

# Keys to Water-efficient Landscapes

By planning your landscape and selecting the right plants for it, you can reduce your water use by up to 75 percent. Here's how.

## Start with a landscape plan

Whether you draw the plan or hire a pro, make sure your landscape is water efficient:

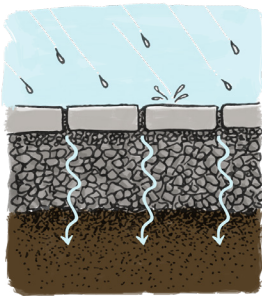


Direct runoff into a rain garden that absorbs moisture

Group plants by how much water they'll need so you don't overwater



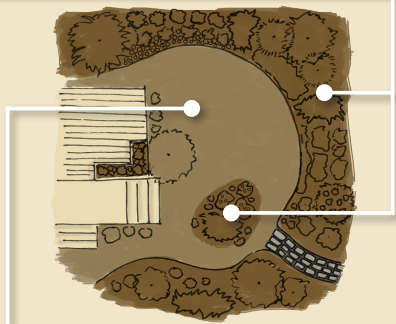
Use permeable materials for hard areas



## Improve your soil

Add compost to soil and increase the nutrients, absorption, and water storage. A soil test will tell you which nutrients you need.

For tree, shrub, and flower beds, till 2 to 4 inches of organic matter into the area.

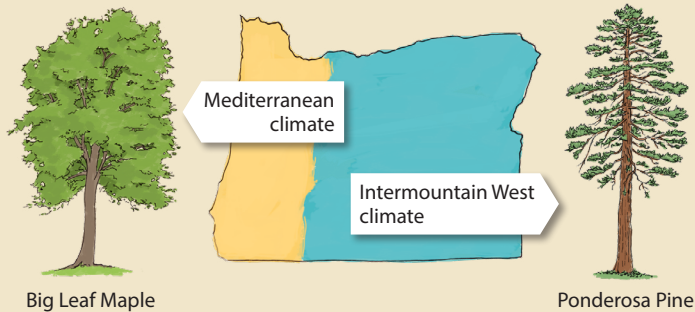


For lawns, till to 8 inches and add amendments to sterile, sandy soil. Avoid steep grades leading down to the road or sidewalk.

## Select the right plants

Choose trees, shrubs, groundcovers, and perennials adapted to your soil and climate. Plants native to Mediterranean climates are best for western Oregon. In eastern and central Oregon, choose plants native to the Intermountain West.

Most turfgrass has similar water needs. A mix of clover, yarrow, English daisy, and grass requires less irrigation.



## Off to a good start

Choose healthy plants and give them supplemental water and attention the first three years.

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