

LANDSCAPE WATER-EFFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Applicant Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Project Site Address:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Total Landscape Area (square feet): | Landscape area: The total horizontal surface area dedicated to plant installation (including adjacent ground that provides for the plants' establishment), plus the <i>wet surface area</i> of any water features. The landscape area does not include footprints of buildings or structures, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, decks, patios, gravel or stone walks, or other pervious or non-pervious hardscapes outside of planted areas (planted areas containing gravel or inorganic mulch <i>are</i> included). Landscape area does not include undisturbed areas with established non-irrigated vegetation, nor does it include landscaping that is exempt from this division by subsection B33-2(b). See reverse side for other definitions. |
| Turf Area: | |
| Non-Turf Plant Area: | |
| Special Landscape Area: | |
| Water Feature Wet Surface Area: | |

NOTE: A landscape and irrigation design plan (and supporting documents) shall be required if: (a) landscape area exceeds 5,000 sq. ft; (b) a majority (>50%) of plants are medium or high water use; or, (c) turf area exceeds 25% of total landscape area or 1,250 sq. ft.

All areas to be disturbed during construction shall be presumed to be landscape area, except where structures or hardscape will be installed.

| Landscape Parameter | Design Measures | Project Compliance |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Plant Water Use | At least 50% of the plants, and at least 50% of the trees, shall either be native or low water use. (From §B33-4) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [Plans and water budget required] |
| Turf | Total turf area shall not exceed 25% of the landscape area, or 1,250 square feet, whichever is lesser in area. (From §B33-4) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [Plans and water budget required] |
| | All portions of turf areas shall be wider than eight (8) feet. Turf (if utilized) is limited to slopes not exceeding 25%. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| Hydrozones | Plants with similar water needs shall be grouped within hydrozones. Irrigation for each hydrozone shall be controlled by a separate valve. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [Provide explanation on back] |
| Irrigation System | Systems shall be designed and maintained to minimize water waste (e.g., runoff, overspray, etc). Low-volume irrigation shall be utilized in non-turf areas. Overhead (spray) irrigation shall only occur between the hours of 8:00 pm and 10:00 am. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [Provide explanation on back] |
| Soil | A minimum of eight (8) inches of non-compacted topsoil should be available in planted areas. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [Provide explanation on back] |
| | Soil amendments, such as compost or fertilizer, should be added as needed according to the soil conditions at the project site and based on what is appropriate for the selected plants. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [Provide explanation on back] |
| Mulch | A minimum two (2)-inch layer of mulch should be applied on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas, except in areas of direct seeding application (e.g. hydro-seed). | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [Provide explanation on back] |

I am aware of available informational resources regarding native and low water use plants, irrigation efficiency, and other aspects of water-efficient landscaping. I certify that the information provided on this checklist is correct, and I understand that any changes to the project will necessitate a new checklist.

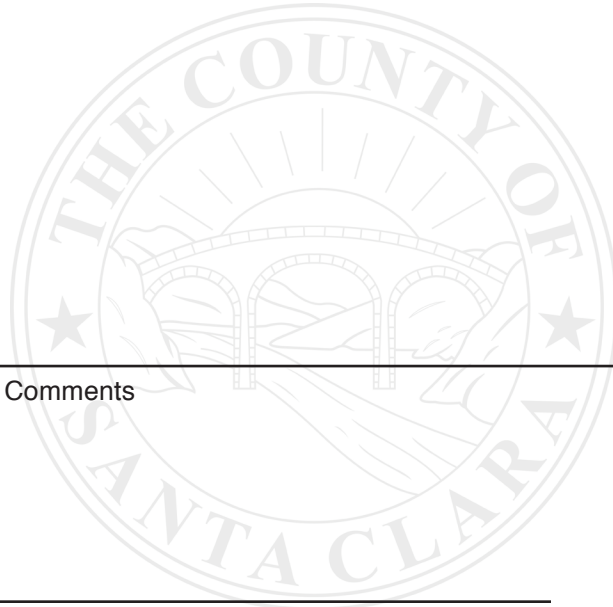
Signature of property owner or authorized representative

Date

This checklist implements the requirements of Division B33: Water Conservation in Landscaping, of the Santa Clara County Ordinance Code. The responses provided will be evaluated to determine whether the proposed landscaping is consistent with the ordinance's water-efficiency goals, and what additional plans, documents and materials may be required.

Applicant Comments

Use additional paper if necessary



County Evaluation

- Approved
- Not Approved

Staff Comments

Signature

Date

Select Definitions

Hydrozone: A portion of the landscaped area having plants with similar water needs. A hydrozone may be irrigated or non-irrigated.

Low-volume irrigation: The application of irrigation water through a system of tubing or lateral lines and low-volume emitters such as drip and bubblers. Certain rotary emitters designed for highly efficient water distribution, and situated to irrigate low water use plants, may also be included in this definition at the discretion of the Planning Office.

Low water use plant: A plant species whose demonstrated water needs are compatible with local climate and soil conditions such that regular supplemental irrigation is not required to sustain the plant after it has become established. Any species classified as "very low water use" and "low water use" by WUCOLS, having a regionally adjusted plant factor of 0.0 through 0.3, shall be categorically deemed a low water use plant. Other credible information resources that provide locally relevant information on plant species water needs (e.g. SCVWD Water-Wise Plant List, EBMUD, Sunset Publishing) may also be utilized to establish whether a particular species qualifies as a low water use plant.

Native plant: A plant indigenous to a specific area of consideration. For the purpose of this division, the term shall refer to plants indigenous to the coastal ranges of Central and Northern California, and more specifically to such plants that are suited to the ecology of the present or historic natural community of the project's vicinity.

Special landscape area: An area of the landscape dedicated solely to edible plants, areas irrigated with recycled water, and water features using recycled water. Also includes land uses characterized by active play or high-volume foot traffic such as parks, cemeteries, sports fields and golf courses; where turf functions as a walking/ playing surface.

Turf: A ground cover surface consisting of non-native grass species that is customarily mowed. Annual bluegrass, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, red fescue, and tall fescue are examples of cool-season turf grasses. Bermuda grass, kikuyu grass, seashore paspalum, St. Augustine grass, zoysia grass, and buffalo grass are warm-season turf grasses.

Water feature: A landscape design element where open water performs an aesthetic or recreational function. Water features include ponds, fountains, waterfalls and artificial streams. Also includes spas and swimming pools that are ancillary to single-family, two-family and multi-family residential uses.

Wet surface area: The surface area of that portion of a water feature that functions to contain water, such as the water surface of a swimming pool, spa, or garden pond. For a fountain or other feature with flowing water, wet surface area shall be measured as a two dimensional plane bounded by the perimeter of the area where water has been designed to flow.