WaterWise Landscape Rebate Program

Residential Program Guidelines

Conversion Area Requirements

$25 for every 100 sq.ft. converted from turf area to WaterWise landscape (minimum 500 sq.ft.) – maximum rebate check $1,250

≈ 75% of target area must be healthy turf prior to conversion.

≈ Must cap-off automatic sprinkler systems or change to drip or low-use in the converted area

≈ Must install native or adapted plants listed in the Plant Guide at www.growgreen.org (Substitutions require approval)

≈ Conversion area must be comprised of 50% or more plant cover (at plant maturity)

≈ No more than 5% annuals

≈ Plant beds in areas outside of the drip lines of trees must add 1" compost to a minimum of 6" tilled soil.

≈ Top dress plant beds and mulch hardscape areas with a maximum of 2-3" organic mulch

≈ Gravel hardscape must not extend over 3 feet in width

≈ Must use weed barrier under gravel and mulch hardscape

≈ No water features are allowed in converted area

≈ Cannot replace turf grass with another type of turf grass

For information on more ways you can conserve water, visit www.WaterWiseAustin.org

For utility locations call before you dig, toll-free (800) DIG-TESS (344-8377)

Program Information

Austin Water is accepting applications to participate in the WaterWise Landscape Program. WaterWise Landscape refers to landscaping and gardening in ways that reduce or eliminate the need for supplemental water from irrigation. Major water savings can be made by converting your healthy turf grass to native plant beds.

Program Details

≈ Applications will be accepted twice per year, December 1 – March 31 for spring installations and June 1 – September 30 for fall installations.

≈ You may enter the program more than one time if you have another eligible area of turf that can be converted to a WaterWise landscape. One application per period.

Eligibility

≈ Program eligibility will be based upon completion of the application, quality of the turf grass being replaced, and size of the converted area

≈ This program is only available to Austin Water customers or a customer of a qualifying water provider.

Conversion Area Requirements Program Procedures

1. Fill out the application.
2. Applications must be signed and submitted by the property owner/account holder. An account holder which does not own the property will not be allowed to participate without the property owner's permission.
3. Along with the application, a site plan, planting plan, and pre-installation photos must be attached.
4. The site plan and planting plan does not need to be drawn to scale but must show property lines, the house, and include accurate square footage. (Turf area measurement guide attached).
5. Mail application and support information to:

Austin Water Conservation
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767
Or fax to: (512) 974-3504
Or email to: AWUlandscapeconversion@austintexas.gov

6. Austin Water staff will review the application, contact the applicant if a pre-inspection is needed, and provide a written response to the applicant.
7. All conversions must be approved prior to beginning work. Plant material must be installed between March 15 and May 15 (for spring incentive) and between September 15 and November 15 (for fall incentive).
8. Following installation, the applicant must notify Austin Water of completion by submitting final photographs along with applicable receipts and/or invoices for processing.
9. Austin Water staff will review the final materials (schedule a post-inspection if needed) and issue an incentive check within 4-6 weeks of program completion.

WaterWise Landscape Rebate Program

Residential Program Application

Request ID Number _____

(City Use Only)

Please read the program guidelines on page 1 before completing this form.

Please fill out completely (print clearly)

Property Owner/Account Holder _____

Austin Water Account No._____

Qualifying District_____

Installation Address _____ Zip Code _____

Mailing Address _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail Address_____

Primary Phone _____Secondary Phone_____

Proposed conversion area _____Sq. Ft.

Current Turf Grass_____

Current Irrigation Method *(please check one)*:

☐ Automatic ☐ Hose end sprinkler ☐ Hand water ☐ None

Estimated Start Date _____ Estimated Completion Date_____

Person or Company Installing _____

Customer Agreement

☐ I certify that the information I have provided is accurate and that I have read the program guidelines and conversion area requirements.

☐ I understand that Austin Water reserves the right to cancel or modify the program without notice and that rebates are subject to funding availability.

☐ I understand the rebate will be issued as check and will be received 4-6 weeks following final inspection.

☐ I allow Austin Water to track my water use, reference my project in outreach material, and contact me regarding participation in public viewing or promotional tours.

☐ I am aware that Austin Water staff may require a pre-inspection and/or a post-inspection of my property.

☐ I will not begin installation or purchase material until receiving approval from Austin Water.

☐ Any changes to my landscape will have the full approval of my Home Owner Association (HOA), (if applicable).

Printed Name _____

Signature _____

Date_____

CITY OF AUSTIN USE ONLY

Eligible Square Footage _____ /100
= _____ X $25

Amount due customer: _____

Inspected by: _____

Date: _____

Austin WATER Clearly Reliable

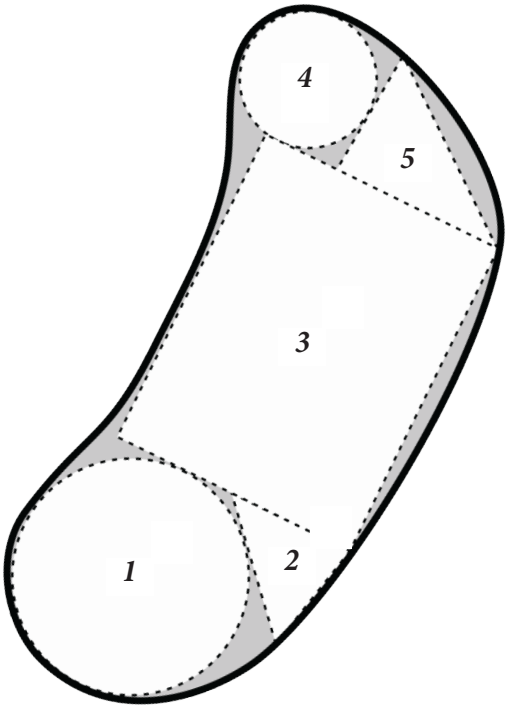
How to Measure Turf Areas

What You'll Need

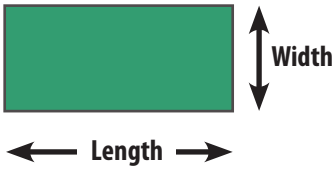
- *Tape measure or wheel*
- *Plain or graph paper*

Directions

1. Sketch the shape of the area of lawn that you want to replace.
2. Most landscapes are not perfectly shaped. If yours is irregular, break the landscape into separate squares, rectangles, circles and triangles, as shown at right. Measure the square footage of each shape, and add the area measurements together.

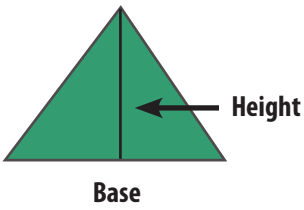


Rectangle or square



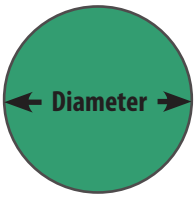
Area = Length x Width
in feet

Triangle



Area = Base x Height x 0.5
in feet

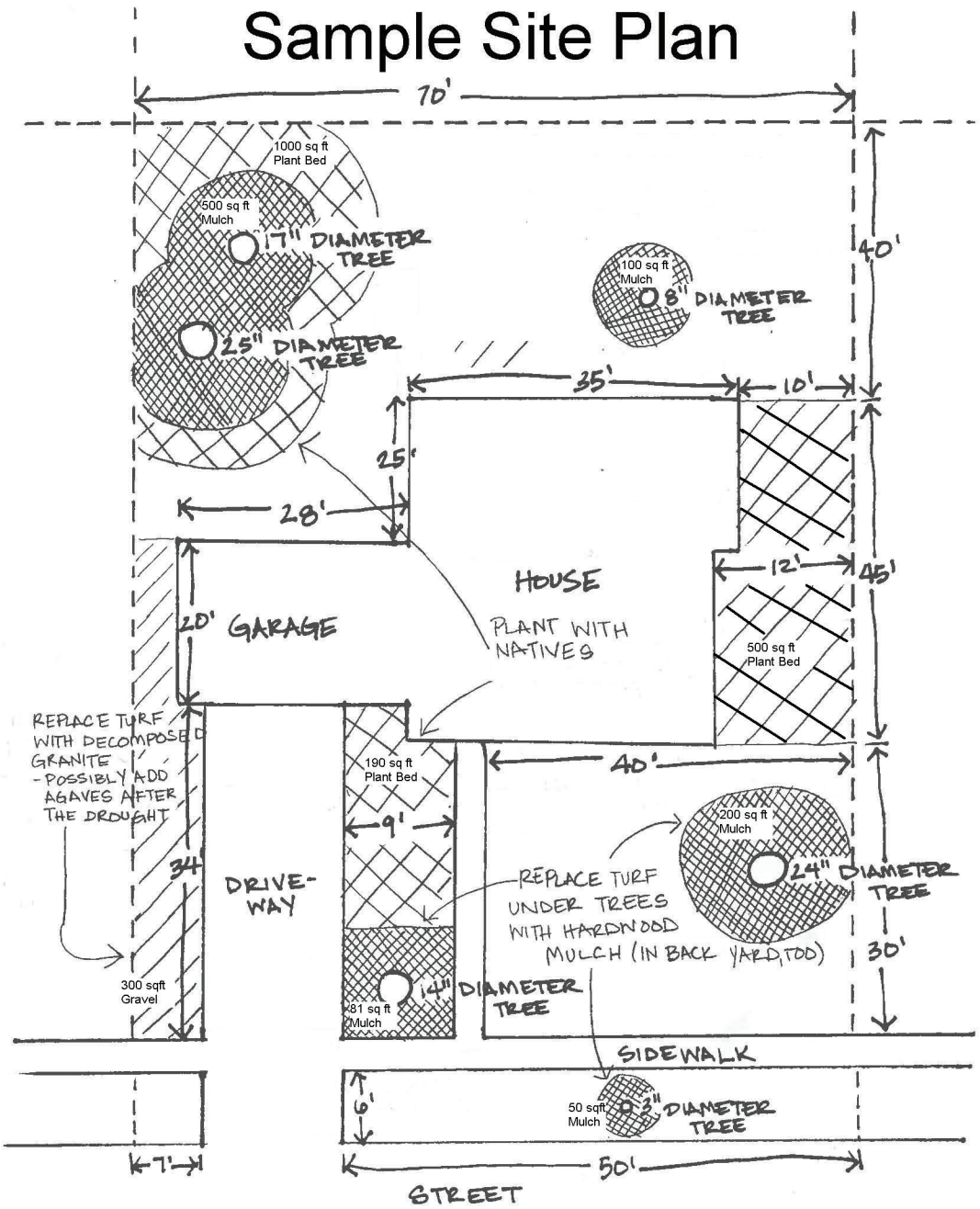
Circle



Radius = Diameter x 0.5
Area = 3.14 x Radius x Radius
in feet

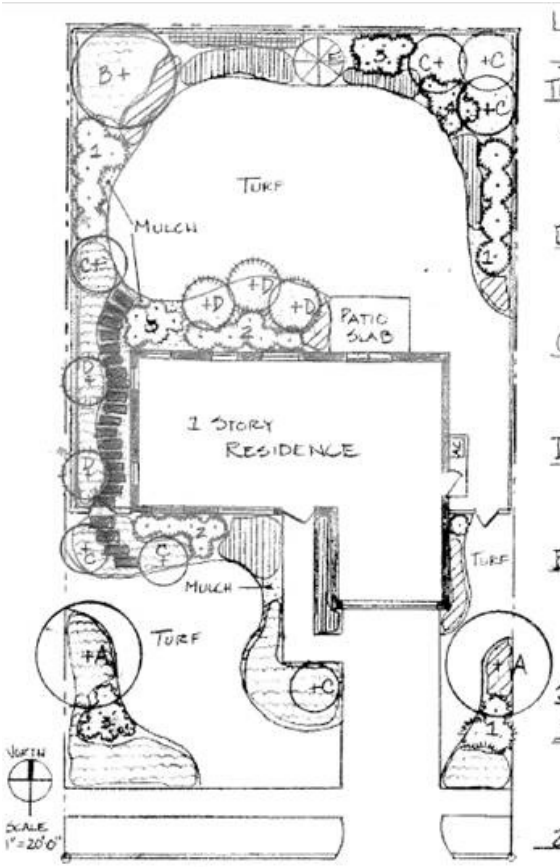
Austin WATER

Sample Site Plan



*NOT TO SCALE

Sample Planting Plan



LEGEND OF SUGGESTED PLANTS

TREES:

A. DECIDUOUS SHADE
- BUR OAK
- CEDAR ELM
- TEXAS ASH

B. EVERGREEN SHADE
- LIVE OAK
- SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA
- DEODAR CEDAR

C. DECIDUOUS ORNAMENTA
- TEXAS REDBUD
- MEXICAN PLUM
- ESCARPMENT BLACK CH

D. EVERGREEN ORNAME
- TEXAS MOUNTAIN LAUR
- TEXAS PERSIMMON
- YAUPON HOLLY

E. ACCENT PLANT
- MEXICAN BUCKEYE
- ANACACHO ORCHID TR
- DESERT WILLOW

SHRUBS

1. LARGE EVERGREEN
- EVERGREEN SUMAC
- BURFORD HOLLY
- ELAEGINUS

2. DWARF EVERGREEN
- DWARF YAUPON HOLLY
- DWARF BURFORD HOLL
- NANDINA

3. SEMI-EVERGREEN
- MEXICAN OREGANO
- AUTUMN SAGE
- ROSE MALLOW

4. DECIDUOUS
- AMERICAN BEAUTY BER
- FLAME ACANTHUS
- BUTTERFLY BUSH

PERENNIALS/VINES/GROUNDCOVERS

SUN-LOVING PERENNIALS
COREOPSIS, BLACKFOOT DAISY, VERBENA

SUN/SHADE PERENNIALS
SALVIAS, TURKS CAP, PURPLE CONEFLOWER

VINES
CORAL HONEYSUCKLE, CORAL VINE, LADY BANKSIA ROSE

GROUNDCOVER
WINTERCREEPER, TRAILING LANTANA, ASIAN JASMINE