



Spanish Fork

Waterwise Design & Implementation Workshop



October 11, 2022



Agenda

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW
 2. WATER-CONSERVING
LANDSCAPE
REQUIREMENTS IN
SPANISH FORK CITY
 3. CURRENT IDEAS
 4. QUESTIONS, COMMENTS
& DIRECTION
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Goals

1. To establish a clear understanding of project goals and objectives
2. To receive your feedback and ideas before finalizing draft ordinances and design guidelines



1. Project Overview

Project Overview

Project consultants: Landmark Design

- Work began in **June 2022**



Reasons for Update

1. To **address requests for “zero-scape”** and fully-paved landscape treatments and elimination of live plant material
 2. To address **recent State Legislation** to restrict landscape water use
 3. To **ensure the city remains attractive while limiting unnecessary use of water** in the landscape
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Project Overview Continued

Main Project Components:

1. Update of existing Landscape Regulations as part of the Municipal Code that specifically address water-wise elements●
 2. Creation of the *Spanish Fork Water-wise Landscape Design & Implementation Guide* targeted towards single-family home owners●
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Key Definitions

Waterwise Landscapes

- A waterwise landscape is **functional, attractive, easily maintained in its natural surroundings, and helps to conserve water.**





Key Definitions

Xeriscape

- A type of landscape design that **reduces the need for water** that is **promoted in regions such as Utah** where the supply of water is limited. It is also known as water-conserving and waterwise landscape design.

“Zero-scape”

- A landscape design that **eliminates the need for irrigation water** by **eliminating plants** from the landscape typified by the use of gravel, rock, and stone.
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Single-family & Similar Uses



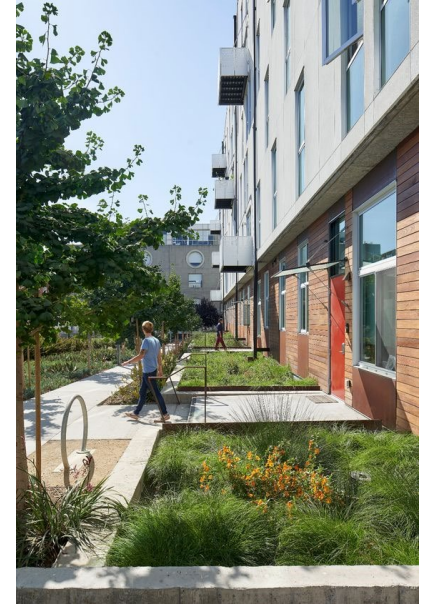
Examples of Waterwise Landscapes

Residential Subdivisions



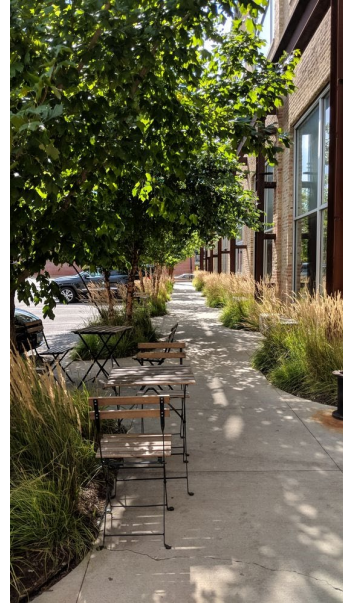
Examples of Waterwise Landscapes

Multi-family Residential



Examples of Waterwise Landscapes

Commercial/ Mixed Use



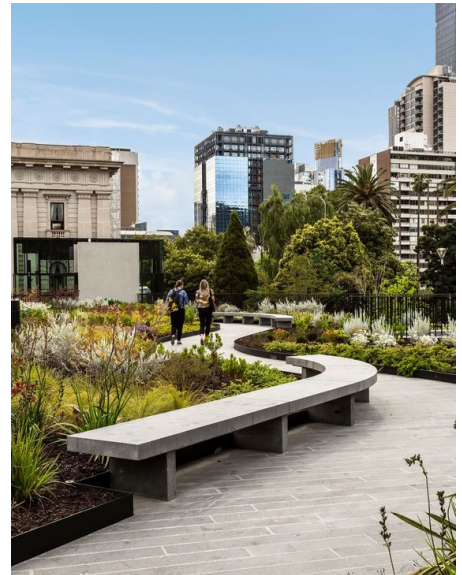
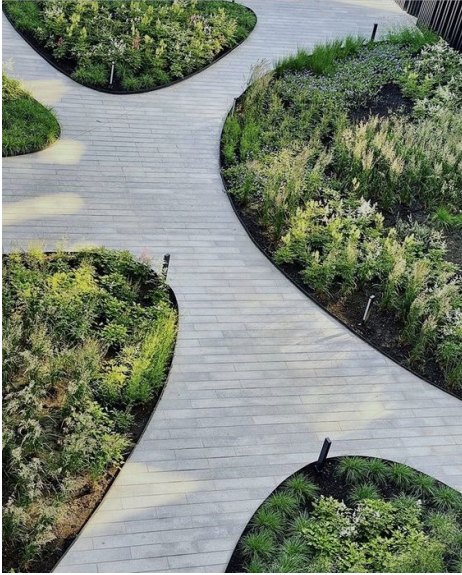
Examples of Waterwise Landscapes

Industrial



Examples of Waterwise Landscapes

Civic & Cultural



Examples of Waterwise Landscapes

Parks & Open Space



Examples of Waterwise Landscapes

Park Strips



Examples of Waterwise Landscapes

2. Existing Landscape Requirements & Conditions in Spanish Fork City

Summary of the Spanish Fork Water Supply System

For the past several decades, Spanish Fork City has worked progressively to secure both water rights and productive water sources. Among the City's most effective efforts was **the development of a metered secondary water system** that was installed throughout the City in the early 2000's.

Today, Spanish Fork City receives much of its water from **a system of wells and springs in the mountains to the east**. Spanish Fork City also has **a contract to purchase water from the Central Utah Project to supplement its secondary water supply**. It is anticipated that Spanish Fork's current water supply is sufficient to provide for the City to its expected buildout.

Summary of the 2022 Utah Legislative Changes

SB 110

Legislative Intent: requires municipalities and counties to amend their general plan to consider how land use planning impacts water use.

Local Impact: By December 31, 2025 planning commissions must amend the general plan to include water conservation elements.

When amending the plan, the planning commission shall consider various items including:

- Effect of permitted development on water demand,
 - **Methods of reducing water, opportunities to modify municipal operations to conserve water**
 - Regional water conservation plans, and
 - **Principles of sustainable landscaping.**
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Summary of the 2022 Utah Legislative Changes

SB 282

Legislative Intent: limits the ability of municipalities, counties, and HOAs to prohibit water wise landscaping.

Local Impact: Municipalities cannot enact or enforce ordinances or policies that prohibit property owners from incorporating water wise landscaping on their property. Municipalities may require site plan review, compliance with water wise landscaping design requirements, and maintenance of landscaping in a healthy condition.

Summary of the current Spanish Fork Landscape Ordinance

15.4.16.130 Landscaping, Buffering Walls, And Fences

- Water-wise requirements are minimal
 - Classifies requirements according to use
 - Multi-Family Residential
 - Single-Family Residential
 - Professional Office and Non-residential or Non-commercial uses
 - Commercial
 - Industrial
 - Establishes minimum landscaping percentages for the site, in parking lots and areas adjacent to public streets
 - Establishes minimum buffers along residential uses
 - Requires minimum number of trees and shrubs for every 1,000 square feet of landscaping
 - Establishes minimum amount landscape that must be irrigate lawn
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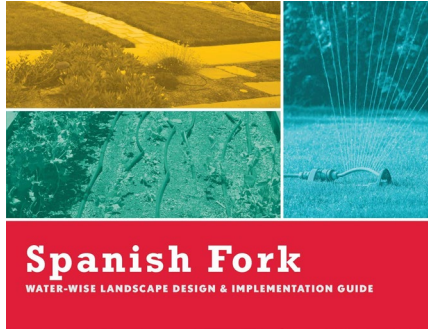
3. Current Direction & Ideas

1. Code Changes

Establish requirements for new and major modifications to *Commercial, Industrial, Civic and higher-density Residential and Developer-constructed Subdivisions*

- Aligned with CUWCD code requirements
 - Promotes an attractive and well-maintained community image through professional design
 - Focus on New Commercial/Industrial/Civic/Subdivision Standards
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2. Implementation Guide



A handout that adapts design elements and principles from the Localscape Introductory Guide and the USU Extension Center for Water-Efficient Landscaping. The primary purpose is to provide **education, encouragement and options** for single-family and similar uses.

- Minimum landscape and water-conserving standards for **new** uses
 - Guidelines and resources to assist homeowners who want to **transform** their existing yards into into water-wise landscapes
 - Provide options for Single-family and Similar Uses
 - Focus is on **encouragement and education** rather than requirements
 - **Avoids "heartburn"** caused by rules and requirements
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Summary of Guideline Document Principles

1. Planning and Design
2. Soil Preparation
3. Plant Selection
4. Practical Lawn Areas
5. Mulch
6. Efficient Irrigation
7. Easy Maintenance

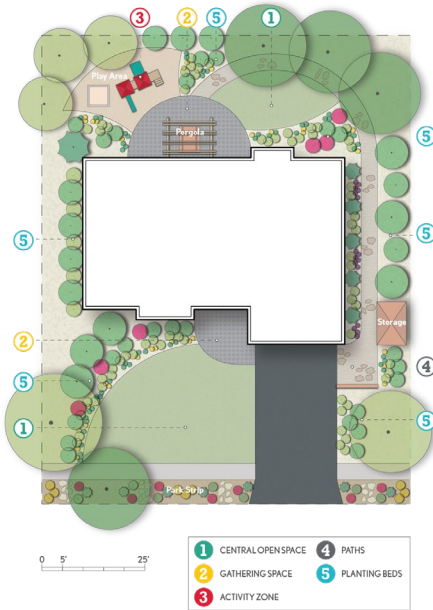
PRINCIPLE #1: Start with a plan

The planning and design stage is an opportunity to consider the needs of those who will use and maintain the space while also acknowledging the site's existing environmental conditions.

For a landscape design to be water-conserving, it needs to use water efficiently. The planning stage is the optimal time to decide which water efficiency strategies will be implemented.

Other Features of the Guideline Document

1. Education & Ideas
 2. Options & Examples
 3. Additional Resources (classes, online resources, etc.)
 4. Enticement
 - a. Grants
 - b. Programs (CUWCD, LocalScapes, Flip Your Strip, Utah Water Savers, etc.)
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4. Questions, Comments & Direction
