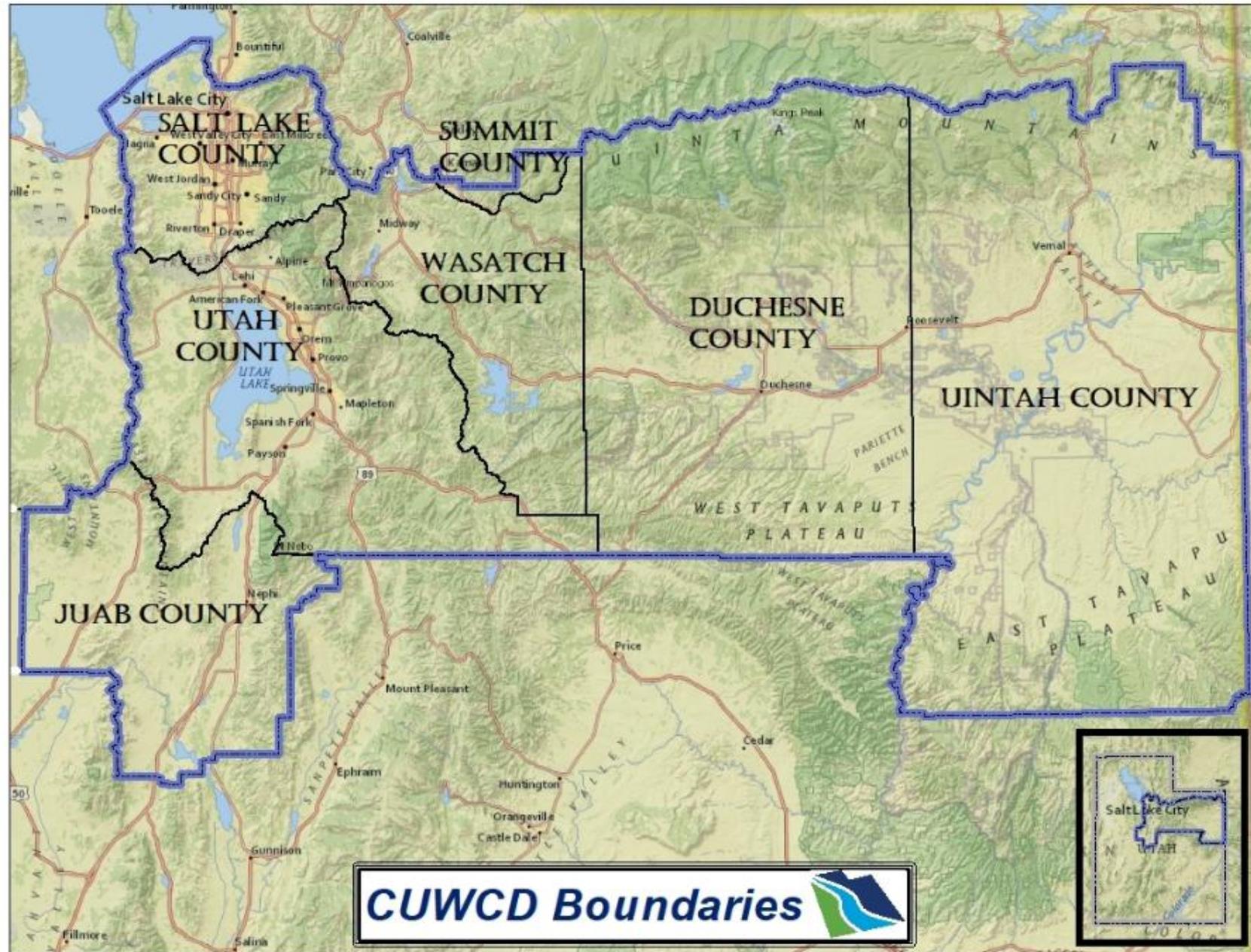




CENTRAL UTAH WATER
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Conservation@cuwcd.gov

801-226-7171

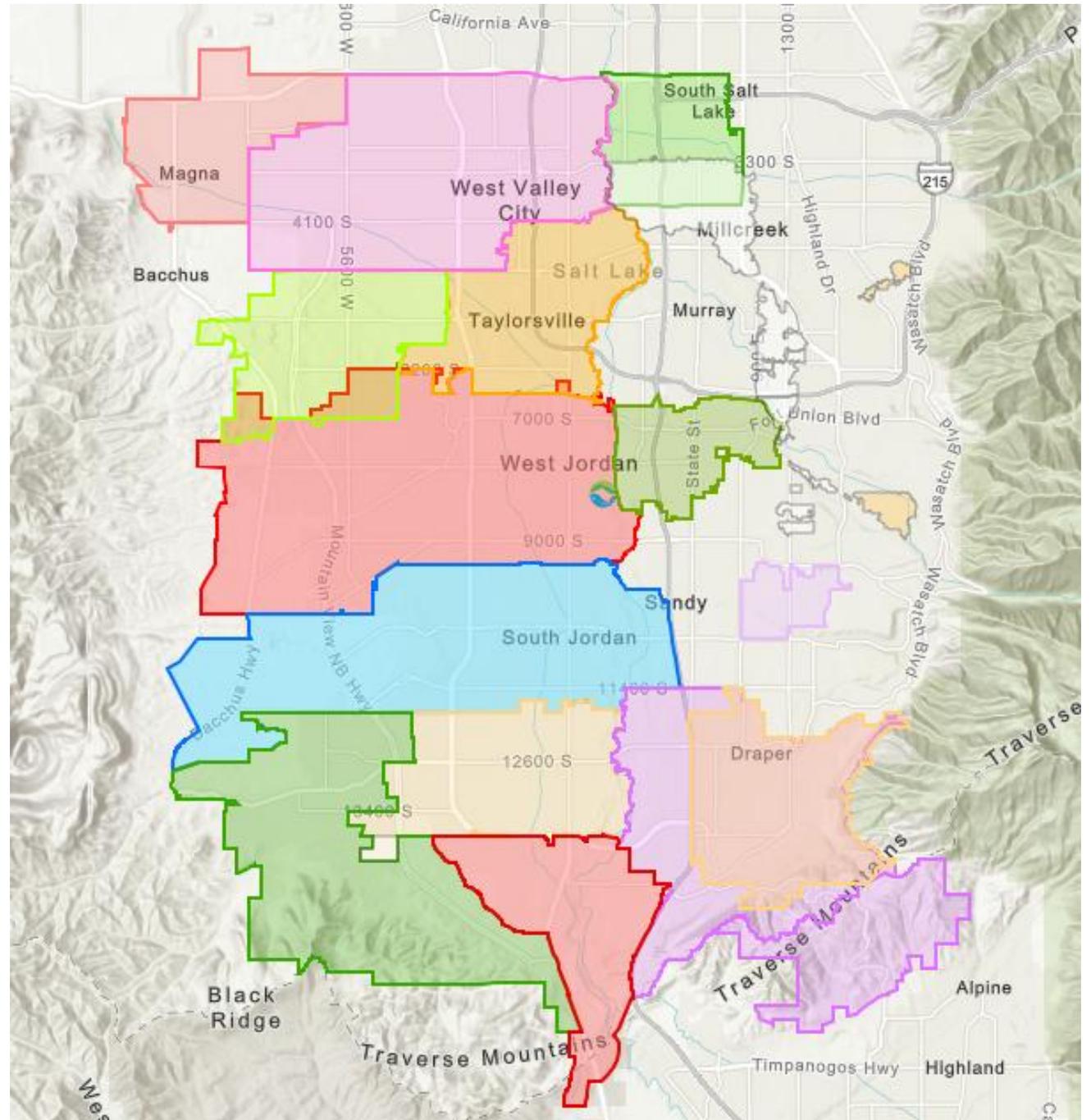


CUWCD Boundaries 



JORDAN VALLEY WATER
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

801-256-4401





Landscape Incentive

Yard irrigation accounts for up to 70% of household water use. Earn up to \$3/sqft for removing grass on your property (residential or commercial) and replacing it with waterwise landscaping. See eligible cities [here](#).

[Learn more](#)



Smart Controller

Get paid up to \$75 when you purchase and install a WaterSense-labeled smart controller that adjusts the water your yard gets based on local weather and yard conditions. All Utahns are eligible.

[Learn more](#)



Toilet Replacement

Receive up to \$100 by replacing your old toilet with a WaterSense-labeled one. Any toilet manufactured before 1994 may qualify. You may submit up to 2 toilets per application. All Utahns are eligible.

[Learn more](#)