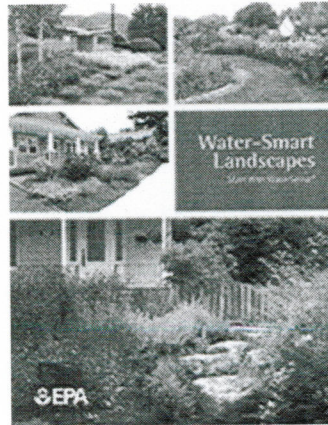


Plan ahead for a water-smart landscape.

If you're designing a new landscape or rethinking your current one, the WaterSense Water Budget Tool can help you plan your landscape for water-efficiency. With two simple inputs, such as zip code and yard size, the water budget tool can tell you if you have designed a landscape that will use an appropriate amount of water for your climate.



Water-Smart Landscaping
(14 pp, 13.9M, About PDF)

Use regionally appropriate, low water-using and native plants.

Once established, these plants require little water beyond normal rainfall. Also, because native plants are adapted to local soils and climatic conditions, they rarely require the addition of fertilizer and are more resistant to pests and diseases than are other species. Be careful when selecting exotic species, as some may be invasive, which may require more water and could displace native plants. For more information on appropriate plant choice, visit these listings of native or regionally-appropriate plants.

Group plants according to their water needs.

Grouping vegetation with similar watering needs into specific "hydrozones" reduces water use and protects the plants from both underwatering and overwatering by allowing you to water to each zone's specific needs. For example, turf areas and shrub areas should always be separated into different hydrozones because of their differing water needs.