



LANDSCAPING WITH LOW WATER, NATIVE PLANTS

LOW WATER LANDSCAPE REBATE PROGRAM

WHAT IS A NATIVE PLANT?

Native plants are defined as those that have “...developed over hundreds or thousands of years in a particular region or ecosystem. Only plants found in this country before European settlement are considered to be native to the United States” (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services).

NATIVE PLANTS MAKE LANDSCAPING EASY

Native plants are adapted to local environments and challenging conditions like late spring frosts, cold temperatures and poor soil. Native plant species also provide excellent habitat for birds, butterflies, and other wildlife.

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

Species of native plants are disappearing due to human activities such as urban development and expansion, agribusiness, and introduction of invasive species. Climate change is further affecting the ability of some native species to persist on the landscape. Native plants are ideal for low water landscaped yards because they reduce your water use, restore natural pollinator and wildlife habitats, and allow you to enjoy a beautiful yard with minimal work.

ADVANTAGES OF NATIVE PLANTS

- Add beauty to the landscape and preserve our natural heritage
- Reduce the amount of water needed for landscape maintenance
- Provide food and habitat for native wildlife
- Decrease the risk of exotic weed invasion
- Minimize long-term maintenance needs when they are properly planted and established

