

Designing Water Smart Landscapes Activity

Objective: Create a water smart home landscape.

Materials Needed:

graph paper
tracing paper
colored pencils
tape measure



1. Measure the property. Measure the perimeters of the existing buildings for your plan.
2. Draw your base map using graph paper. Draw the existing buildings to scale, and include the driveway and walkways.
3. Using tracing paper over your base map, indicate the private, public, and service areas of your landscape.
4. Using another piece of tracing paper, determine water zones.
Low: areas that will only receive rainwater
Moderate: areas that will need water when they show symptoms of water stress such as shrubs and perennials
High: visible areas that may demand the most water
5. On tracing paper, draw areas for beds and other elements in your design.
6. Choose plants, trees, and flowers for your design using the Aggie Horticulture website:
<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/plantanswers/publications/publications.html>
Draw the plants, using tracing paper.



Citizenship Activity

Develop a water smart plan for a non-profit organization in the community.

Character

A person of character respects our natural resources for future generations.

Reference

For additional assistance with planning your home landscape, refer to “Planning the Home Landscape” (<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/extension/homelandscape/home.html>), which provides a step-by-step process for analyzing a site, taking measurements, drawing a base plan, etc.