



# The Landscape Lawn Exchange

## Purpose:

The intent of the Landscape Lawn Exchange program is to reduce the amount of water that needs to be applied on lawns by reducing the amount of lawn in a landscape, while also creating and maintaining attractive landscapes.

## What is offered:

Weber Basin Water Conservancy District and the State of Utah have partnered to provide funding for this program. After an inspection to ensure compliance with program requirements, participants will receive \$2.50 per square foot of lawn that is removed and replaced by water-efficient landscaping, which includes the addition of plant material. Initial approval of the project does not guarantee payment. Weber Basin Water Conservancy District has budget funds for this program each year. The program is based on a first-come, first-served basis and will continue until funding is gone for the current year. Funding will be monitored, and applications may be denied or put on hold if funding runs out. Funding is set aside for any participant that has completed all application requirements and is approved in the program.

## Need to know:

1. Approved participants will have **12 months** from the date of the initial video call to complete the project. **NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GIVEN.** It is recommended that you do not apply for the program until you are ready to begin work.
2. Projects can be completed in phases. A separate application will be required for each phase of the total project.
3. No final inspection appointments will be scheduled after October 31<sup>st</sup>
4. Replacing lawn with plants is required. Details below.

## Eligibility:

1. All areas of the property, front yard, back yard, side yard, and park strips, that are currently planted in lawn are eligible.
2. Project area must be a minimum of 250 square feet and currently landscaped with living, well-maintained lawn. **If lawn has been killed or removed prior to a pre-conversion video call, which approves you into the program, you are not eligible for this program.**
3. Participation is voluntary. Projects required by governmental codes or policy are not eligible for this program.
4. Projects replacing a traditional lawn area with a native or drought-tolerant lawn are not discouraged but are not eligible for the incentive program. This is a lawn removal and replacement program where lawn is replaced with low-water landscaping without lawn.
5. Replacement of existing drip, mulch/rock/gravel, or plants does not qualify for an incentive payment. This program is intended for lawn replacement only.
6. It is the participant's responsibility to verify that their project complies with city ordinances and requirements.

7. An agreement will be required to be signed by each participant. Also, participants will be required to submit an IRS W-9 form.
8. Projects that have been started or completed before applying, initial video call, or signed agreement are ineligible for this program.

## Program Requirements:

1. Replacing lawn with concrete, asphalt, mortared brick or pavers, or other impermeable surfaces are not eligible for payment. Areas covered with artificial turf also are not eligible for payment.
2. Plant coverage is required for all projects. Total relandscaped area must have at least 35% of the area in plant coverage at the plant's maturity. (For example: This roughly equals 5- 3' diameter plants for every 100 square feet of project space.) Projects will also require 1 medium (25-40 ft wide) to large (25-40+ ft wide), drought tolerant shade tree to be planted for every 3000 square feet of project area. (Tree requirement exemptions allowed for properties with overhead powerlines and existing trees.) Trees planted in park strips must follow all city ordinances.
3. Annual flowers, other annual plants, and flower bulbs are not eligible to achieve the 35% plant coverage requirement.
4. Completed projects may not result in areas of lawn less than 8 feet wide at their narrowest point. Lawn may not be in park strips or used as a path.
5. Lawn within the completed project area may not be on slopes greater than 25% or 4:1 grade.
6. At least 3-4 inches of mulch (such as bark, rock, or gravel), permeable to air and water, shall be used in planting beds to control weeds and improve the appearance of the landscaping.
7. Participants will be advised to not remove existing trees as part of the conversion, but doing so will not disqualify them from receiving the incentive. Trees must be planted or left in the landscape if required by the city.
8. Participant waives and releases Weber Basin Water Conservancy District and their contractors or agents from any and all claims and causes of action arising out of the installation and use of devices pursuant to this program.
9. Commercial properties where the footprint of the building(s) occupies multiple parcels will be considered one property and are still subject to the maximum of \$50,000 limit per property.
10. Planting areas must be irrigated with low-volume drip systems. Drip systems must include a filter and pressure regulator for each drip zone visible for inspection.
11. Lawn (overhead sprinklers) and planting beds (drip irrigation) may not be on the same irrigation valve (irrigation zone).
12. Drip emitters must be rated at 5 gallons per hour or less.
13. Micro-spray emitters, bubblers and soaker hoses are not allowed.