
Plant Selection

- American Mountain Ash
- Amur Maple
- Basin Big Sage
- Black Walnut
- Blue Elderberry
- Caragana
- Chokecherry
- Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany
- Golden Currant
- Kinnikinnick
- Mockorange
- Mugo Pine
- Ninebark
- Ocean-spray
- Red Flowering Currant
- Red Osier Dogwood
- Rocky Mountain Maple
- Serviceberry
- Snowberry
- Western Sandcherry
- Woods' Rose



Chokecherry



Mockorange

An example of a SmartScape is on display on the two-acre grounds of the Spokane County Conservation District.

The office is located at 210 North Havana Street, on the southwest corner of the Spokane Interstate Fairgrounds.

The grounds are open to the public Monday-Friday, from 8:00am-4:30 pm.

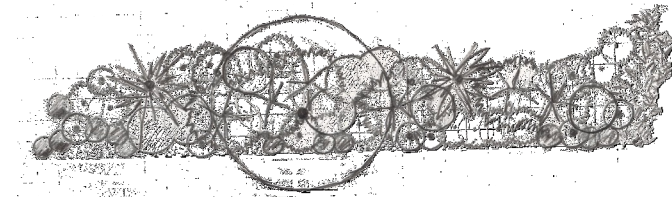
To arrange a tour, please call
509-535-7274.



*A landscape approach to
conserving water and
protecting the environment*

For more information, please contact:

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What is SmartScaping?

SmartScaping is an approach to yard and garden design and maintenance that promotes water conservation through creative landscape design using native and/or drought tolerant plants.

The basic concepts began as a way of lessening the effects of water shortages while maintaining the aesthetic qualities of the home landscape.

SmartScaping is not...

- **Barren landscape**

Even though dry-only landscaping can be quite colorful, and even lush, limited areas of more highly-watered landscape are completely consistent with wise water use.

- **Rock gardens**

Although dry (xeric) rock gardens can be beautiful, there are many wonderful choices other than rock for the xeric portions of SmartScape designs. Xeric implies no added water. By definition, SmartScape means some water applied in well-controlled amounts and locations in the landscape.

- **Simply native plants**

Although there are vast arrays of wonderful plants indigenous to all regions, non-invasive introduced plants, that are well-adapted to the local regional climate, are wonderful additions to landscaping that uses water frugally.

- **Ugly**

It includes displays of bright colors and diverse plants!



The Seven Principles of SmartScaping

Plan & Design are important for the creation of a water-conserving landscape.

- Determine the form & function
- Assess existing conditions (e.g. *light, soil*)
- Save mature plants when possible
- Do you really need a lawn?

Practical Lawn Areas should be planted with a purpose and function in the landscape. Look for drought tolerant varieties which require less mowing, watering & fertilizing.

Appropriate Plants need to be grouped together according to their water needs. Large areas of plants with low water needs will allow the maximum water conservation.

Soil Improvement with organic matter, such as compost or manure, can improve root development as well as water penetration and retention.

Mulch is your friend. It should be used around plants to reduce watering needs, reduce weed growth, slow erosion, and help prevent fluctuations in soil temperatures. Avoid any solid plastic which prevents water penetration and aeration.



EVEN SMARTSCAPES NEED WATER!

Efficient Irrigation with a properly designed and maintained system will save water. Once the root systems of the plants are established, you will be able to cut back on water use. Always water close to the ground; avoid oscillating sprinklers that send water

high in the air. Change the watering times on an automatic sprinkler system once a month to reflect the different watering requirements, such as more water is needed in the hot months.

Appropriate Maintenance such as proper mowing, pruning, weeding, fertilizing, and irrigating will contribute to the sustainability of this landscape.

These principles of SmartScaping will ensure an attractive, healthy landscape with the use of “just the right” amount of water!

Plant Selection is Key!

Native plants are a good start, but you should choose plants based on specific site conditions and micro-climates and group plants with similar water needs in appropriate areas.

Plants with leaves that are small, thick, glossy, silver-gray or fuzzy tend to be most water conserving.

Use larger plants to create wind breaks or shady areas to reduce evaporation and water needs.

Minimize lawn areas and water appropriately where they exist.



Advantages

Aside from creating a beautiful landscape, SmartScaping offers many benefits, such as:

- Lower water bills
- Less time spent on maintenance
- Increased habitat for native birds, bees and butterflies
- More water available for other household uses

