



Localscapes University











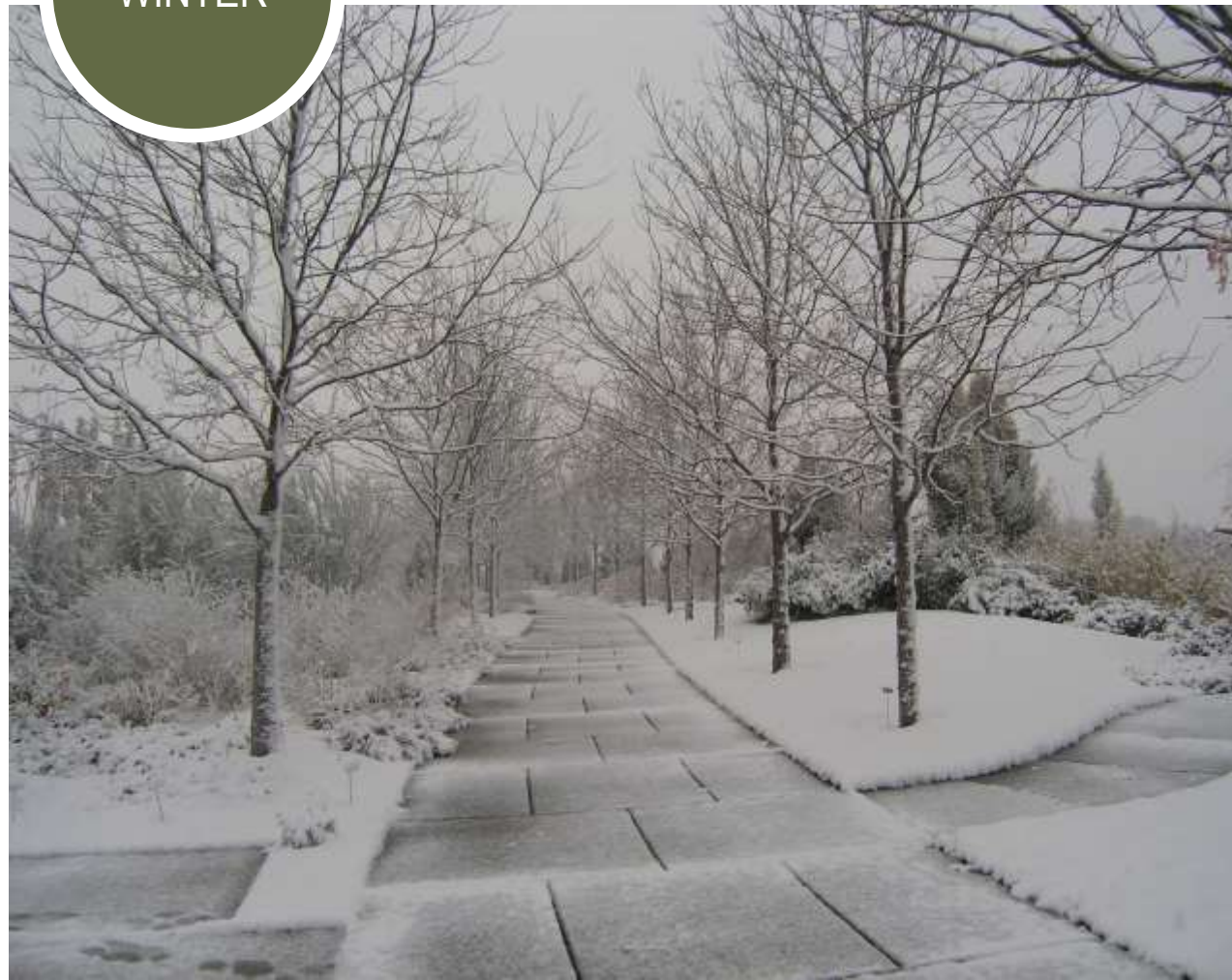
# Utah is unique



SUMMER



WINTER





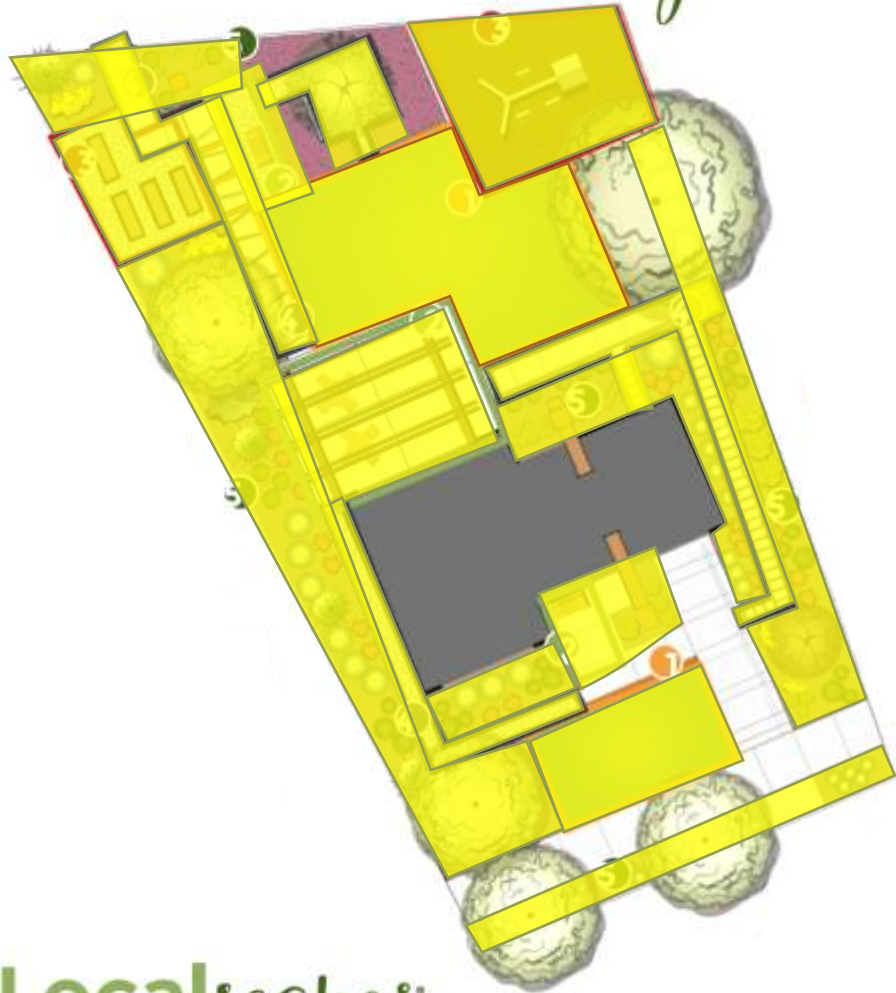


# Localscapes





# 5 elements of a Localscape



**Localscapes**  
Localscapes.com

Follow these steps to start your own plan:





# What you will learn:

1. How to Create a Base map
2. Localscapes Design
  - Central Open Shapes
  - Gathering Areas
  - Activity Zones
  - Paths
  - Planting Beds
3. Plant Selection Basics







# Localscapes University

## Creating A Base Map



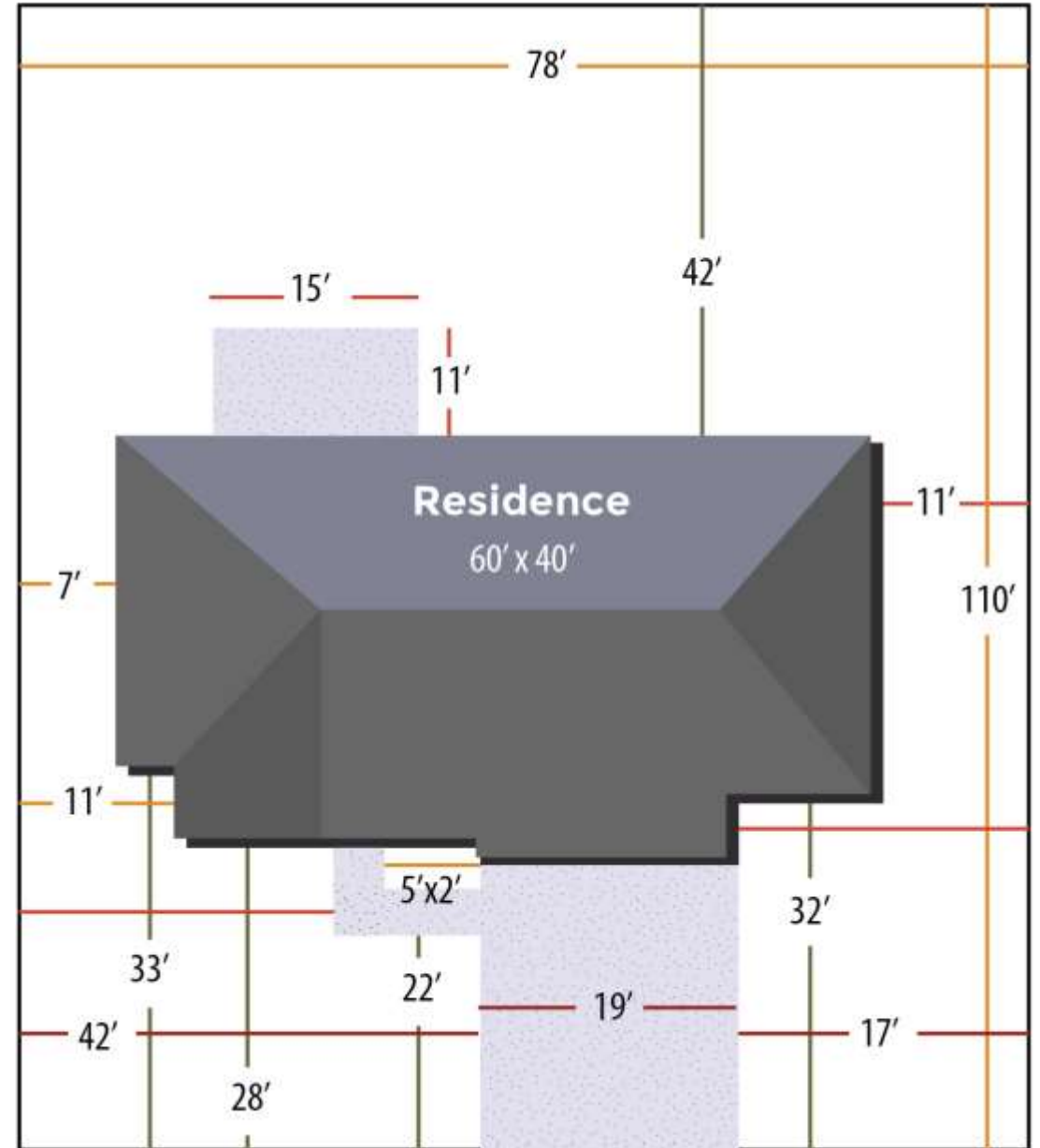




## Base Maps

An accurate base map is key to good design.

- Base maps should:
  - Be drawn to scale
  - Show existing hardscape
  - Show existing trees & shrubs
  - Show any permanent objects
  - Help you avoid mistakes!











## Base Map video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYkYkonjqos>



How to use Google Maps  
to create a Landscape Base Map



0:02 / 5:20

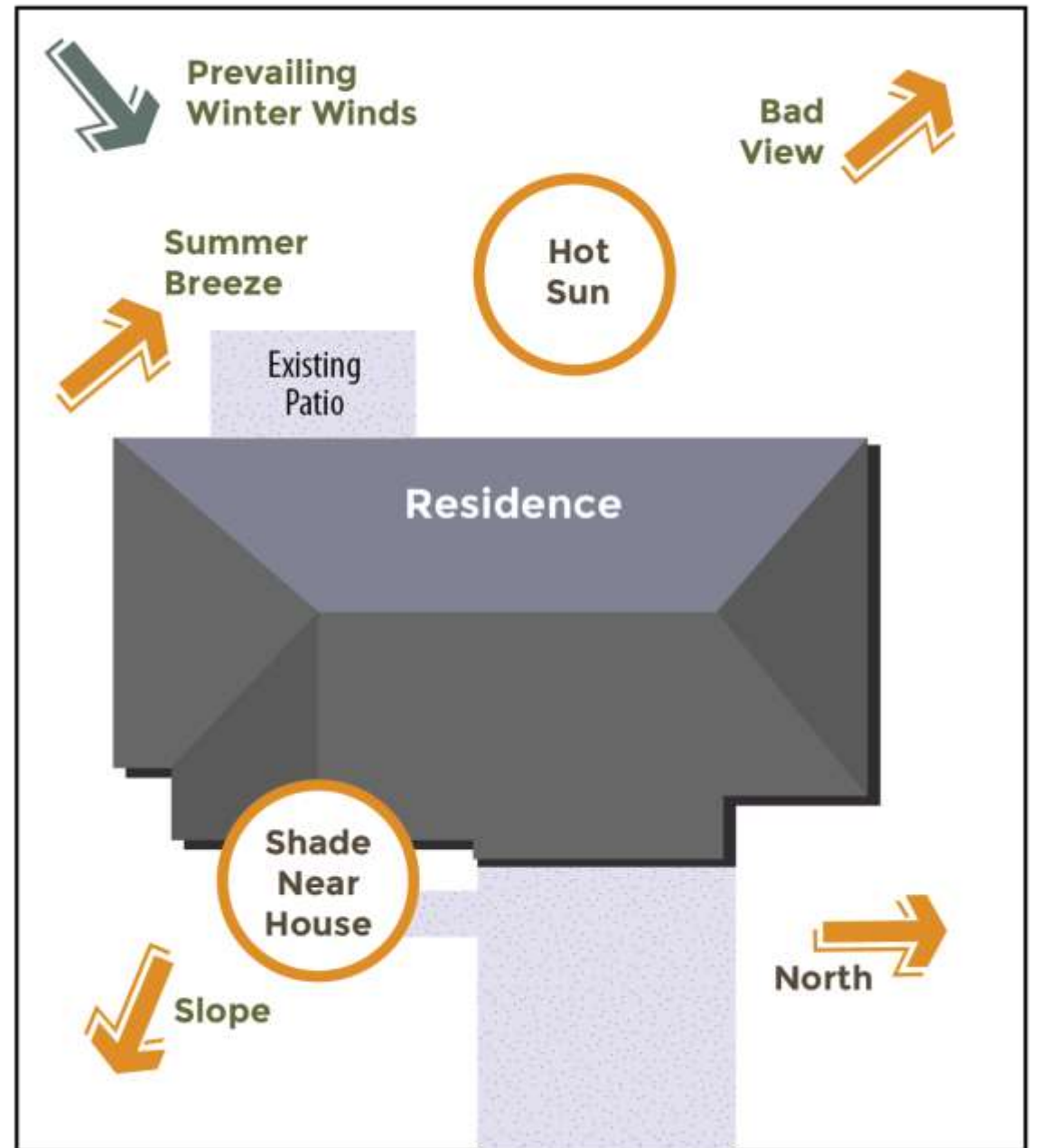






## Site Analysis

- Good and bad views
- Wind
- Sun vs. Shade
- Soil conditions
- Slopes







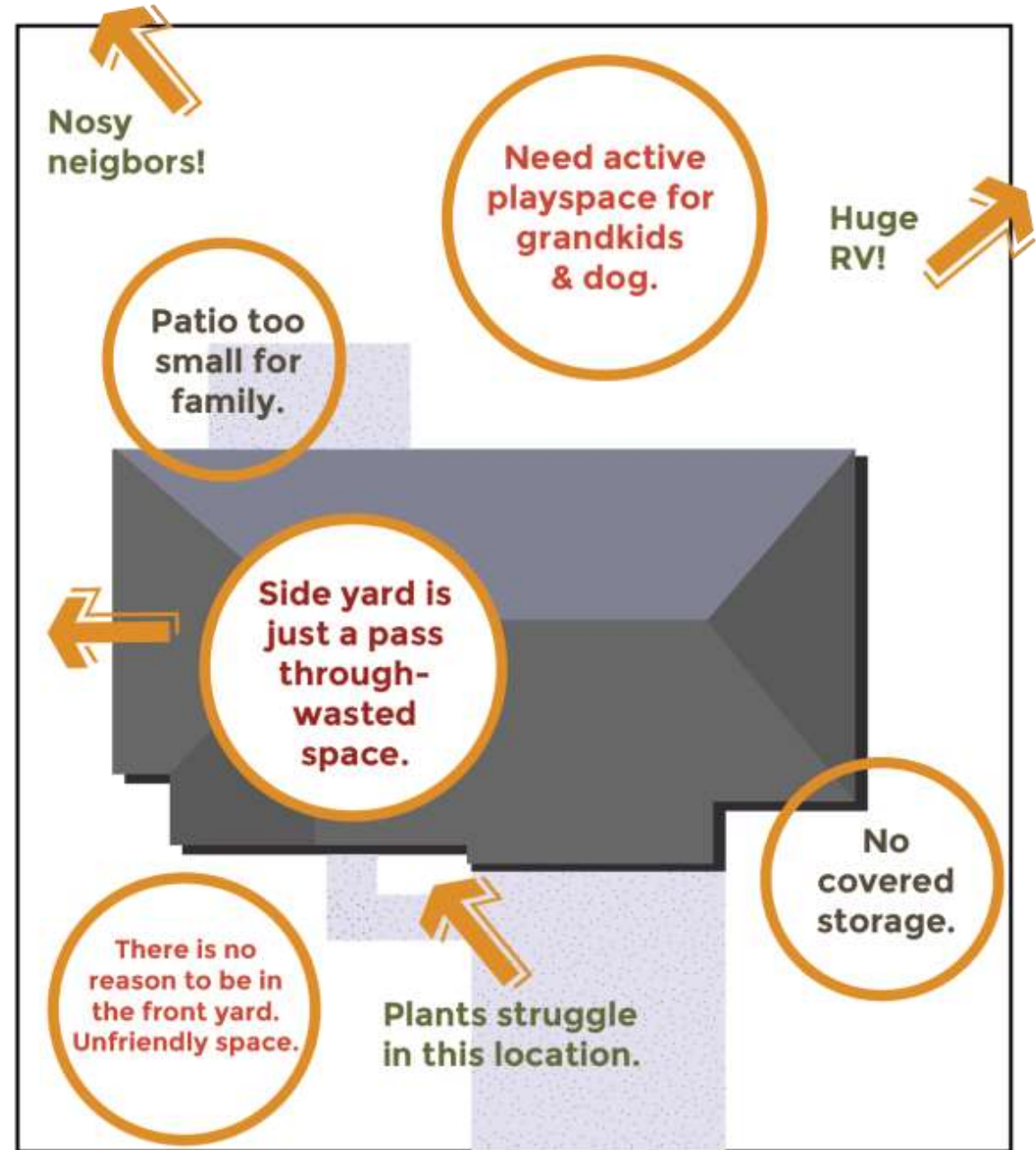
# Perform a Needs Assessment

## Site Concerns

- Existing patio is old and small
- Lack of privacy
- Wasted space
- Noisy areas

## Wish List

- Space for shade garden
- Covered storage area (Activity Zone)
- Play space (Activity Zone)
- Fire pit (Gathering Area)
- Larger patio (Gathering Area)

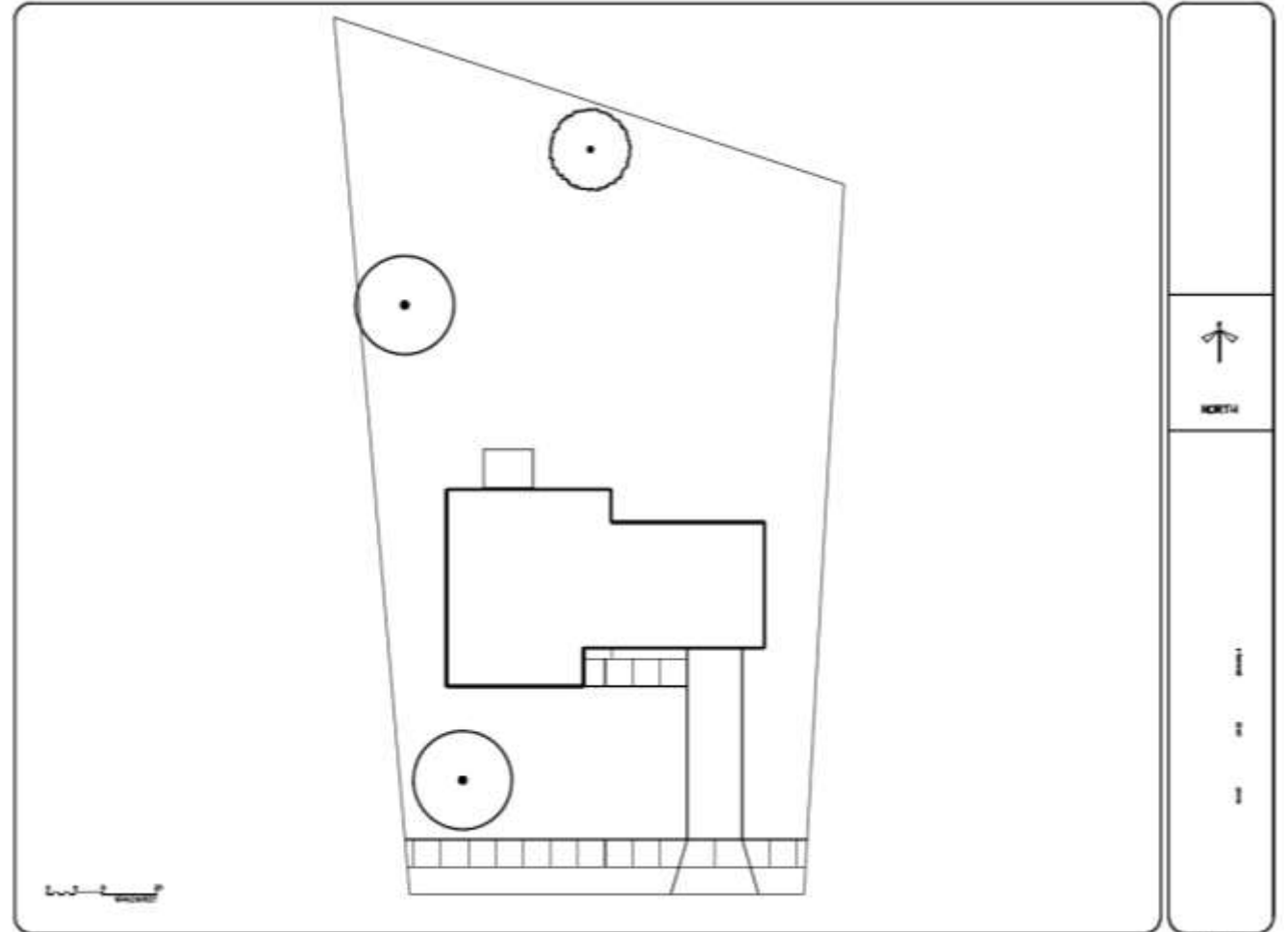






## Finished Base Map

- Drawn to scale
- 11" x 17" sheet of paper
- North arrow
- All existing hardscape areas and mature trees







# Localscapes University

## The Central Open Shape





Central Open  
Shape



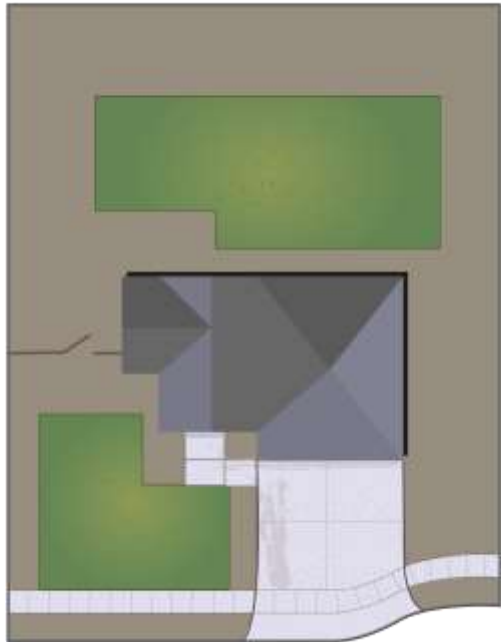


# Central Open Shape Locations

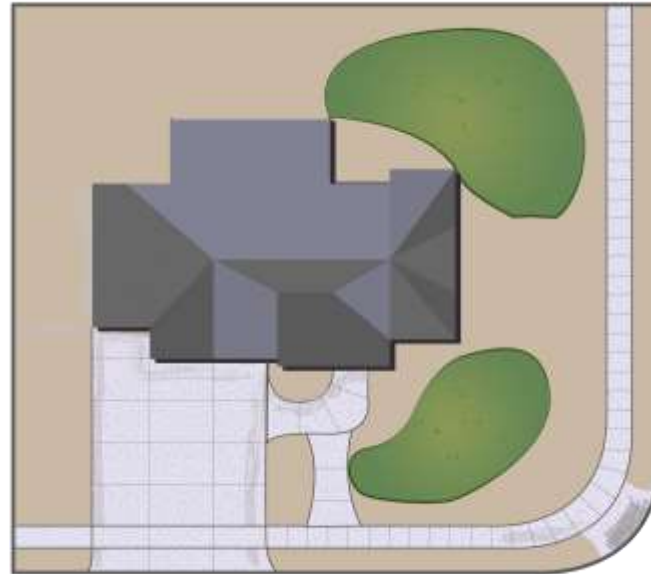
Central  
Open  
Shape

1

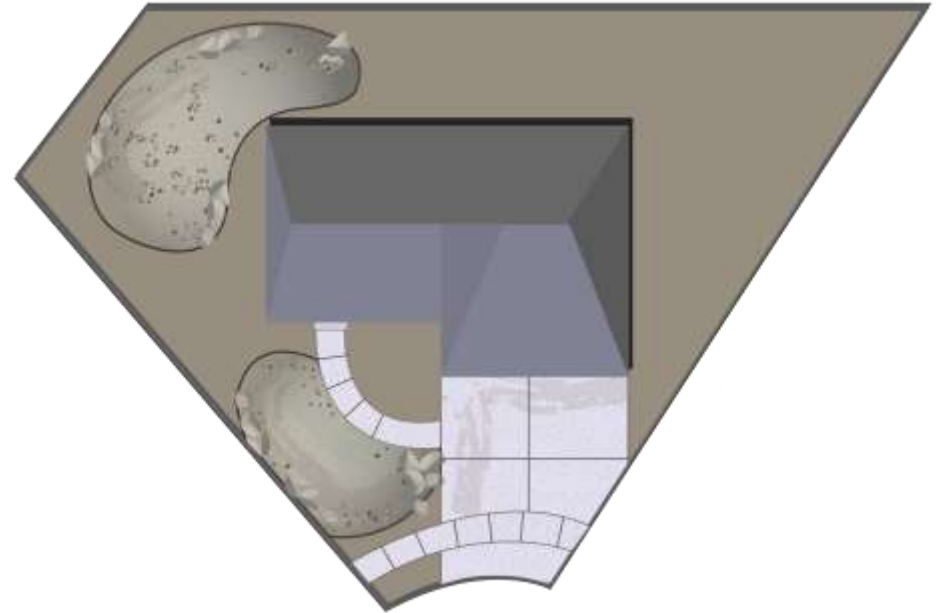
Rectangular Lot



Corner Lot



Odd-Shaped Lot



# Central Open Shape Location



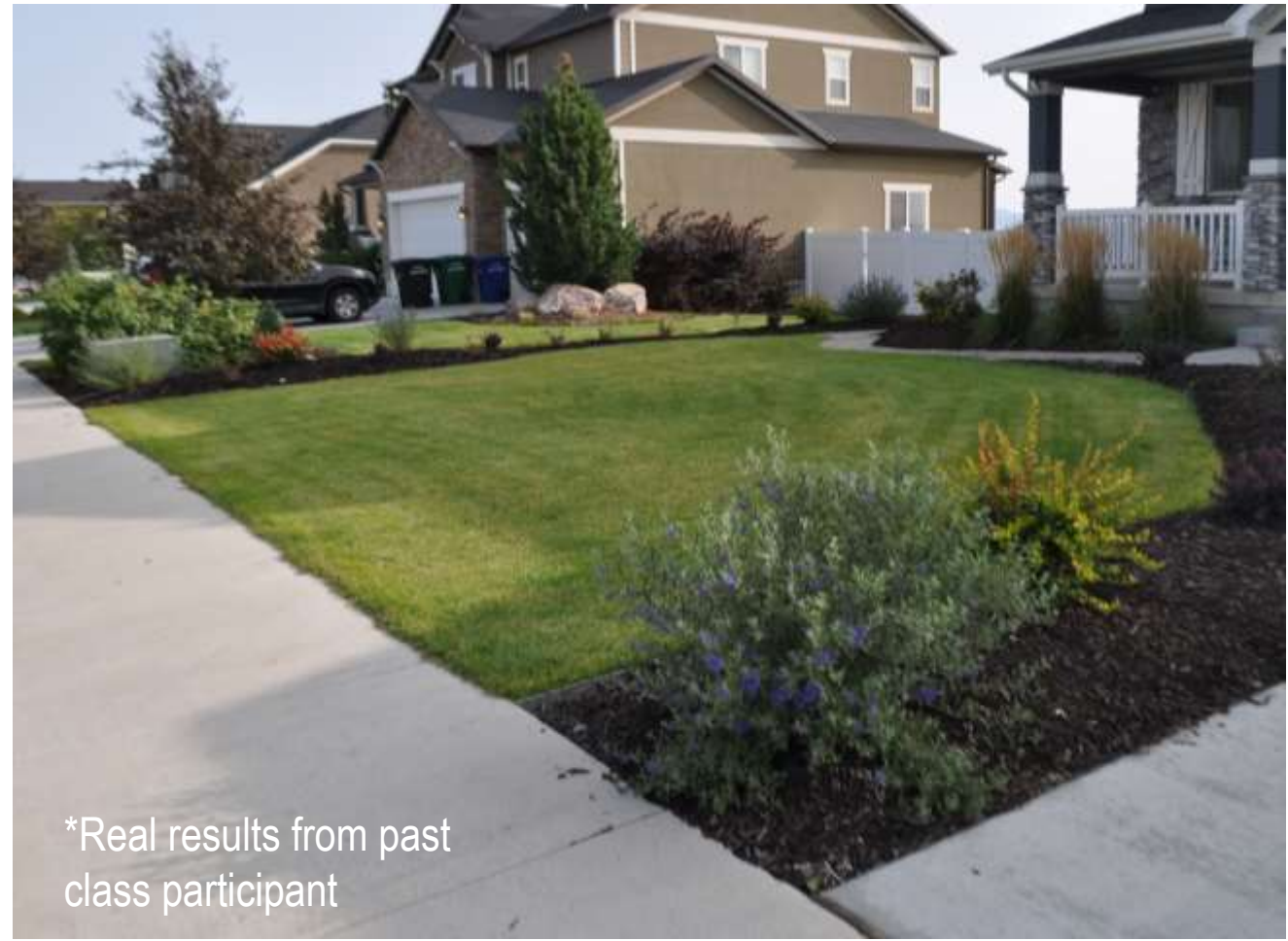
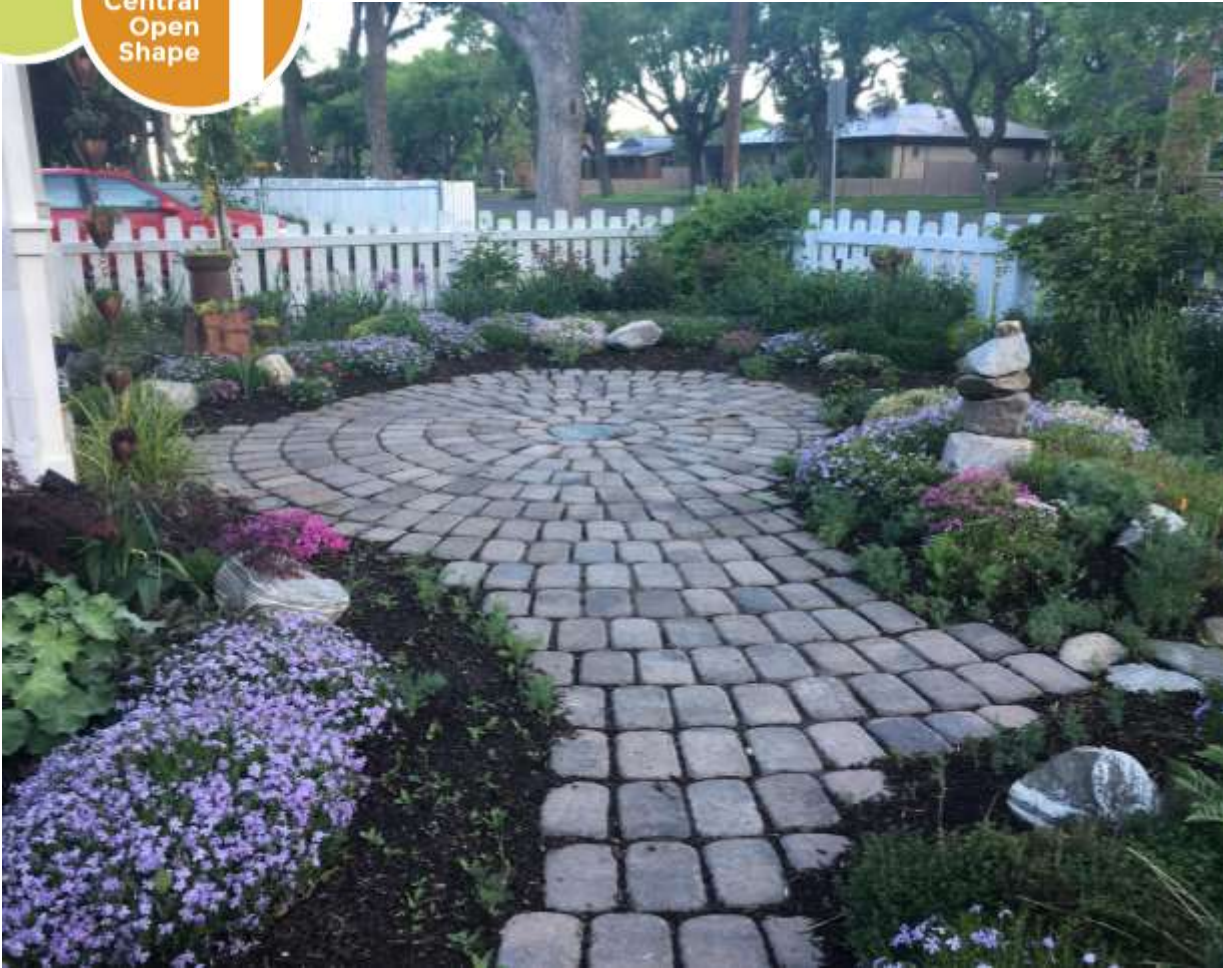
\*Real results from past  
class participant



# Defined Edge

Central  
Open  
Shape

1



\*Real results from past  
class participant



# Contrasting and Permanent Materials





# Central Open Shape Materials- Hardscape



Artificial Turf



Pavers



Gravel



Chat



# Hardscape Materials- Pavers

Central  
Open  
Shape

Large enough to  
make a bold  
statement & anchor  
the design





# Hardscape Materials- Inorganic mulch



Use  
pre-emergent in the  
spring & spot spray  
with  
post-emergent  
herbicide



# Central Open Shape Materials- Living



Thyme



Sedge



Veronica



Lawn



# Living Materials- Groundcover

Central  
Open  
Shape

1

Creeping  
Thyme  
Sun



Turkish  
Veronica  
Part-Shade





# Living Materials- Lawn

Central  
Open  
Shape

1

Lawn should be a  
designed element





# Lawn Varieties- Cool Season

Central  
Open  
Shape

1

BioBlue  
Bluegrass



BioMeadow  
Fine  
Fescue  
Mix



Kentucky  
Bluegrass





# Lawn Varieties- Warm Season

Central  
Open  
Shape

1

Buffalo Grass



Blue Grama

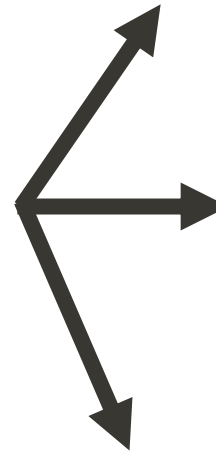


Dog Tuff





# Overhead Sprinkler Overview





# Rotary Nozzles Recommended

Best  
Practice

Less water is lost to  
evaporation and wind  
when rotary nozzles  
are used





# Use One Type of Head Per Zone

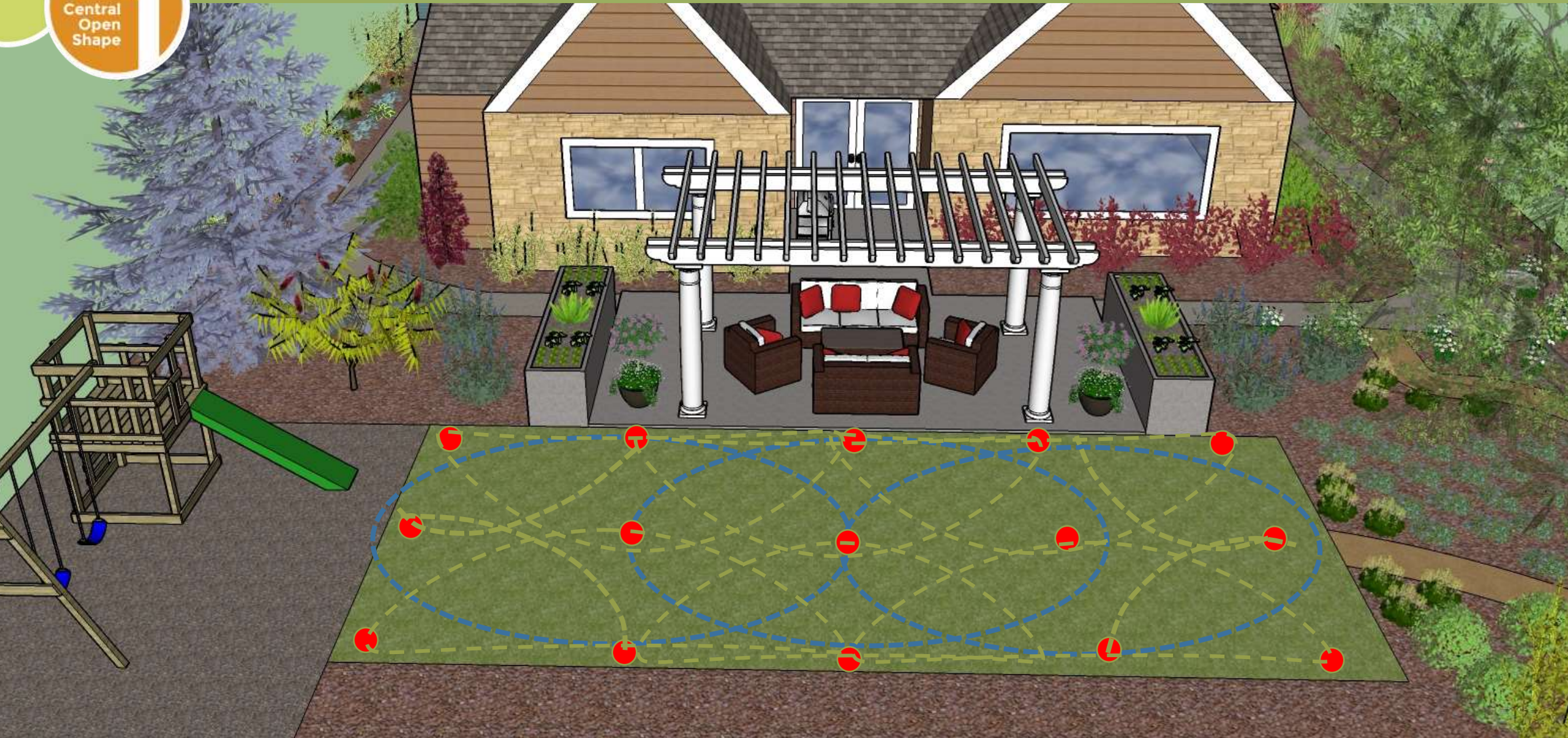




# Head-To-Head Coverage

Central  
Open  
Shape

1





# Head-To-Head Coverage

Central  
Open  
Shape

1

Proper head-to-head coverage

**WRONG**



**RIGHT**





# Highly Efficient Shapes

Squares &  
rectangles  
are most  
efficient



\*Real results from past  
class participant

Ovals &  
gentle curves  
are Ok too



\*Real results from past  
class participant

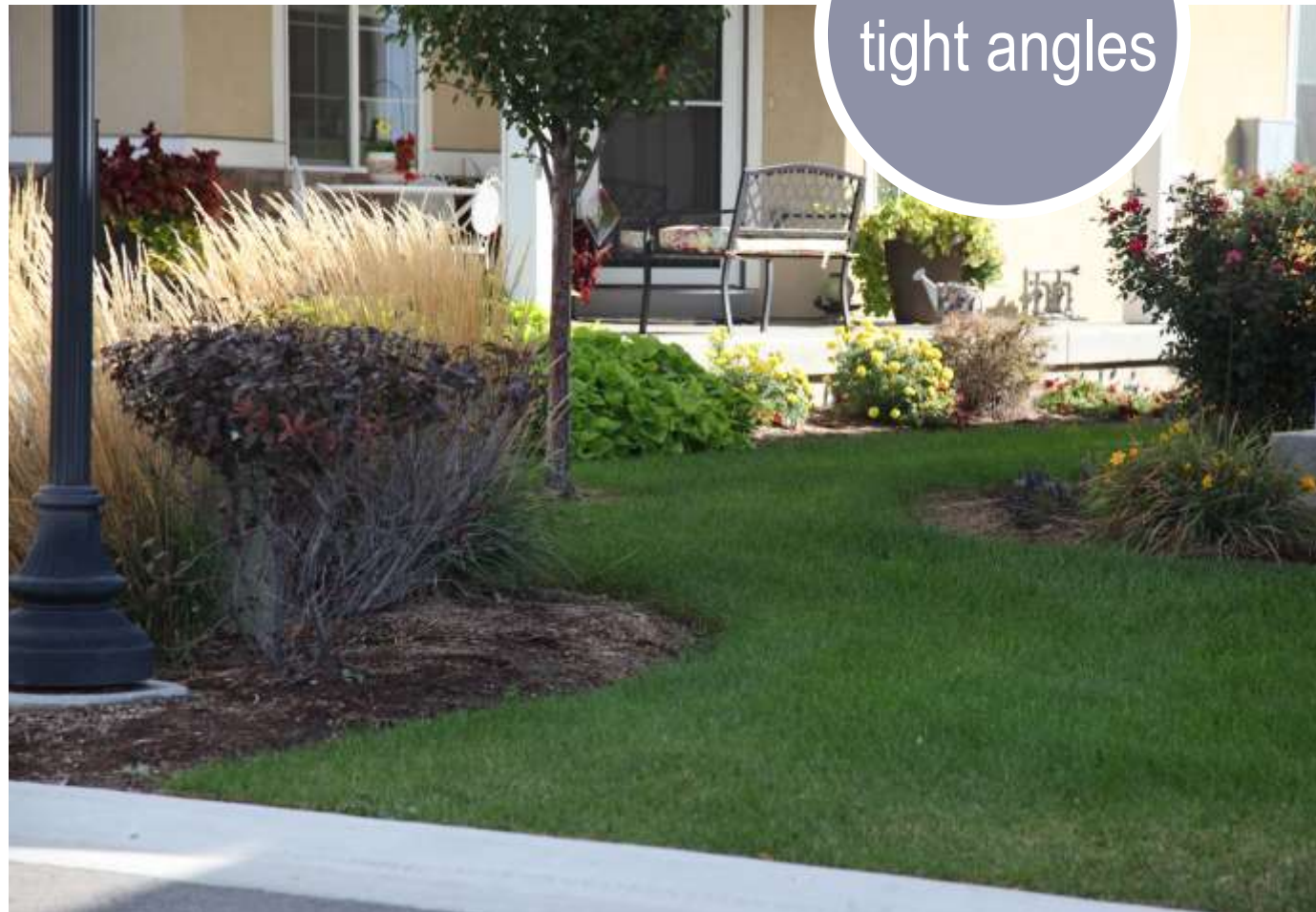


# Lawn Shapes to Avoid

Less than  
8 feet wide



Too many  
tight angles





Lawn is not less than 8 feet wide





# Lawn should be unobstructed





# Lawn is not a designated path





# No lawn on slopes or hillsides





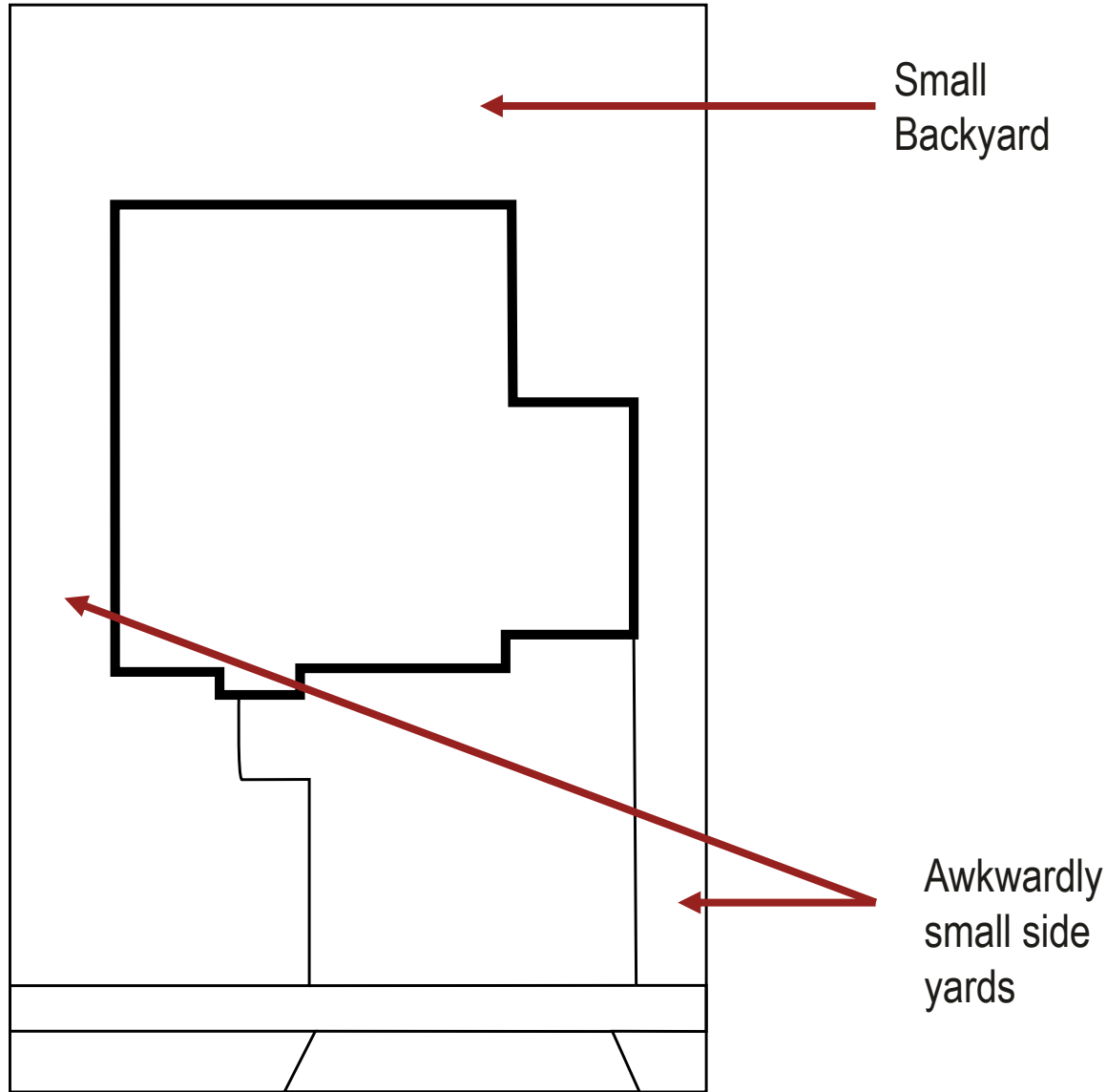
# Limit lawn to 35% or less



\*Real results from past  
class participant



# Small Lot Considerations



- Should you have lawn? Could you use a different material for a central open shape?
- How could you use the space to fit your wants and needs?



# Typical Utah Landscape



Lawn as a path

Lawn in the  
park strip

Odd bits of  
lawn



# Typical Utah Landscape

Central  
Open  
Shape

1





# Lawn Removal

## Step 1:

Mark the lawn area to be removed

Marking  
Paint



Garden  
Hose





# Lawn Removal

## Step 2:

Kill the marked lawn

- Lawn must be dead down to the roots or lawn will grow back.
- This process can take several weeks

Sheet  
Mulching



Plastic  
Sheeting



Chemical





# Lawn Removal

## Step 3: Remove the dead lawn

Sod Cutter



Tiller



Shovel





# Irrigation Placement

Central  
Open  
Shape





# Completed Central Open Shape







# Questions?



Apply for other water-saving rebates at:  
[UtahWaterSavers.com](http://UtahWaterSavers.com)





# Localscapes University

Gathering Areas,  
Activity Zones & Paths





# Completed Central Open Shape

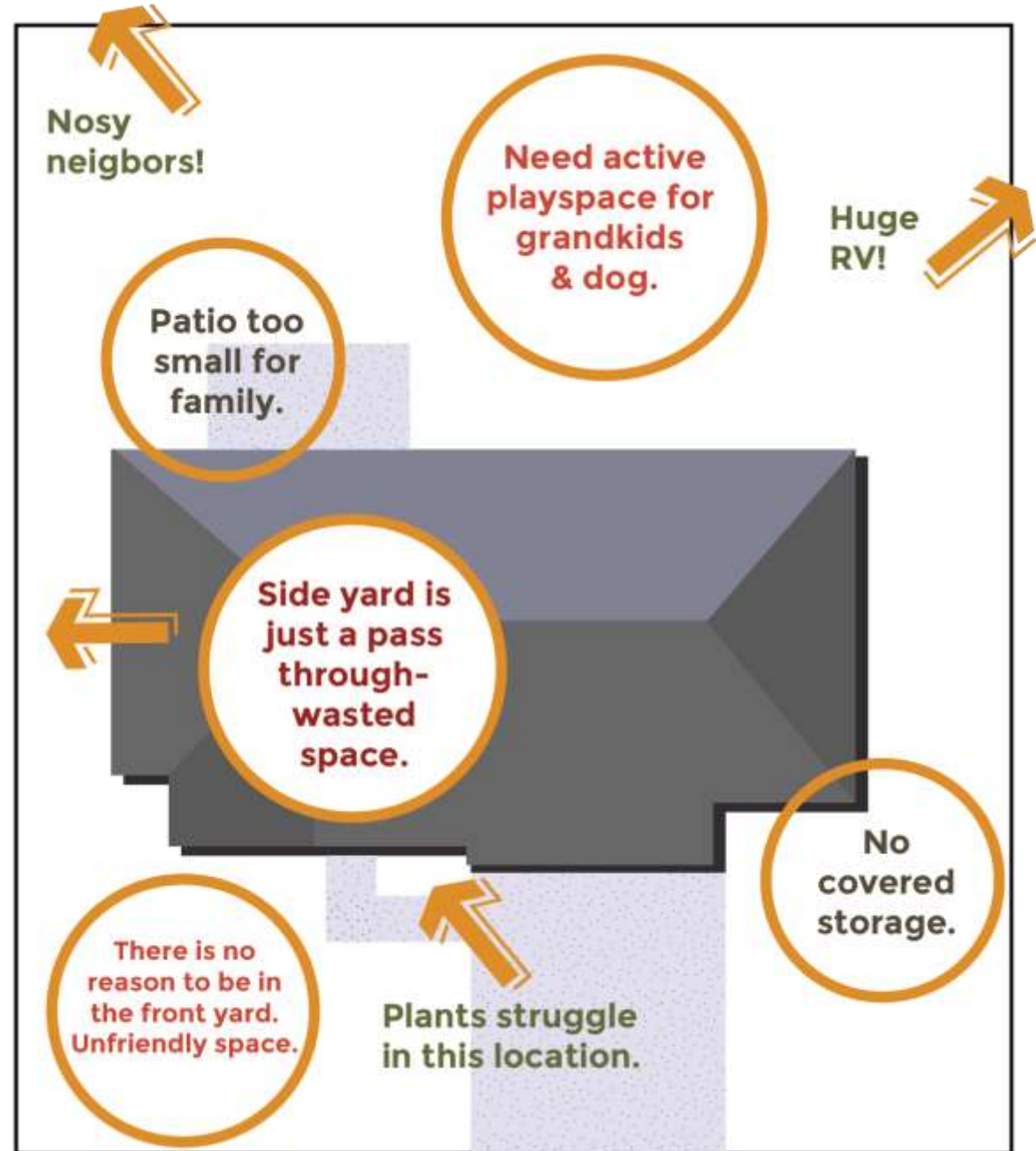




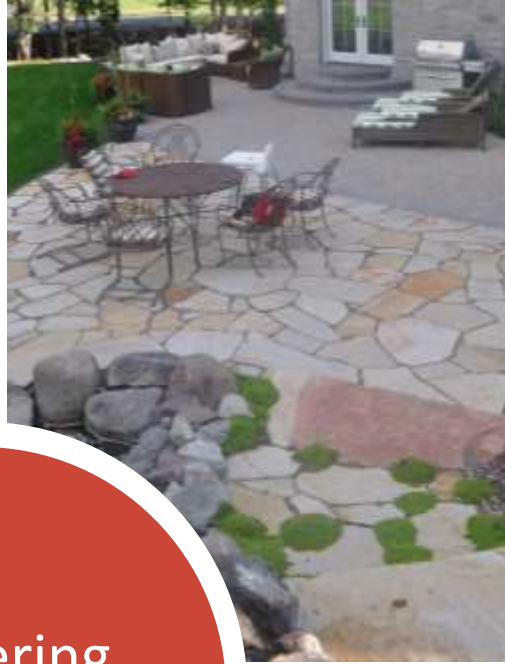


# Needs Assessment

Assess your landscape needs before determining size, type and placement for Gathering Areas, Activity Zones and Paths.







Gathering Areas





# Types of Gathering Areas

- Patios
- Informal seating areas
- Covered seating
- Decks
- Gazebos
- Fire pits



\*Real results from past  
class participant



# Location Considerations

- Purpose
- Sun exposure
- Trees in the area
- Privacy
- Noise



\*Real results from past  
class participant

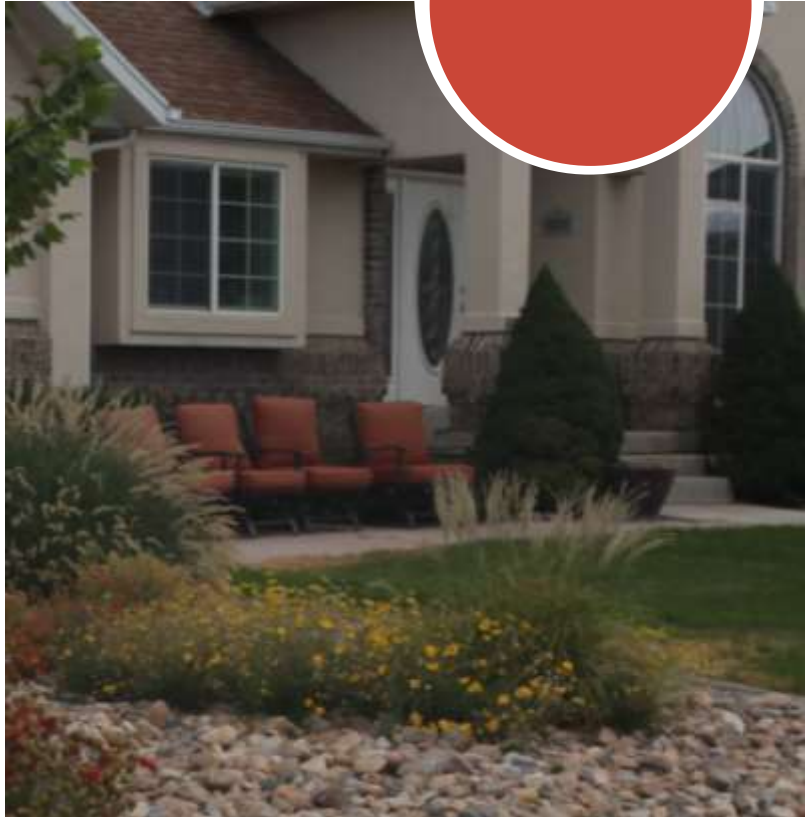


# Location Ideas

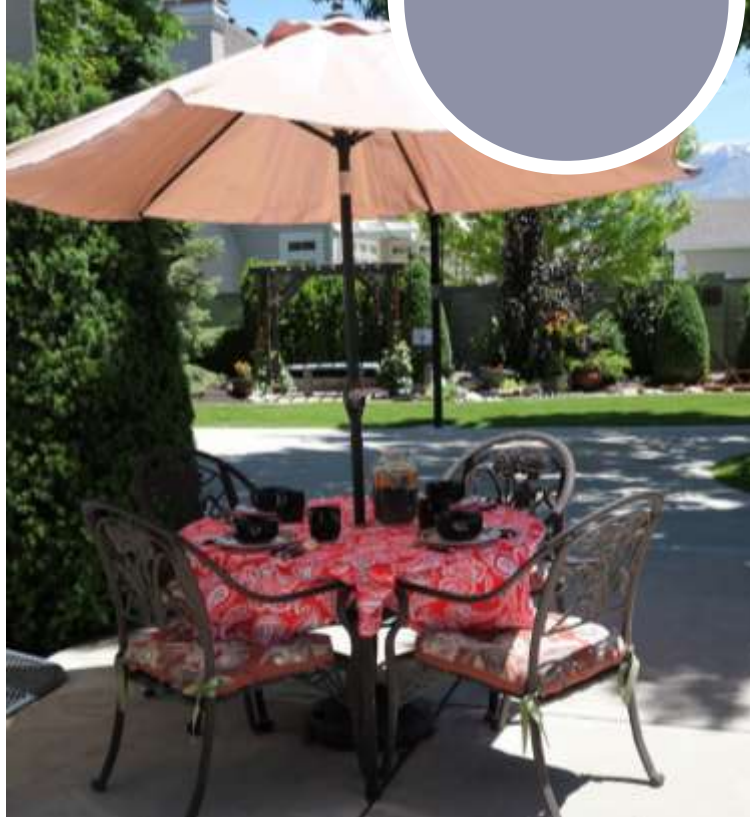
Gathering  
Areas

2

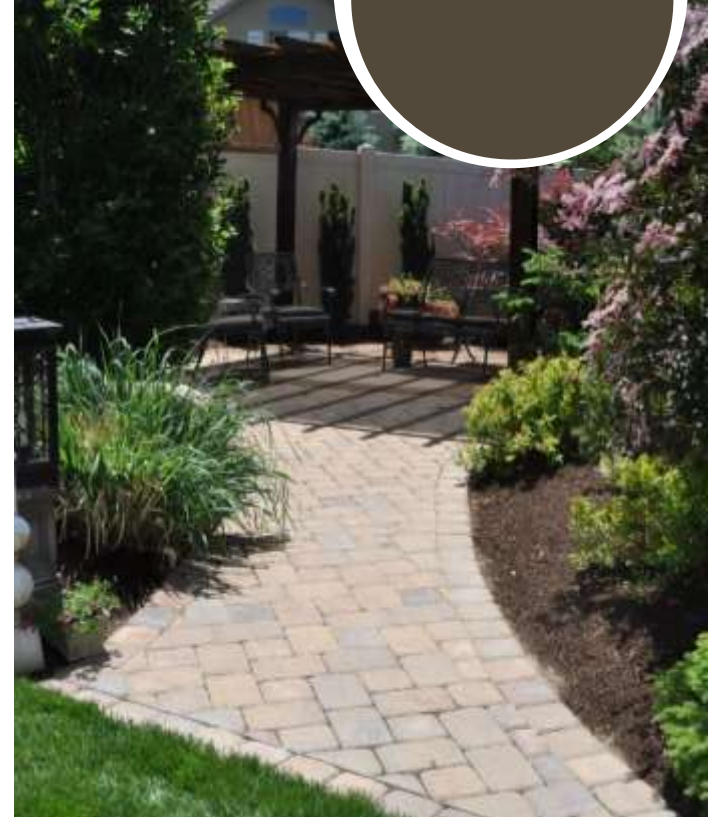
Front Yard



Main Patio



Bonus Patio





# Material Considerations

- DIY vs. contractor installation
- Usage frequency
- Availability
- Budget





# Gathering Area Materials







# Aggregate Calculator

US Aggregates > Aggregate Calculator

Length \*

*feet*

Width \*

*feet*

Depth \*

*inches*

Aggregate

Estimated Tons Needed

*Click the button below for exact quantity, type of material, and cost (including delivery).*



# Gathering Areas

Private  
Seating  
Area



Patio





Activity Zones





# Types of Activity Zones

- Vegetable gardens
- Children's play area
- Storage
- Sport courts
- Trampoline
- Hot tub
- Dog run
- Other active recreation areas





# Location Considerations

- Sun exposure
- Space requirements
- Attractiveness
- Purpose
- Need for monitoring activity from indoors



\*Real results from past  
class participant





**Not Localized**

Designate  
Activity Zones to  
reduce  
maintenance





## Localscape

Design the space  
to fit the desired  
Activity Zones

\*Real results from past  
class participant





Sand



Gravel



Bark Mulch

## Activity Zone Surface Materials:





# Vegetable Garden Watering

Best  
Practice

Water gardens  
with drip  
irrigation on their  
own valve



\*Real results from past  
class participant



# Adaptability



Children's play space is easily converted to a Gathering Area





# Rewards Requirement

Activity Zones  
cannot function  
as the Central  
Open Shape



\*Real results from past  
class participant



# Back Yard Activity Zones



Children's play area:  
playground bark surfacing

Vegetable garden:  
raised beds on bark mulch





Paths





# Path Locations

4 Paths





# Primary and Secondary Paths

Primary Path



Secondary Path





# Primary Path Materials

4 Paths

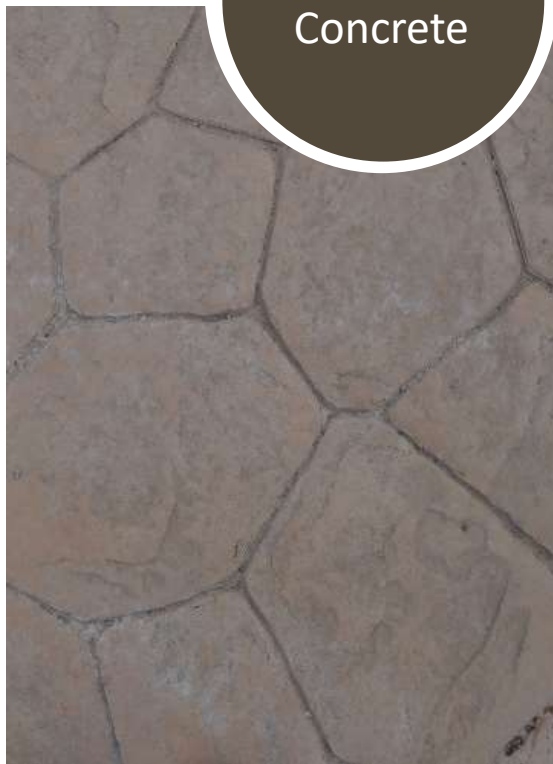
Concrete



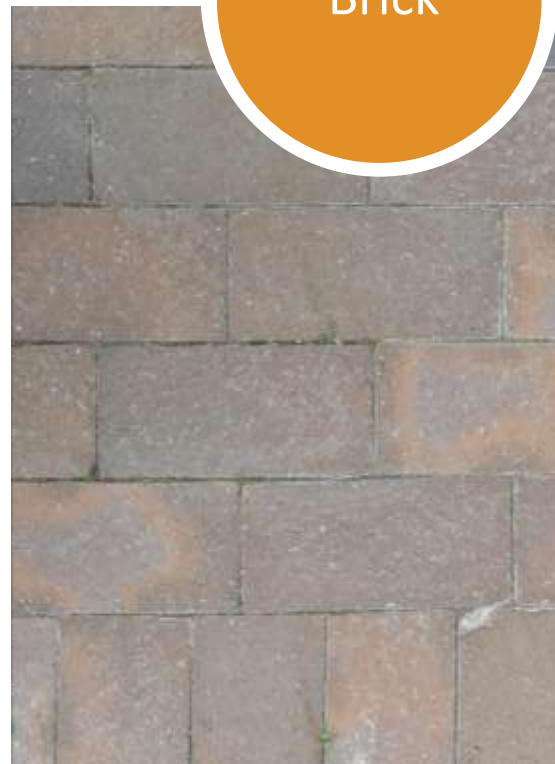
Pavers



Stamped  
Concrete



Brick



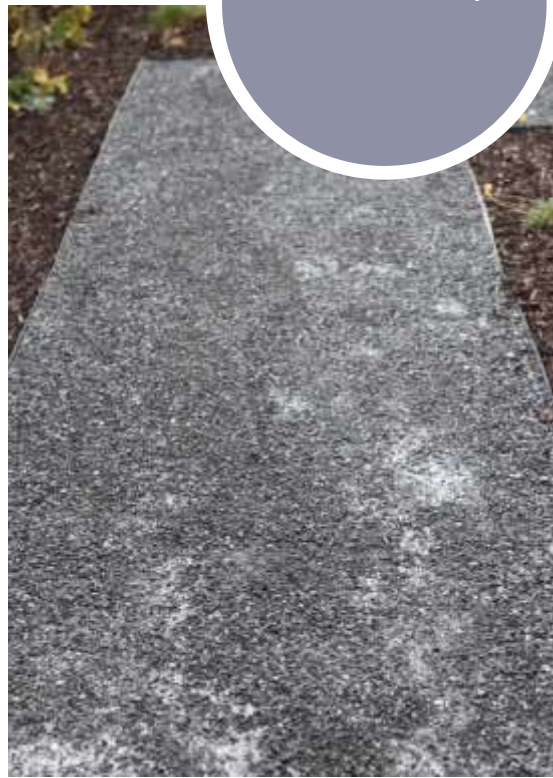


# Secondary Path Materials

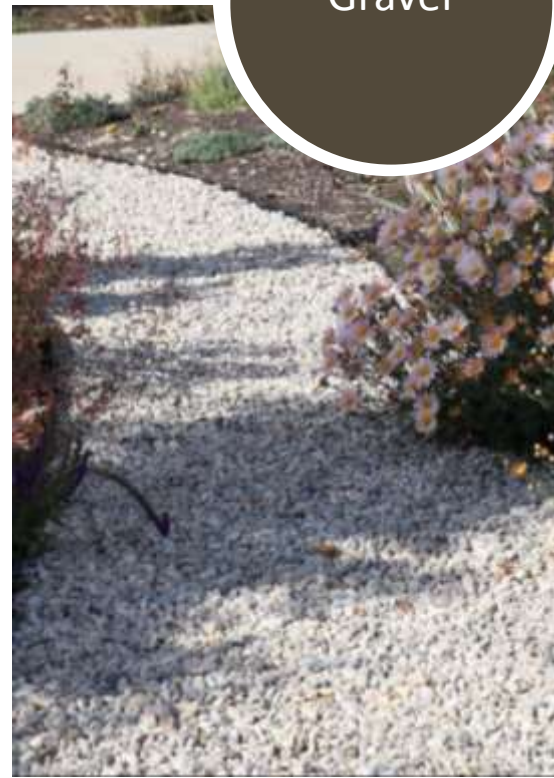
Bark



Chat or Chips



Gravel



Flagstone





# Path Installation

4 Paths

Top Layer  
2-3" of gravel,  
chip, chat or  
mulch

Top

Base  
Landscape  
fabric/weed barrier  
fabric

Base



Soil  
Removal  
Remove  
existing soil

Prep



Edge  
Metal edging to  
contain gravel

Edge



# Edging

Best  
Practice

Edging is a nice way  
to separate special  
use zones  
throughout the  
landscape



\*Real results from past  
class participant



# Back Yard Paths







# Questions?



Apply for other water-saving rebates at:  
[UtahWaterSavers.com](http://UtahWaterSavers.com)





# Localscapes University

## Planting Beds







Planting Beds





# Planting Beds





# Building Planting Beds

5  
Planting  
Beds



Plants

3-4 Inches of mulch

Drip irrigation  
below the mulch



# Mulch Materials





# Drip Irrigation Overview

- Allows water to flow slowly to plant roots
- Very little water is wasted from evaporation or wind
- Helps with weed control
- Easier to install and change





# Drip Irrigation Types

In-Line  
Drip



Point  
Source  
Drip





# Drip Irrigation Considerations

Choose drip irrigation that supports your plant density preference



LOW



MEDIUM



HIGH



# Filter/Pressure Reducer

Filter

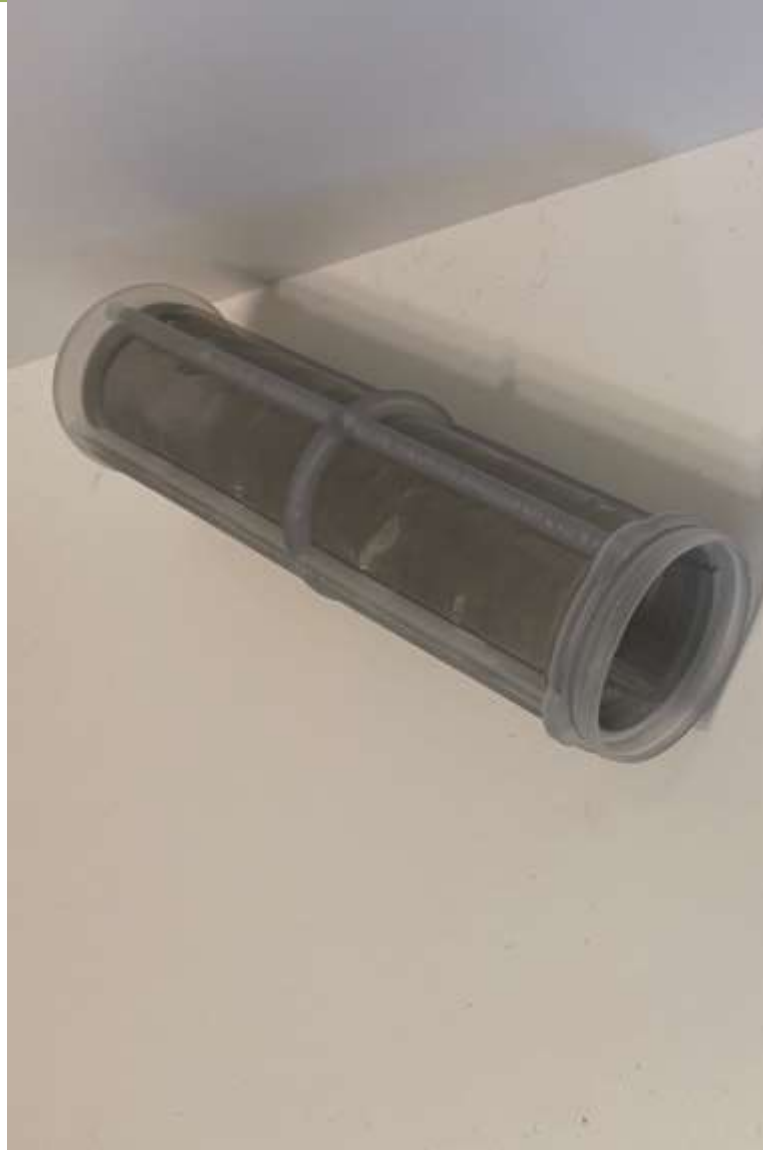


Pressure  
Reducer



# Filter/Pressure Reducer

5 Planting  
Beds





# Inline Drip Irrigation Materials



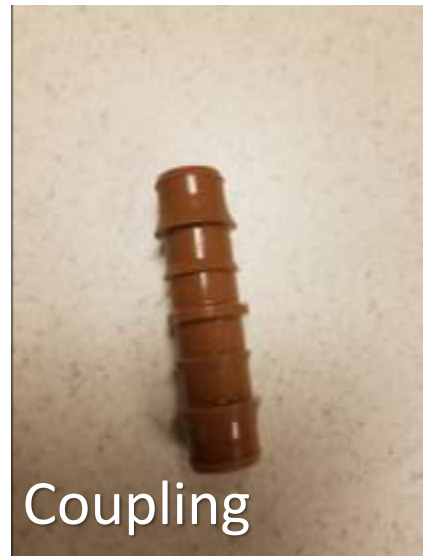
Blank Tubing



Drip Tubing



Tee



Coupling



Elbow



Staple



# Inline Drip Irrigation

- Drip emitters are built directly into the lines
- Water planting beds evenly
- Installed on the surface of the soil under a layer of mulch
- Easy maintenance





# Inline Drip Irrigation

To ensure trees get plenty of water, loop inline drip in at least two rings around the trunk.





# Point Source Drip Irrigation Materials



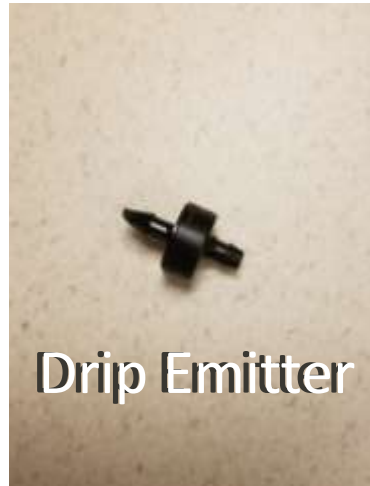
Blank Tubing



Poly  
Tubing



Xeriman Tool



Drip Emitter



Tubing Stake



Staple



# Point Source Drip Irrigation

- Drip emitters are attached to the main line with distribution tubing
- Emitter waters individual plants
- Installed on the surface of the soil under a layer of mulch
- Best for maximum weed control





# Point Source Drip Irrigation

- Ensure that you have at least 5 gallons of water per hour to each tree
- More emitters will have to be added as plants mature
- Trees take the longest to establish their root system so be sure to periodically give them extra water during the first two years







# Drip Using Secondary Water



Figure Eight Line End- Closed



Secondary Irrigation Filter



Figure Eight Line End- Open for Line Flushing



# Plant Materials



Trees



Shrubs



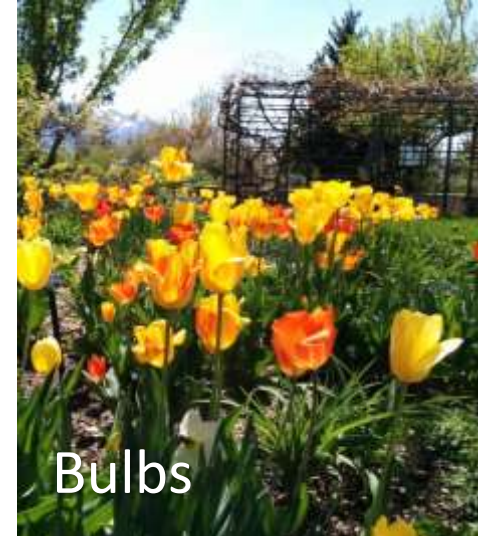
Grasses



Perennials



Groundcover



Bulbs



# Plant Beds Example!

5  
Planting  
Beds



\*Real results from past  
class participant



- Provide shade
- Block unwanted views
- Provide multi-season interest
- Can act as a focal point
- Can be energy efficient!

Weeping  
White Spruce



'Green Vase'  
Zelkova





# Shade

5  
Planting  
Beds

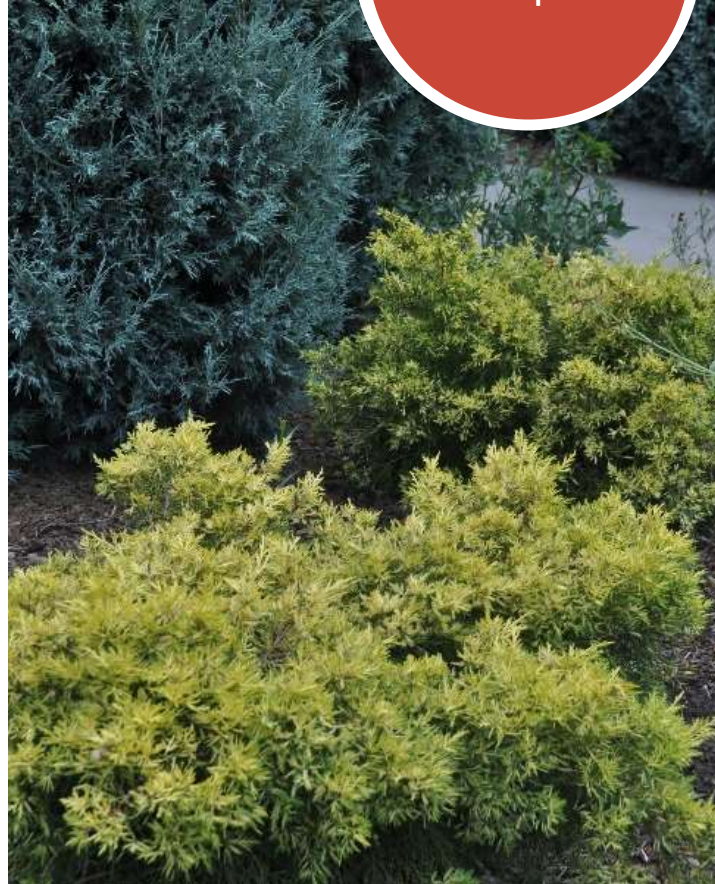
Use trees to provide shade for lawn, gathering areas, and activity zones





- Low-maintenance color
- Privacy
- Provide multi-season interest
- Backbone plant of any good design

'Sea of Gold'  
Juniper



'Diablo'  
Ninebark





# Define Space

5 Planting Beds

Shrubs can be used to define a space by creating a living fence





# Ornamental Grasses

5 Planting Beds

- Provide movement and sound
- Add light and texture
- Provide winter interest
- Habitat for birds

Alkali  
Sacaton



Flame  
Grass





# Create Privacy

5 Planting  
Beds

Trees, shrubs, and ornamental grasses can be used to add height and create privacy





- Provide bursts of color
- Grow year after year
- Bloom at different times of the year
- Habitat for pollinators

Dianthus



Shasta Daisy





# Planting in Layers

5  
Planting  
Beds





# Annuals vs. Perennials

Best  
Practice



Don't mix annuals and  
perennials in planting  
beds!

Save them for container  
accents!

\*Annuals require more  
maintenance and water  
than perennials.





# Groundcovers

5 Planting Beds

- The carpet of the landscape
- Living mulch
- No need to mow
- Outcompete most weeds

Creeping  
Thyme Mix



Plumbago





- Waterwise
- Provide early spring color
- A mix of bulbs provides color spring through fall
- Low maintenance

Tulips  
(early spring)



Allium  
(late spring-  
summer)





# Planting Times

## Fall

- This is the best time to plant- great for establishing plants!
- Smaller selection

## Spring

- Also a good time to plant.
- Selection is much greater

## Summer

- Plants will struggle to develop a root system and establishment will be harder to achieve.





# Tree Planting

- Too high is better than too deep
- Don't cover the trunk flare
- Remove burlap and cage
- Staking is not always necessary



**1. Call Before You Dig** - Several days before planting, call the national 811 hotline to have underground utilities located.

**2. Handle with Care** - Always lift tree by the root ball. Keep roots moist until planting.

**3. Digging a Proper Hole** - Dig 2 to 5 times wider than the diameter of the root ball with sloping sides to allow for proper root growth.

**4. Planting Depth** - The trunk flare should sit slightly above ground level and the top-most roots should be buried 1 to 2 inches.

**5. Filling the Hole** - Backfill with native soil unless it's all clay. Tamp in soil gently to fill large air spaces.

**6. Mulch** - Allow 1 to 2 inch clearance between the trunk and the mulch. Mulch should be 2 to 3 inches deep.

For more tree-planting tips and information, visit [arborday.org](http://arborday.org).

Source:  **Arbor Day Foundation**

90075201



## Watering Established Plants

- Plants with an established root system should be watered using drip irrigation
- Drip Irrigation needs its own zone because it runs longer than pop up heads

### **Clay Soil:**

Water once a week for 60 minutes

### **Sandy Soil:**

Water two days a week for 30 minutes.





# Watering Guide

## General Watering Guide for Central/Northern Utah

Lawns						Planting Beds						
How Often?	Clay Soil	Sandy Soil	How Long?	Clay Soil	Sandy Soil	When?	How Often?	Clay Soil	Sandy Soil	How Long?	Clay Soil	Sandy Soil
Mother's Day (start watering)	Once every 5 days	Once every 3 days	<b>Rotating</b> 	45 min. total	25 min. total	<b>Before 8 am</b> <b>OR</b> <b>After 8 pm</b> <small>for both lawn and planting beds.</small>	Mother's Day (start watering)	Once every 7 days	Once every 5 days	<b>Drip (Recommended)</b> 	60 minutes	30 minutes
Father's Day	Once every 3 days	Once every 2 days		<b>Fixed</b> 	25 min. total		15 min. total	Father's Day	Once every 4 days		Once every 3 days	<p>If you currently have spray irrigation in your planter beds, we recommend switching to drip.</p> <p>Drip irrigation in planting beds dramatically reduces weeds while saving water.</p>
Labor Day	Once every 5 days	Once every 3 days	Columbus Day		Once every 7 days		Once every 5 days					
Columbus Day	Stop Watering (winterize)		Use the "cycle and soak" method for lawn. Set each zone for half the time needed, run all zones, then run each station a second time. This minimizes water runoff.			Columbus Day	Stop Watering (winterize)					



# Know your plants

## 5 Planting Beds

### Where to look:

- [www.conservationgardenpark.org](http://www.conservationgardenpark.org)
- Google
- Check all plant tags before you buy a plant

### What to look for:

- Size
- Light requirements
- Perennial vs. annual
- Hardiness zone



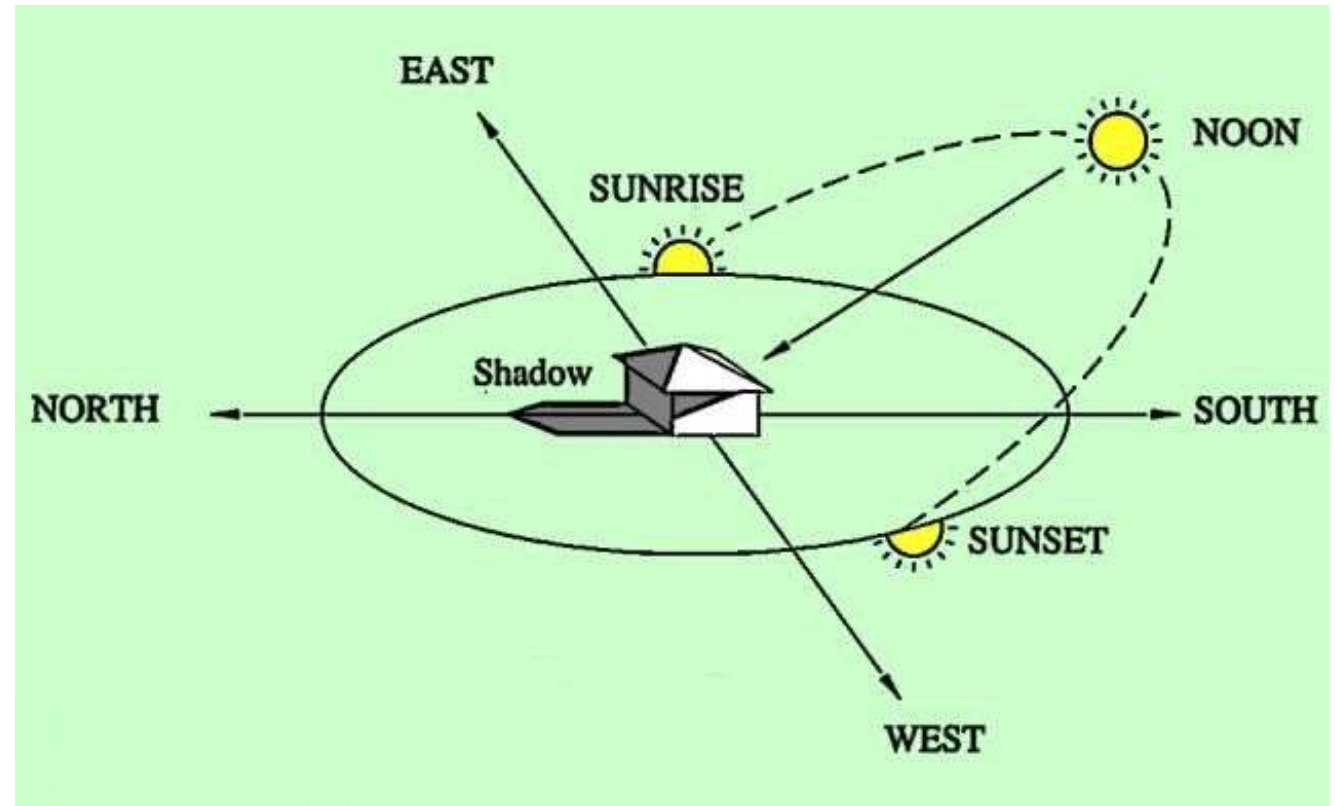
Buy plants by botanical name, not the common name.



# Location Affects Plants

## What is a microclimate?

- A microclimate is when the climate of a small area is different from the area around it
- Some areas of your yard may be warmer or colder, wetter or drier, or less prone to frosts
- Microclimates are very prevalent in side yards and near foundations





Full-sun plants:  
Areas facing south  
and west are the  
best place for heat-  
loving plants.



Masonry walls  
retain heat



## Part-sun plants:

- Require 6 hours of sun or less
- East side walls are a great place for these plants. There is sunlight for half of the day, but the sun is far less intense

Morning Sun is  
less intense





# Shade

5 Planting Beds





# Completed Planting Beds







# Questions?



Apply for other water-saving rebates at:  
[UtahWaterSavers.com](http://UtahWaterSavers.com)





**Landscape for where you live.**

[www.Localscapes.com](http://www.Localscapes.com)

