



# RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE REVITALIZATION WORKBOOK



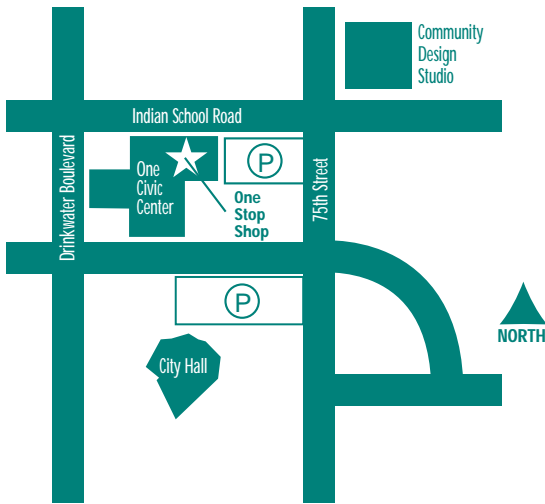


*This workbook is offered as a guide only and is not intended to be used as a legally binding document for landscape and construction standards. The City of Scottsdale disclaims all liability in connection with the use of this workbook.*

# General Information

## One Stop Shop Information

If at anytime during the process you have questions about this workbook, your specific remodel or would like to contact someone regarding your application requirements, please contact the City's One Stop Shop at (480) 312-2500.



**One Stop Shop Main Number**  
480-312-2500

**One Stop Shop Permit Counter**  
City of Scottsdale  
First Floor, One Civic Center  
7447 E. Indian School Rd.  
[www.ScottsdaleAZ.gov/onestopshop](http://www.ScottsdaleAZ.gov/onestopshop)  
(480) 312-2500  
Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesday

**One Stop Shop Records Counter**  
City of Scottsdale  
First Floor, One Civic Center  
7447 E. Indian School Rd.  
(480) 312-2356  
Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesday

## Other Important Phone Numbers

**Arizona Blue Stake Center**  
(locating Utility lines)  
(602) 263-1100

**Arizona Registrar of Contractors**  
(480) 542-1525

**Building Code Hotline**  
(480) 312-2633

**Building Official (Building Variances)**  
(480) 312-7080

**Code Enforcement**  
(480) 312-2546

**Housing Resources Program**  
(480) 312-4304

**Inspections and Land Survey**  
(general inspection questions and permit extensions)  
(480) 312-5750

**Plan Review**  
(480) 312-7080

**Water Conservation**  
(480) 312-5650

## Graphics Legend

Throughout this workbook, you will see various graphics to draw your attention to important points.



**Question Mark**  
Indicates commonly asked questions



**Flag**  
Indicates those things you need to be aware of



**Helpful Hint**  
Indicates helpful ideas and information

# Introduction

## Envision Your Yard

Would a cool umbrella of shade welcome you home at the end of your day? Could a colorful display of flowers energize you? Maybe the sight of an easy-care landscape would evoke a sigh of relief.

Two of Scottsdale's local landscape architects have teamed up to bring these visions to life. They have designed seven unique landscape options for you - Birdscape, Colorscape, EZscape, Flutterscape, Nativescape, Shadescape, and Verdescape. Each has a look and character all its own. Choose the one that suits your taste and fits your lifestyle. All of the landscapes have been designed with the low-water-use principles of Xeriscape\* in mind; so they are both beautiful and water efficient.

In addition to the landscape designs, the workbook includes photographs, contact numbers, information on permits, and a listing of booklets that are available to help with the installation and maintenance of your new landscape.



*Information on Xeriscape principles and the step-by-step guide **Xeriscape, Landscaping With Style In The Arizona Desert** is available to assist you with installing and caring for your landscape. Ask for it at the One Stop Shop or the Water Conservation Office. All plants selected for the landscapes comply with the Arizona Department of Water Resources Low-Water-Use/Drought Tolerant Plant List.*



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Welcome to the City of Scottsdale's Remodeling Workbook. This easy to use 5-step workbook has been developed to assist you with renovating your front yard landscaping.

Most landscape professionals agree that the average lifespan of any given landscape is about 20 years. As many of Scottsdale's neighborhoods mature, a growing number of homeowners are opting to renovate their landscapes.

This reinvestment by residents not only beautifies their homes, but also contributes to the value of their neighborhoods and the surrounding community.

Based on real estate studies on home landscaping investments, homeowners can garner returns up to 200%.



**How to Use This Workbook**  
The step-by-step format of the workbook is easy to follow and will guide you through the landscaping process. References to additional resources for further assistance are offered throughout the workbook and have been compiled in the Resources section.

## Before Beginning Your Project

### Checklist

- If you have a homeowners' association, check the Covenants, Codes, and Restrictions (CC&Rs) to determine if there are landscaping guidelines or plant selection restrictions in your neighborhood. Scottsdale's Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO) restricts landscape requirements in the northern portions of the city.
- Plan to apply for approvals when necessary. Many landscaping improvement projects, including the removal of certain types of plants, wall construction, and grading or significant terrain alterations, require prior plan approval from the City of Scottsdale. If you are unsure whether a permit is required, please contact the city's One Stop Shop at 480-312-2500.
- Before digging, call Arizona Blue Stake Center (1-800-STAKE IT) for free assistance in locating and marking underground power-lines and other utilities.



### Share the Cost

A landscape rebate is available for converting water intensive landscape to low-water-use Xeriscape. For more information and requirements, contact Water Conservation at 480-312-5650.

Your neighborhood may be eligible for a grant through the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. For application information contact Citizen and Neighborhood Resources at 480-312-3111.



### Need Help?

Landscape professionals can help with all or part of your landscaping project.

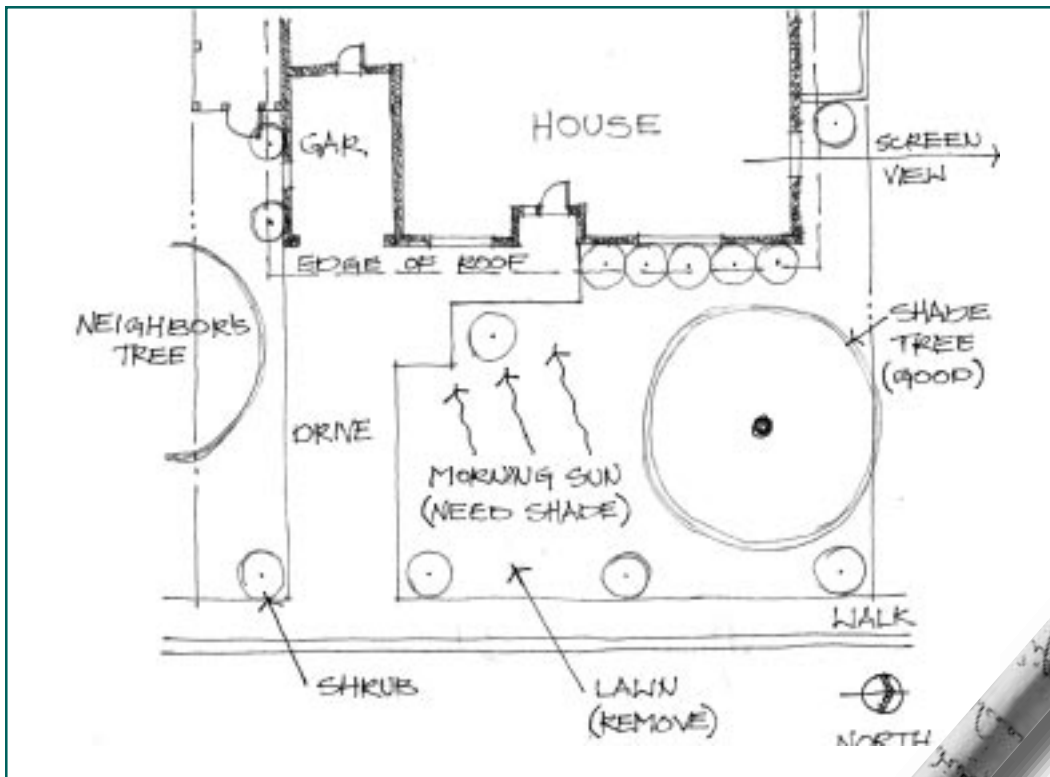
Tips for choosing professional services can be found in the *Xeriscape* brochure (p.19).



### Be a good neighbor

Respect property boundaries when altering storm-water drainage and placing trees and plant material.

## Identify Existing Conditions



### Sketch Your Yard

Sketching your yard as it looks now will help define landscape considerations for choosing a design, and the measurements will be helpful when making adjustments for size and the number of plants needed for the design. A simple sketch with basic dimensions will do. Use one of the worksheets and the landscape legend on pages 5-10 and follow the Seven Steps to Site Assessment. Several worksheets are included, so you can make changes easily or experiment with a number of designs.







## Identify Existing Conditions

### Seven Steps to Site Assessment

1. Measure your front yard and draw a map on the Site Assessment Worksheet provided on page 5 using a scale of 1 in. equals 10 ft.
2. Indicate north on the arrow.
3. Note location of overhead and underground utility lines and public utility easements. (Trees should not be planted in public easements or within 7' of water/sewer lines and 10' of ground-mounted transformers.)
4. Note sunny and shady areas of the yard.
5. Note location of doors, windows, and points of access into the yard.
6. Note location of gables and gutters or where rain drains from the roof.
7. Identify and note existing plants that you wish to incorporate into the new landscape as well as existing hardscape elements that will be retained, such as patios, walkways, and walls.



### Microclimates

The climate in a yard can be modified by factors such as sun or shade, heat reflected from buildings, or even contours in the landscape. Identifying the various microclimates in your yard will help you make appropriate plant selections.



### Relocating Plants

Desert trees and palms fare best if moved during the summer when they are actively growing.



### Free Water!

Rainwater harvesting retains and uses the water that falls on the site. If your design incorporates rainwater harvesting, as in the Nativescape, identify locations where water usually collects or where it will be retained.



### Water Runoff

Rooftop runoff may need to be directed away from the house or hardscapes. It can also be directed through grading and contouring to turf, trees, and planted areas.



# Landscape Legend

SYMBOL	PLANT	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY
	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME			





# Landscape Legend

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SYMBOL	PLANT BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY
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# Landscape Legend

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SYMBOL	PLANT BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY
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## Choose a Design Theme

### Things to Consider

When you have completed the site assessment, you are ready to choose a landscape design. While the designs are intended to complement any home, you may find that a particular theme fits with the architecture of your home or is more appropriate for your neighborhood. Answering the following questions will help you decide which design suits your needs and your lifestyle.

### How do you want your yard to look?

Do you prefer a certain style or look? If you envision your yard with lawn, the Verdescape may be a good choice. However, if the beauty of the desert captivates you, the Nativescape may be the look you prefer.

### How do you use your yard?

Define your lifestyle. Lifestyles are often related to life stages, such as child rearing or retirement, which affect the use and purpose of the yard.

- Do children or pets play in the area?
- Where do you entertain?
- Do you spend leisure time in your yard?
- Do you enjoy attracting and watching wildlife?
- Do you spend weeks or months away from your home each year?

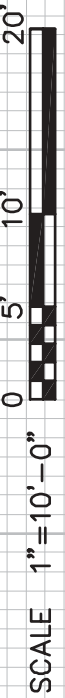
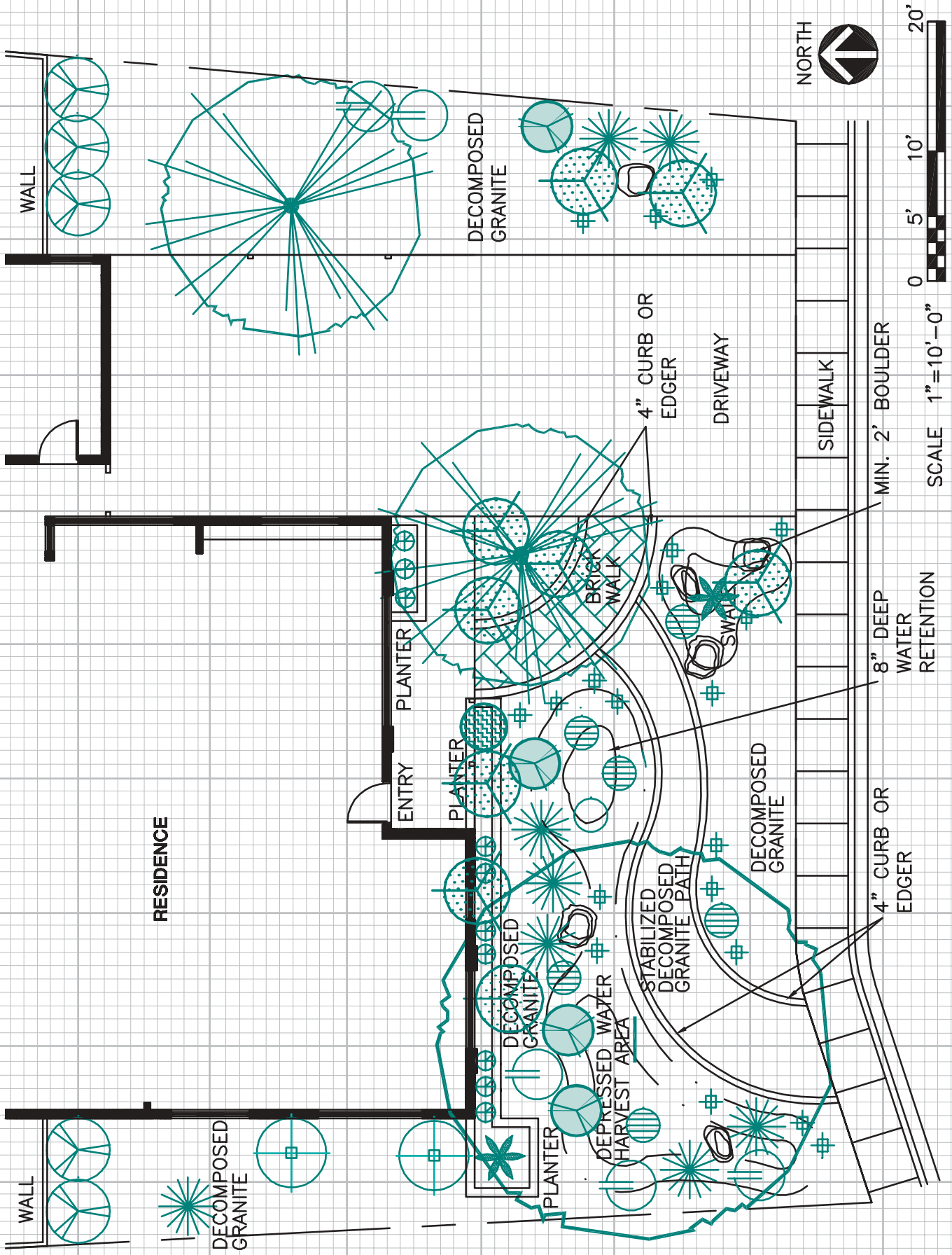
### How much time do you want to devote to landscape maintenance?

The maintenance requirements of a landscape can vary significantly. While avid gardeners may relish time spent maintaining their yard, a household with young children and a schedule filled with outside activities could make EZscape the perfect choice. If time is a factor, consider these guidelines when choosing a design:















- Simple planting designs can make irrigation and maintenance of a landscape easier.
- Natural looking landscapes typically require less time and energy to maintain than manicured landscapes.





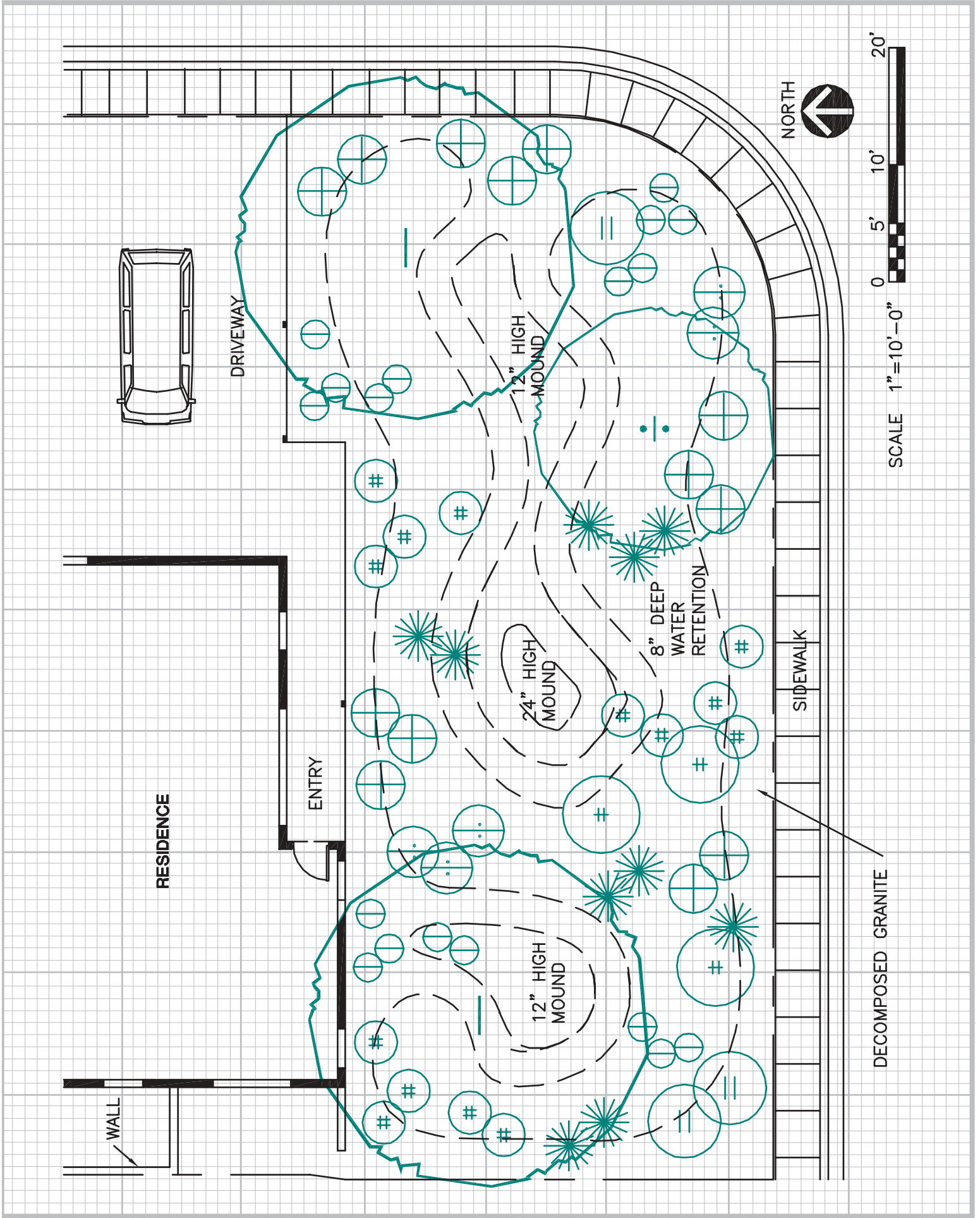


# BIRDSCAPE LEGEND

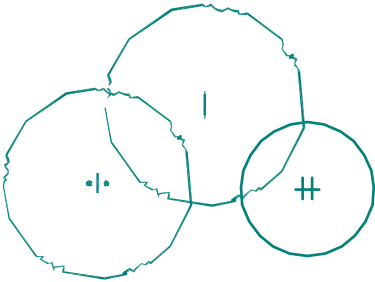
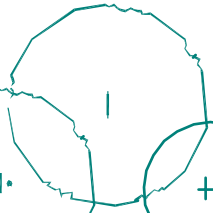







SYMBOL	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY
	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i> /Desert Willow	25' x 20'	Full sun	2
	<i>Cercidium floridum</i> (Parkinsonia florida)/ Blue Palo Verde	30' x 30'	Reflected sun/full sun	1
	<i>Justicia spicigera</i> /Mexican Honeysuckle	3' x 3'	Full sun/part shade	7
	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i> /Deer Grass	4' x 4'	Full sun/part shade	4
	<i>Dalea frutescens</i> /Black Dalea	3' x 4'	Full sun/part shade	5
	<i>Penstemon eatonii</i> /Firecracker Penstemon	1' x 1.5'	Full sun/part shade	10*
	<i>Tecoma stans</i> /Yellow Bells	6' x 6'	Full sun/part shade	5
	<i>Punica granatum</i> 'Nana'/'Nana' Dwarf Pomegranate	8' x 6'	Full sun/part shade	2
	<i>Agave palmeri</i> /Palmer's Agave	3' x 3'	Full sun/part shade	2
	<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i> /Red Yucca	3' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	8
	<i>Baileya multiradiata</i> /Desert Marigold	1' x 1'	Full sun	20*
	<i>Aloe vera</i> /Medicinal Aloe	2' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	9
	Bird bath (small earthenware wok bowl)			1
	Boulder (natural surface select, various sizes)			6

The beauty and antics of birds are both delightful and entertaining. The Birdscape is designed to invite birds into the landscape and features plants that offer food, shelter and nesting sites. Native birds are often attracted to trees that are indigenous to our region and to plants that are a food source they recognize. Plants that produce bright berries or seeds are sure to attract a wide range of birds, while hummingbirds are drawn to red and orange tubular flowers.

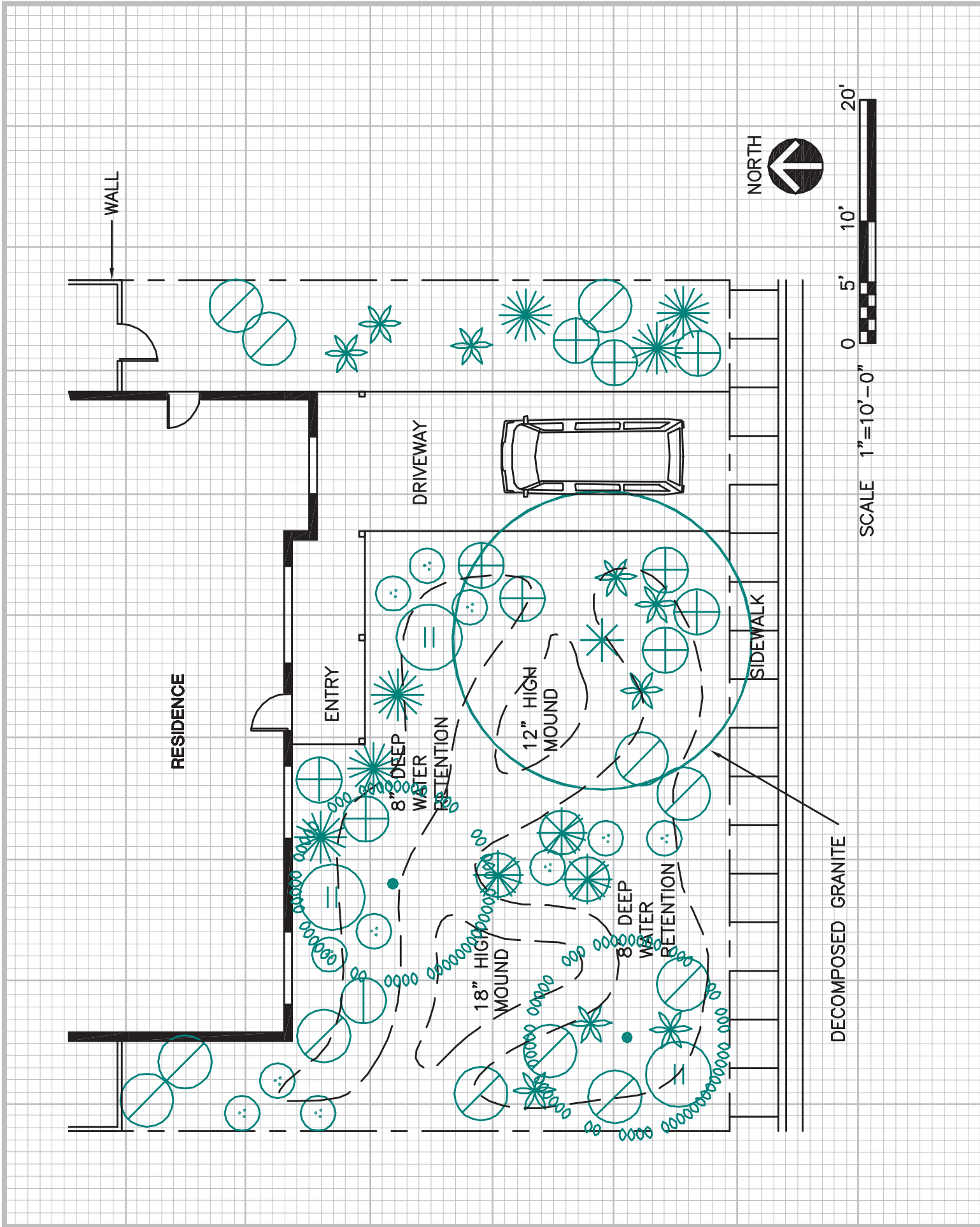
\*Seeds may be used to replace or supplement plantings.



# COLORSCAPE LEGEND

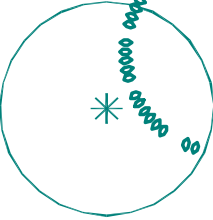








SYMBOL	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	BLOOM SEASON	QUANTITY
	Acacia farnesiana/Sweet Acacia	20' x 20'	Full sun	W-Sp	1
	Cercidium floridum (Parkinsonia florida)/Blue Palo Verde	30' x 30'	Reflected sun/full sun	Sp	2
	Bauhinia lunarioides/Anacacho Orchid Tree	8' x 6'	Full sun/part shade	Sp	3
	Justicia californica/Chuparosa	4' x 4'	Full sun/part shade	W-Sp	14
	Lantana montevidensis/Training Lavender Lantana	1' x 4'	Full sun	Sp/S/F	13
	Caesalpinia pulcherrima/Red Bird of Paradise	6' x 6'	Full sun	S	3
	Ericameria laricifolia/Turpentine Bush	2' x 3'	Full sun	F	18
	Dalea pulchra/Bush Dalea	4' x 5'	Full sun	W-Sp	5
	Hesperaloe parviflora/Red Yucca	3' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	Sp-S	10

Vibrant colors combine to energize the Colorscape. Trees and shrubs with a variety of bloom periods are combined with an array of prolific and long-blooming perennials. A captivating landscape that changes through the seasons, Colorscape offers a delightful element of surprise in the landscape.

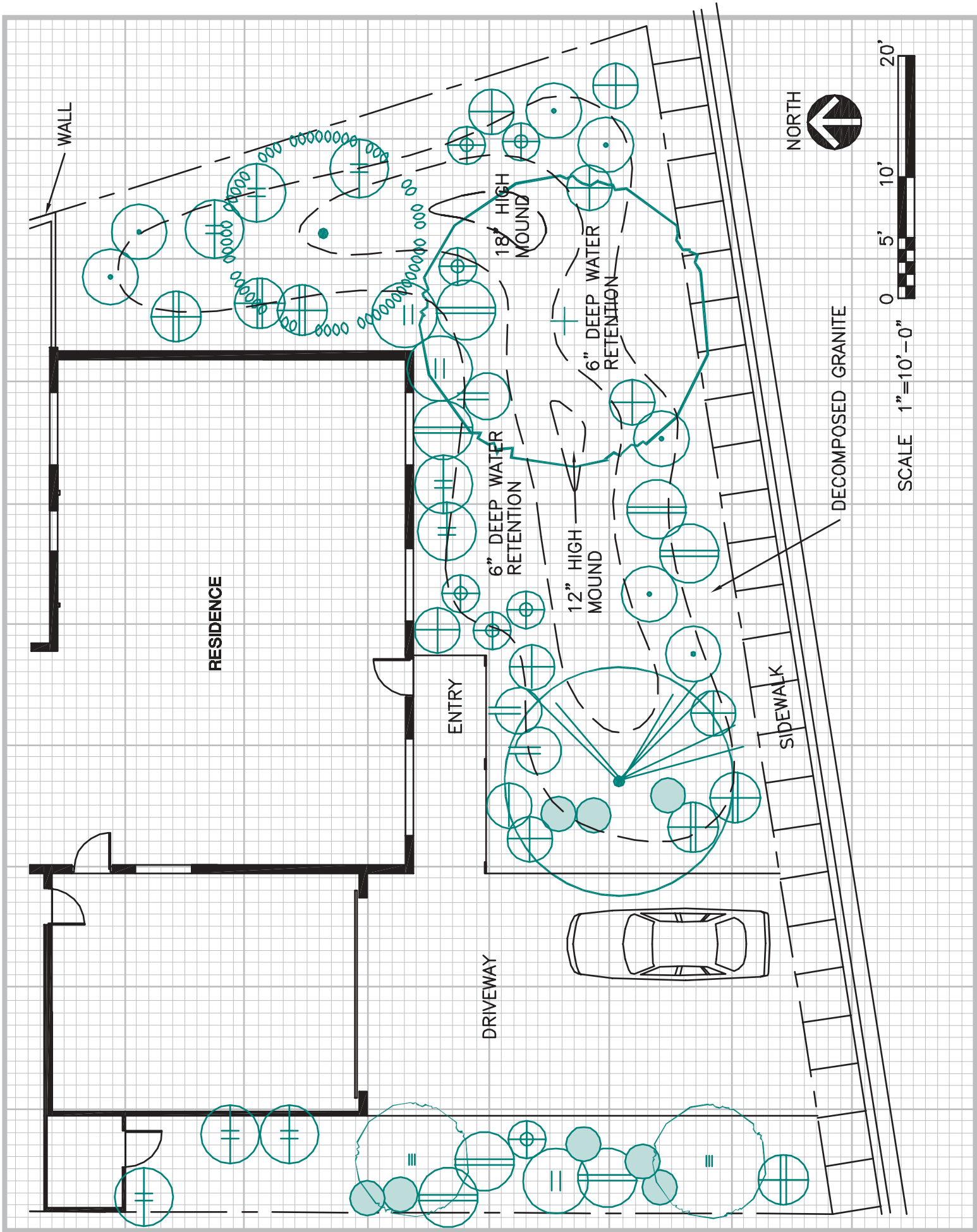




# EZCAPE LEGEND

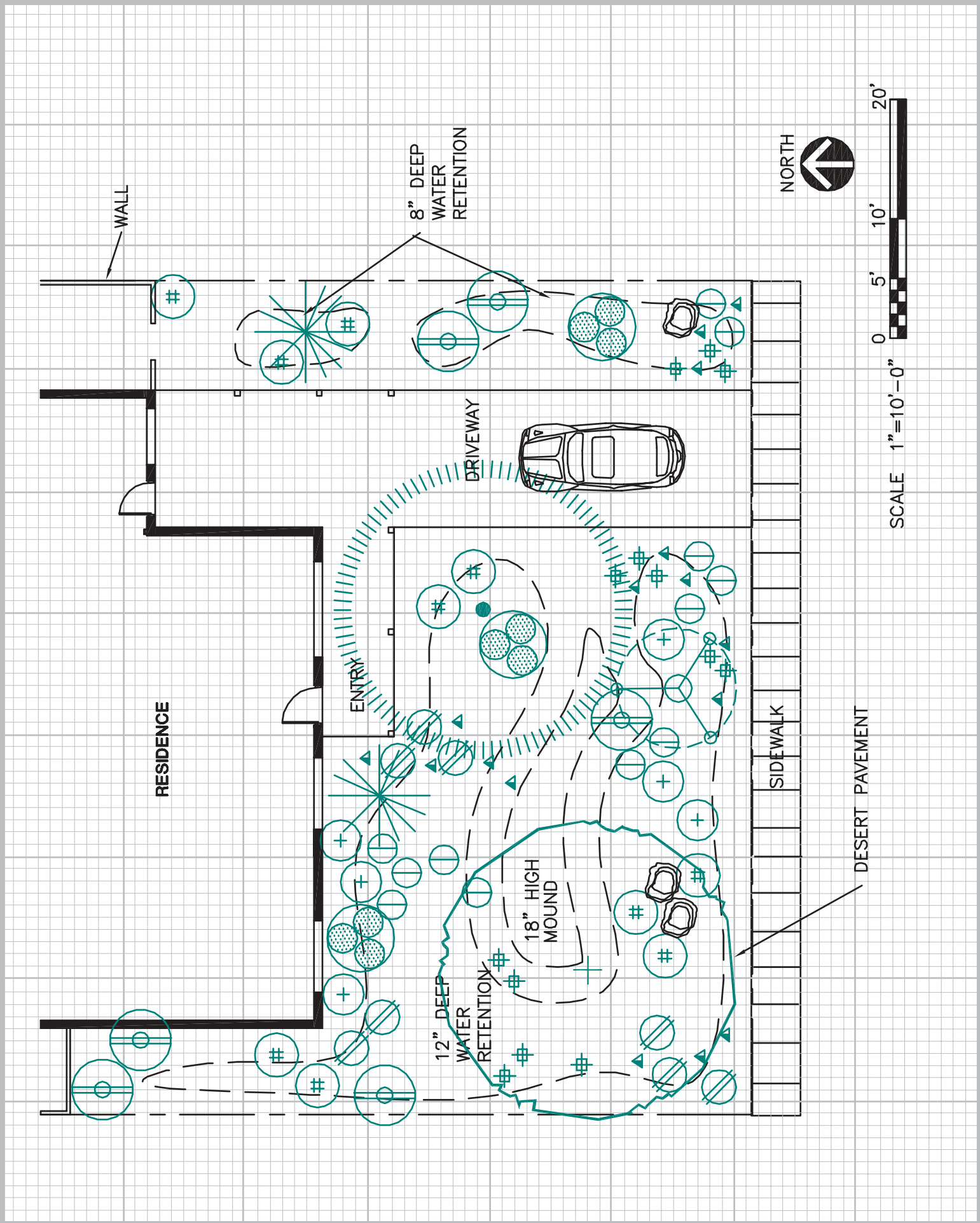
SYMBOL	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY
	<i>Olea europea</i> 'Swan Hill' / 'Swan Hill' Olive	25' x 25'	Full sun/part shade	1
	<i>Ebenopsis ebano</i> ( <i>Pithecellobium flexicaule</i> )/Texas Ebony	20' x 15'	Full sun	2
	<i>Dasyllirion wheeleri</i> /Desert Spoon	4' x 4'	Full sun/part shade	3
	<i>Lantana montevidensis</i> / Trailing Lavender Lantana	1' x 4'	Full sun	10
	<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i> / Red Bird of Paradise	6' x 6'	Full sun	3
	<i>Agave desmettiana</i> /Smooth Agave	3' x 3'	Part sun/shade	9
	<i>Convolvulus cneorum</i> / Bush Morning Glory	2' x 3'	Full sun/part shade	11
	<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i> /Red Yucca	3' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	6
	<i>Leucophyllum langmaniae</i> /Langman's Sage	5' x 5'	Full sun	12

Simplicity of design is a strength of the EZscape that carries through to simplify both irrigation and landscape maintenance. Undemanding and tough, drought tolerant plants work hard in this landscape so you don't have to. Plants with pleasing natural forms seldom require pruning, and a minimum of litter will make this landscape easy to maintain.



# FLUTTERSCAPE LEGEND

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY	
	Lysiloma microphylla/Feather Bush	15' x 15'	Full sun/part shade	1	<p>Butterflies floating through the landscape create a serene setting. A landscape designed to attract butterflies, the colorful Flutterscape entices butterflies into the yard with nectar-producing flowers for the adults to feed on and foodplants for their young. Large open flower clusters serve as landing pads that encourage them to linger in the yard.</p>
	Ebenopsis ebano (Pithecellobium flexicaule)/Texas Ebony	20' x 15'	Full sun	1	
	Prosopis velutina/Velvet Mesquite	25' x 25'	Full sun	1	
	Eysenhardtia orthocarpa/Kidneywood	15' x 10'	Full sun/part shade	2	
	Dalea frutescens/Black Dalea	3' x 4'	Full sun	3	
	Calliandra californica/Baja Fairy Duster	5' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	8	
	Verbena gooddingii/Goodding's Verbena	1' x 3'	Full sun/part shade	8	
	Buddleia marrubifolia/Woolly Butterfly Bush	5' x 5'	Full sun	7	
	Lantana montevidensis/Trailing Lavender Lantana	1' x 4'	Full sun	9	
	Lantana camara hybrid/Bush Lantana	4' x 4'	Full sun	6	
	Caesalpinia pulcherrima/Red Bird of Paradise	6' x 6'	Full sun	3	
	Leucophyllum laevigatum/Chihuahuan Sage	4' x 5'	Full sun	7	
	Asclepias subulata/Desert Milkweed	3' x 3'	Full sun	7	



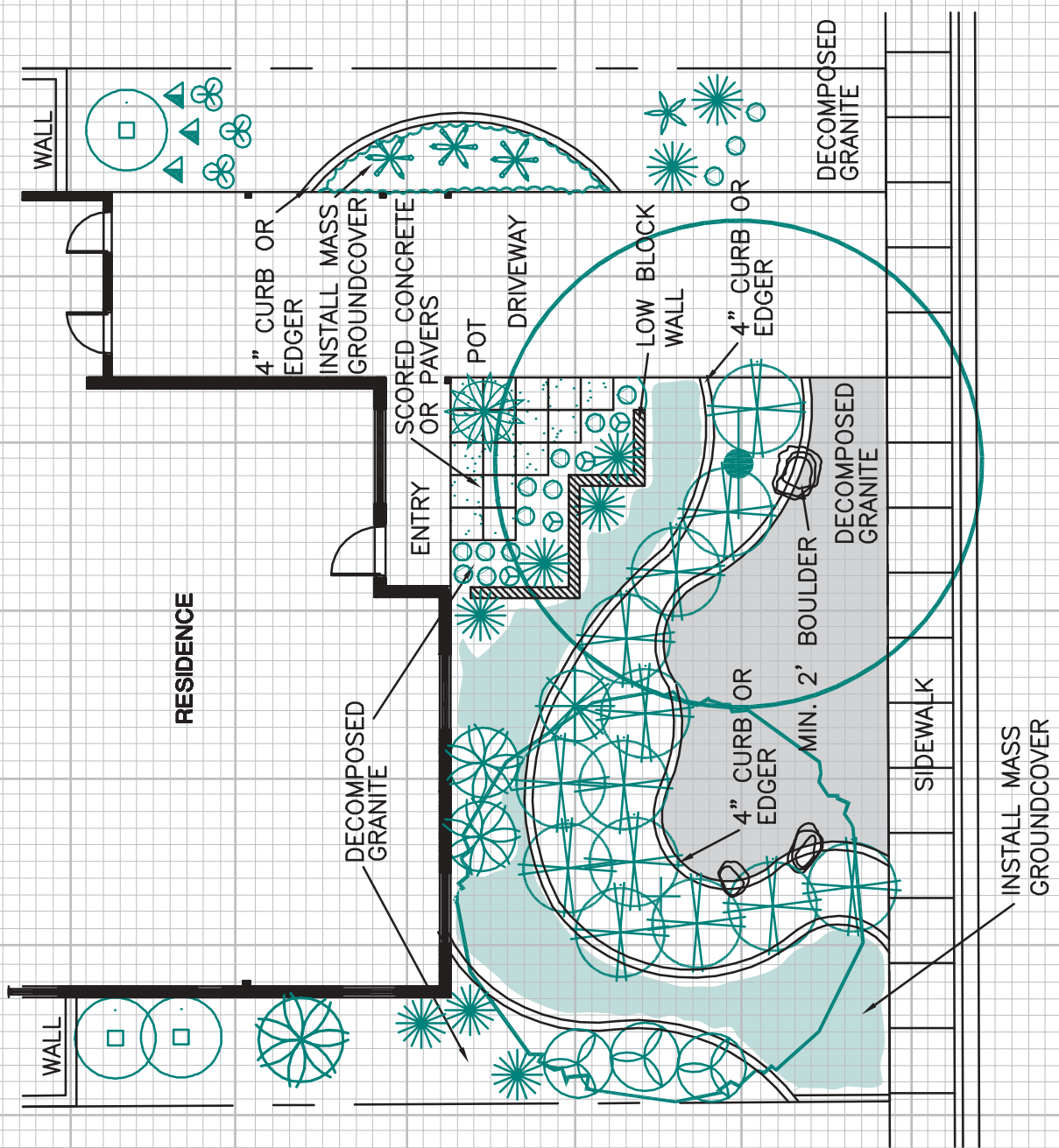
# NATIVESCAPE LEGEND

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY
	<i>Carnegiea gigantea</i> /Saguaro	20' x 10'	Full sun/part shade	1
	<i>Prosopis velutina</i> /Velvet Mesquite	25' x 25'	Full sun	1
	<i>Olneya tesota</i> /Ironwood	25' x 25'	Full sun	1
	<i>Fouquieria splendens</i> /Ocotillo	12' x 10'	Full sun	2
	<i>Opuntia engelmannii</i> /Englemann's Prickly Pear	4' x 8'	Full sun/part shade	3
	<i>Baileya multiradiata</i> /Desert Marigold	1' x 1'	Full sun	13*
	<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i> /Globe Mallow	3' x 3'	Full sun/part shade	8
	<i>Encelia farinosa</i> /Brittlebush	3' x 4'	Full sun	6*
	<i>Larrea tridentata</i> /Creosote Bush	6' x 6'	Full sun	6
	<i>Justicia californica</i> /Chuparosa	4' x 4'	Full sun	10
	<i>Ericameria laricifolia</i> /Turpentine Bush	2' x 3'	Full sun	12
	<i>Penstemon parryi</i> /Parry's Penstemon	1.5' x 1.5'	Full sun/part shade	16*
	Boulder (natural surface select, various sizes)			3

Nativescape defines the character of our region and brings the beauty of the desert into your yard for you to enjoy. Native trees are used to recreate nature in this naturalistic landscape and provide filtered shade where many plants will flourish. 'Desert pavement' (raked, salvaged native desert soil) is used in place of decomposed granite, allowing annuals and grasses to grow through and mimic the desert floor. Striking accent plants add drama, and indigenous wildflower seeds can be scattered in the fall to add a colorful display in the springtime.

\*Seeds may be used to replace or supplement plantings.

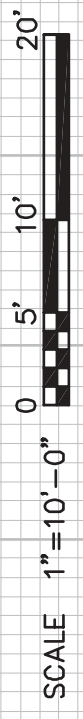
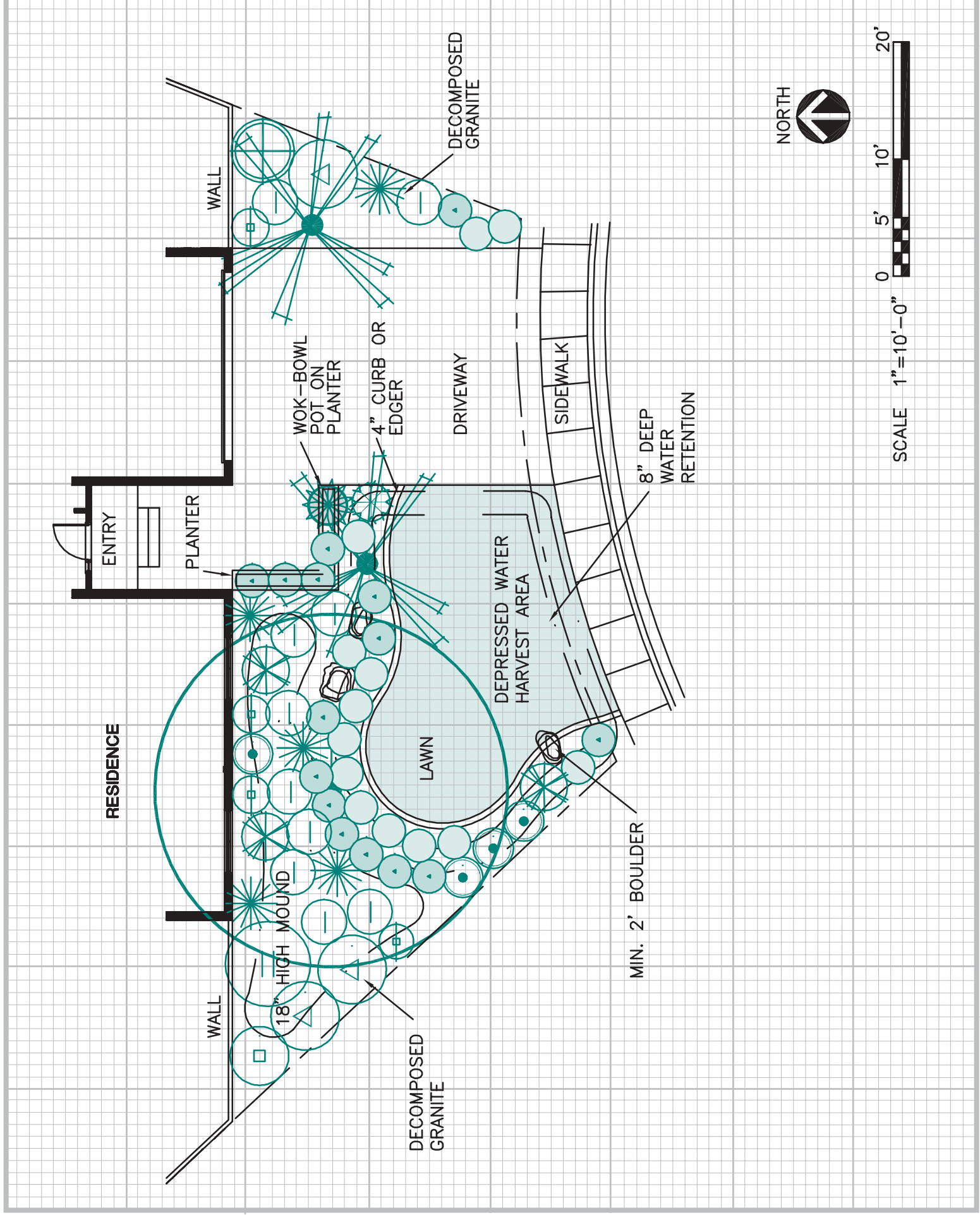




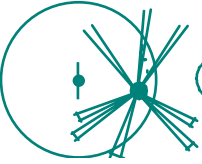
















# SHADESCAPE LEGEND

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY
	Prosopis velutina/Velvet Mesquite	25' x 25'	Full sun	1
	Dalbergia sissoo/Indian Rosewood	40' x 30'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Myrtus communis 'Boetica' / Twisted Myrtle	5' x 4'	Full sun/part shade	3
	Tecomaria capensis/Cape Honeysuckle	6' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	3
	Penstemon parryi/Parry's Penstemon	1.5' x 1.5'	Full sun/part shade	3
	Ruellia peninsularis/Baja Ruellia	3' x 4'	Full sun/part shade	3
	Agave parryi/Parry's Agave	2' x 2'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Yucca recurvifolia/Pendulous Yucca	6' x 3'	Full sun/shade	3
	Hesperaloe parviflora/Red Yucca	3' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	9
	Dasylirion wheeleri/Desert Spoon	4' x 4'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Bulbine frutescens/Bulbine	1' x 2'	Part shade	3
	Santolina chamaecyparissus/Lavender Cotton	1' x 1'	Full sun/part shade	14
	Santolina virens/Green Santolina	1' x 1'	Full sun/part shade	4
	Wedelia trilobata/Yellow Dot	1.5' x 6'	Full sun/part shade	13
	Plumbago scandens/White Plumbago	3' x 3'	Part shade/full shade	16
	Agave vilmoriniana/Octopus Agave (earthstone wok bowl)	4' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Boulder (natural surface select, various sizes)			3

Cool, welcoming shade is the focus of the Shadescape. Trees provide the backbone of the landscape with canopies that extend overhead to offer relief from the heat of summer. Shade tolerant plants can be used beneath the trees and in north-facing exposures.



# VERDESCAPE LEGEND

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	HEIGHT X SPREAD	EXPOSURE	QUANTITY
	Dalbergia sissoo/Indian Rosewood	40' x 30'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Phoenix dactylifera/Date Palm	40' x 20'	Reflected sun/full sun	2
	Leucophyllum frutescens/'Green Cloud' Sage	6' x 6'	Full sun	3
	Rosemarinus officinalis 'Prostratus'/'Trailing Rosemary	2' x 4'	Full sun	10
	Tecomaria capensis/Cape Honeysuckle	6' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Ruellia brittoniana/Purple Ruellia	3' x 3'	Full sun/part shade	4
	Nerium oleander /'Petite Pink' Oleander	3' x 3'	Reflected sun/full sun/part shade	4
	Caesalpinia pulcherrima/Red Bird of Paradise	6' x 6'	Reflected sun/full sun	1
	Agave geminiflora/Twin-Flowered Agave	3' x 3'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Hesperaloe parviflora/Red Yucca	3' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	5
	Dasyliiron acrotiche/Green Desert Spoon	4' x 4'	Full sun/part shade	3
	Tecoma stans/Yellow Bells	6' x 6'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Lantana camara 'Solid Mound' /Gold Mound Lantana	2' x 3'	Full sun	15
	Verbena gooddingii/Goodding's Verbena	1' x 3'	Full sun/part shade	13
	Cynodon dactylon/Bermuda grass	1.5" x varies	Full sun	412 SF
	Agave vilmoriniana/Octopus Agave (earthstone wok bowl)	4' x 5'	Full sun/part shade	1
	Boulder (natural surface select, various sizes)			3

Evergreen plants and verdant green foliage are predominant in the Verdescape. Shades of green and a variety of textures provide contrast in the plant combinations and also work together to create a lush effect. Seasonal color accents are incorporated into the design to add an element of surprise and interest.

# Put It All Together

## Making Adjustments

Modifying a design to fit your property has been simplified with the matching scale and gridlines on your site assessment worksheets on pages 5-10. The gridlines make it easy for you to compare the landscapes and see where adjustments are needed. If your yard measurement is shorter, your landscape will require fewer plants. If your yard measurement is longer, your landscape will require additional plants to achieve the look of the design. (All designs are based on the mature size of each plant.)

### Make the adjustments for size

- Determine plant sizes and planting space in the design by counting gridlines.
- Compare the design measurements to worksheet measurements. Are the design measurements shorter or longer?
- Remove or add plants to the design as needed to fit the space.

## Make adjustments for doors, windows, and points of access into the yard

Slight adjustments in a design may be necessary to accommodate doors, windows, or access into the yard.

- Compare notations from your site assessment to determine if adjustments are needed.

## Utilizing existing plants or hardscape elements

If there are plants or elements in the landscape you wish to incorporate, the design can be modified around those elements. As with adjusting for size, use gridlines to compare measurements on the design and your worksheet.

- Eliminate plants from the design where existing plants will suffice.
- Redirect hardscapes such as walkways where necessary.



### OUCH!

Plants with thorns should not be placed close to walkways or play areas.

Plan for adequate visibility around driveways and parking areas. Choose plants that will not grow above 2' in height or have a canopy above 7' tall.

The City of Scottsdale's Property Maintenance Ordinance, Chapter 18-5 (sections m and n), prohibits vegetation that overhangs into the public right-of-way and obstructs visibility or safe passage. For more information, contact the city's Code Enforcement Department at 480-312-2546.



### Planting Tips

Most plants perform best if planted in the fall. This allows plants to establish a root system and develop stamina before the heat of summer arrives.

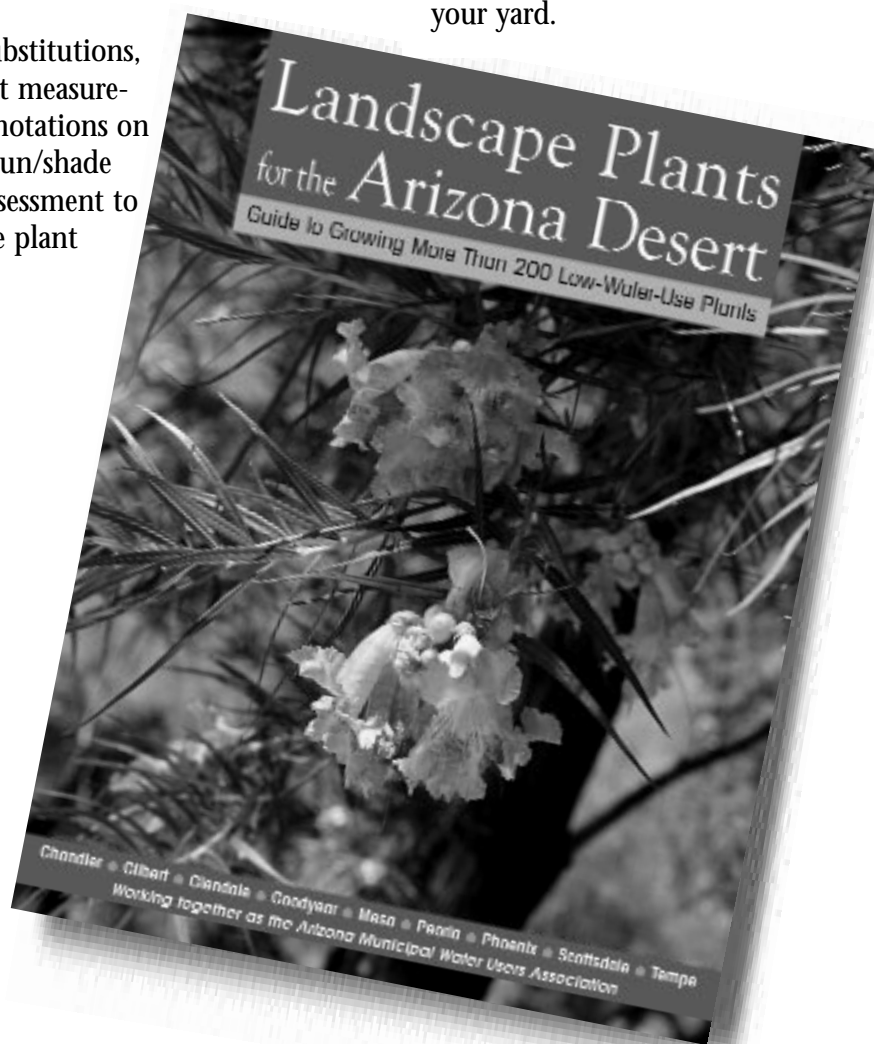
The slopes of mounds are ideal microclimates for plants that require good drainage.



### When making substitutions

The size of a yard, plant availability, or various site conditions such as deep shade may require substitutions for plants in the landscape design. All the landscape designs are oriented to a south-facing exposure, but are suitable for other exposures as well. However, if deep shade or other factors significantly affect the microclimate of your yard, you may need to use plants with growing requirements that more closely match the conditions of a particular area.

When making substitutions, use the worksheet measurements and your notations on orientation and sun/shade from your site assessment to make appropriate plant selections.



- Allow space for a plant to grow to its mature size to minimize pruning and maintenance. Excessive pruning and shearing to maintain a plant in an area that is too small compromises plant health and can detract from your landscape design.
- Refer to the booklet *Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert*. The booklet features over 200 plants as well as information that will help you match plants to the space and conditions in your yard.



### Plant Selection

The brochure *Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert* can help you select plants that are suitable for any situation. Ask for it at the One Stop Shop or call the Water Conservation Office (480-312-5650).



### Planting in ESLO

Homes that are zoned ESLO (Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance) may only plant indigenous plants within all non-enclosed areas. Non-indigenous plants may be used within a walled backyard but may not have the potential to exceed 20 ft. in height. Contact the One Stop Shop for a list of indigenous plants.



### Powerlines

Overhead powerlines may require substituting appropriately sized plantings that will not grow taller than 15 feet.

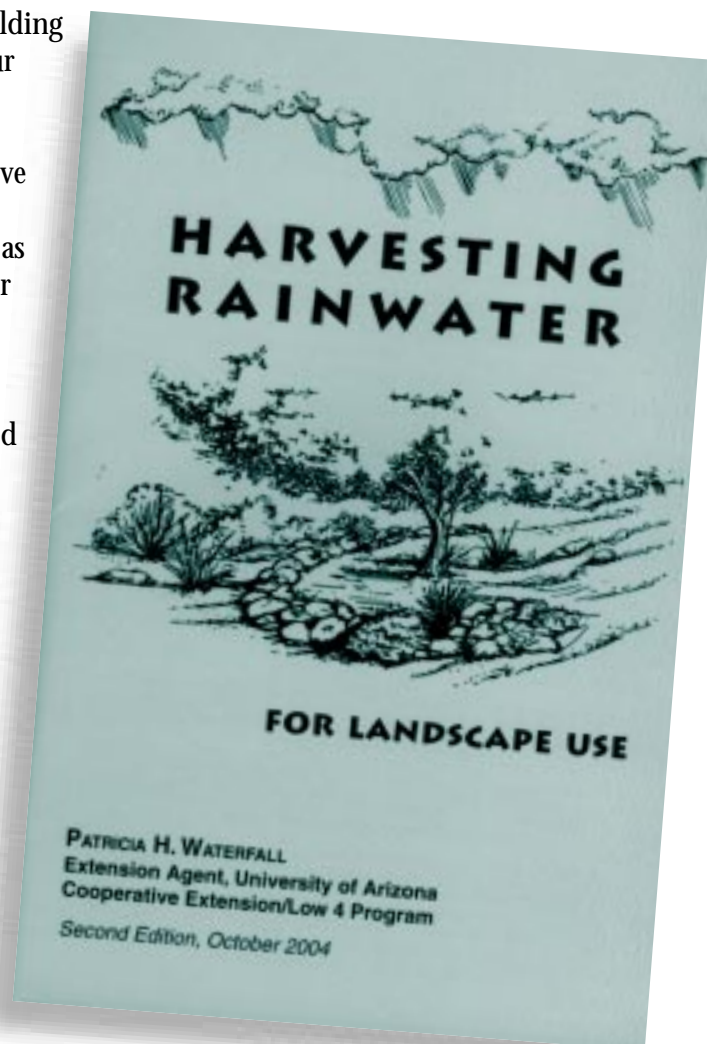
Plan for adequate visibility around driveways, street intersections, and corner lots. Choose plants that will not grow above 2' in height

## Put It All Together

### Mounds and contouring for interest and rainwater harvesting

Mounds and depressions in a landscape can create more interesting areas, provide microclimates for plantings, and be effective in directing and holding rainwater for use in your landscape.

- When possible, observe the flow of rainwater runoff from rooftops as it moves through your landscape to identify drainage patterns.
- Locate mounds to divert water to planted areas.



### Water Retention

Retain drainage on site. Modifications to grading should not direct water into neighbors' yards or toward building foundations.



### Want to know more?

From simple to complex, water collection systems in the landscape offer a wide range of methods to capture and utilize rainwater. Ask for the booklet *Harvesting Rainwater for Landscape Use* at the One Stop Shop or call the Water Conservation Office to find out more.



### Water Savings

Consider replacing high-maintenance and high-water-use plants with native or drought tolerant vegetation. Native plants are not only colorful and attractive, but they are also well adapted to our desert heat.

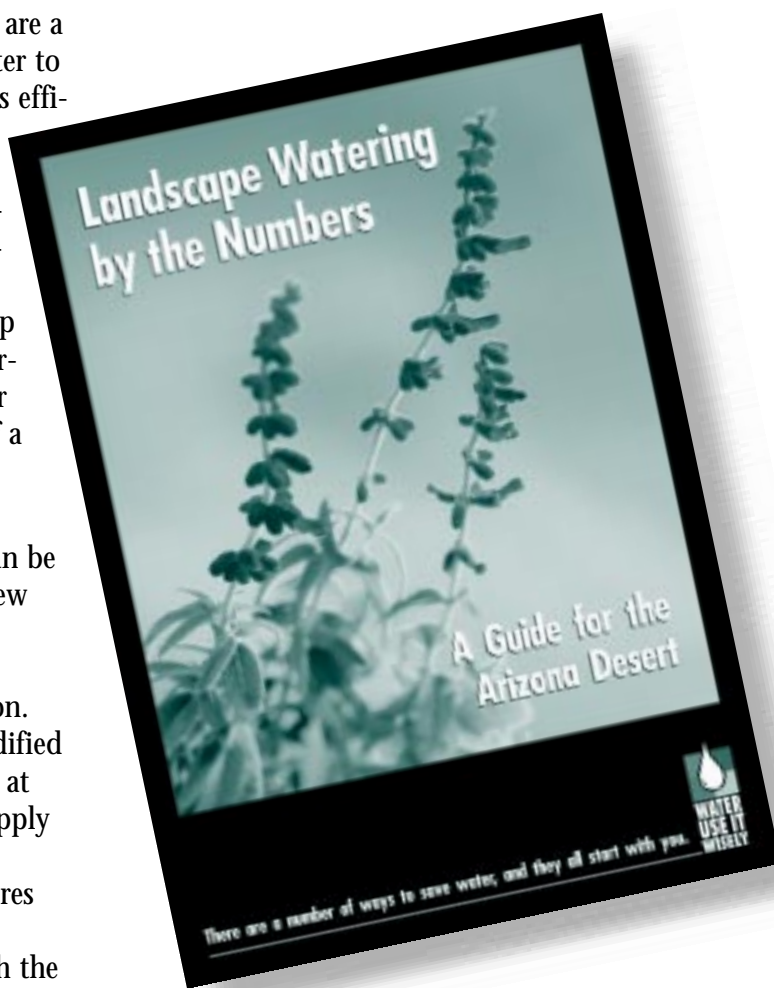
Grouping plants that have similar water requirements into higher and lower water-use zones promotes plant health and makes watering easier and more efficient.

## Watering the Landscape

Water is the lifeline to the plants in your landscape and an essential element of the design. There are a number of ways to apply water to the landscape. Factors such as efficiency, reliability, and cost may influence the method you choose; but if your landscape doesn't have a drip irrigation system, this may be a good time to install one. Drip irrigation is an efficient watering system that delivers water directly to the root system of a plant.

Existing irrigation systems can be modified to accommodate new landscape plantings.

- Sprinkler systems can be retrofitted for drip irrigation.
- Drip irrigation can be modified with components available at hardware and irrigation supply stores.
- Many irrigation supply stores offer design services or assistance at no charge with the purchase of irrigation components.



### Irrigation Basics

Find information on irrigation components and drip irrigation installation in the *Xeriscape* brochure.

Attend a free workshop on irrigation. Call the Water Conservation Office for details (480-312-5650).

A comprehensive technical publication, *Guidelines For Landscape Drip Irrigation Systems*, is available from the Water Conservation Office.

Locate landscape or irrigation professionals to handle the irrigation segment for you. Tips for choosing professional services can be found in the *Xeriscape* brochure (p.19).



### How Much, How Often

Confused about how to water the landscape? You'll find help in the booklet *Landscape Watering by the Numbers*. Ask for it at the One Stop Shop or call the Water Conservation Office.

# Implement the Landscape Plan

## Order of Installation

Taking your landscape design from paper to a finished landscape is a step-by-step process. The following guidelines can help you organize and implement your plan.

1. Prepare your site -- clearing/marking/grading/contouring
2. Install hardscape areas
3. Mark plant locations
4. Install irrigation
5. Put in plants
6. Spread decomposed granite and/or install lawn areas

## Where to start

Lay the landscape plan out on your yard by using temporary marking paint (available at hardware stores).

- Paint the ground where walks, mounds, depressions, and plants will be located, noting where existing utilities have been painted by Blue Stake.

## Contouring

If elevation changes are used in the design you have chosen, grading and contouring will be the first step in the installation of your new landscape.

- Contour the soil surface to form depressions and create gently sloping mounds.
- Major irrigation components such as hardpipe can be installed in this step.
- Bury boulders to a depth 1/3 of their size for a more natural look.



## Want More Details?

Installing your landscape is covered in more detail in the brochure *Xeriscape* (p. 29). To engage help with the installation phase, see "Tips for Choosing Professional Services" (p. 19).





### **Hardscape elements**

The hardscapes in your landscape include patios, walkways, and walls. Top dressings such as decomposed granite, while considered a hardscape, should be installed after the plants.

### **Marking plant locations for drip irrigation installation**

Marker flags may be purchased at hardware or irrigation supply stores.

- Flag locations of plants to mark drip emitter placement.

### **Purchasing and installing plants**

Plant availability varies between nurseries. If local nurseries do not carry a particular plant, they can often order it for you; or you may want to visit nurseries that specialize in desert-adapted plants. Many nurseries will also order the quantities specified in your landscape design as well as an assortment of plant sizes.

Although prices may vary, purchasing smaller sizes can cut costs. Utilizing seeds to supplement reduced plant quantities is another cost-cutting option that works well for fast-growing native plantings such as desert marigold and will be noted on the landscape legends.

- Install plants according to planting standards. (See *Xeriscape* p. 36 for illustrations and details.)

### **Decomposed granite (crushed rock)**

Decomposed granite (DG) covers the soil surface, reducing water evaporation, weed growth and blowing dust.

- Spread DG by starting at the farthest edge of the landscape and working back toward the pile.
- Apply to a depth of 2 inches for adequate coverage and level to 1/2 inch below hardscape surfaces.
- The use of plastic sheeting or landscape fabric as a weed barrier beneath the top dressing is not recommended and may not be permitted by community CC&Rs or landscape rebate programs. Plastic in the landscape often surfaces over time, and impermeable barriers prevent proper watering of plantings and promote water runoff from the landscape.



### **A Maintenance Routine**

Appropriate maintenance will keep your landscape healthy and beautiful. The *Xeriscape* brochure can help you set up a maintenance routine (p. 41).



### **Planting Tips**

Dig planting hole three to five times wider but no deeper than the plant's root ball.

If roots are growing in a circle, make several slices along sides of root ball.

When placed in planting hole, the top of root ball should be level with soil surface.

Fill hole with native soil. It is not necessary to add soil amendments to the backfill.

Remove nursery stakes.

New plantings require more frequent watering than established plantings. You'll find watering schedules for both new and established plants in the brochure *Landscape Watering by the Numbers*.



## Implement the Landscape Plan

### **Maintaining Your Vision**

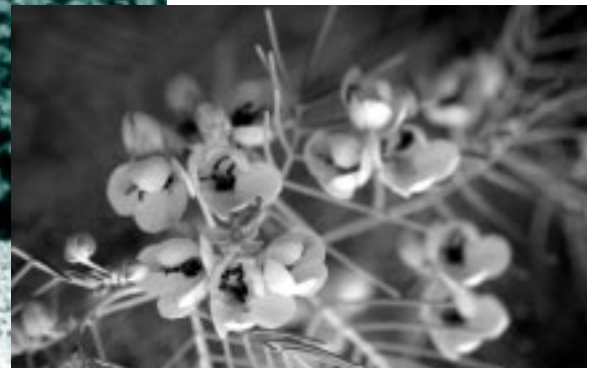
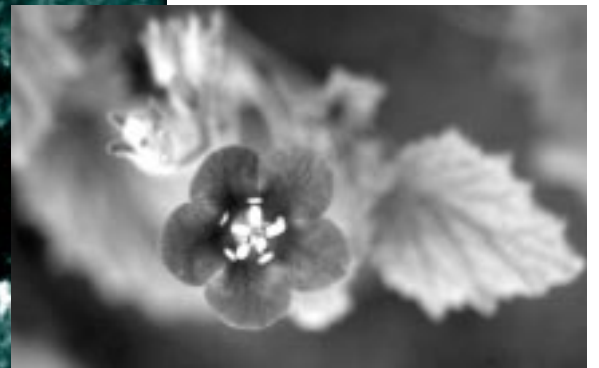
While all landscapes look best with regular care and attention, the landscape designs in this workbook have used the principles of Xeriscape and should require only minimal maintenance. The tough desert-adapted plants thrive without fertilizers, resist insect damage, and seldom need pruning. Well-designed and maintained drip irrigation systems can water your landscape even when you are away from home.

A landscape that is attractive as well as easy to care for will enhance the value of your home and reward you with hours of enjoyment in your beautiful yard.





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# Resources

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## **One Stop Shop/Permit Services**

7447 E. Indian School  
Suite 100  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
Phone: 480-312-2500

## **Water Conservation Office**

9312 N. 94th St.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
Phone: 480-312-5650

## **Blue Stake**

[www.azbsinc.com](http://www.azbsinc.com)  
602-263-1100 (within Maricopa County)  
or 1-800-STAKE-IT

## **Booklets**

The following booklets are available at the One Stop Shop or from the Water Conservation Office.

- *Xeriscape, Landscaping With Style In The Arizona Desert*
- *Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert*
- *Landscape Watering by the Numbers*
- *Guidelines For Landscape Drip Irrigation Systems*
- *Harvesting Rainwater for Landscape Use*

## **Incentives**

- Landscape Rebates  
Water Conservation Office  
9312 N. 94th St.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
Phone: 480-312-5650
- Neighborhood Enhancement Partnership Program  
Citizen & Neighborhood Resources  
7447 E. Indian School #300  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
Phone: 480-312-3111

## **Web Sites**

- City of Scottsdale Water Conservation  
[www.scottsdaleaz.gov/water](http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/water)
- City of Scottsdale Citizen & Neighborhood Resources  
[www.scottsdaleaz.gov](http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov)
- Arizona Municipal Water Users Association  
[www.amwua.org](http://www.amwua.org)
- Arizona Department of Water Resources  
[www.azwater.gov](http://www.azwater.gov)
- Maricopa County Cooperative Extension  
[www.ag.arizona.edu/maricopa/garden](http://www.ag.arizona.edu/maricopa/garden)
- Water Use It Wisely  
[www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com)

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## Water Conservation Tips

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Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.

Avoid planting turf in areas that are hard to water such as steep inclines and isolated strips along sidewalks and driveways.

Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours, when temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter.

Use a layer of organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and save hundreds of gallons of water a year.

Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway or sidewalk and save 80 gallons of water every time.

Divide your watering cycle into shorter periods to reduce runoff and allow for better absorption every time you water.

We're more likely to notice leaky faucets indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, pipes, and hoses for leaks.

Adjust your watering schedule to the season.

Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. Longer grass shades root systems and holds soil moisture better than a closely clipped lawn.

Use the sprinkler for larger areas of grass. Water small patches by hand to avoid waste.

Water your summer lawn once every three days and your winter lawn once every five days.

Install a rain shut-off device on your automatic sprinklers to eliminate unnecessary watering.

Choose a water-efficient drip irrigation system for trees, shrubs and flowers. Watering at the roots is very effective. Be careful not to over water.

Water your plants deeply, but less frequently to create healthier stronger landscapes.

Do one thing each day that will save water. Even if savings are small, every drop counts.



# Notes

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**Water Conservation**

9312 N. 94th Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
480-312-5650

**Planning and Development Services**

7447 E. Indian School Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
480-312-2500

**Citizen and Neighborhood Resources/Housing Resources**

7447 E. Indian School Road  
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