

Water Conservation through Landscaping-First Draft Policies and Outcomes

Proposed Goal/Policy	Outcome
<p>Goal: Promote the conservation of water supplies through the use of landscape and site design that can have a beneficial effect upon water conservation.</p>	<p>Reworded and moved to Development Review section, Land Use, Site Design as a new goal. Language would read: “Promote the use of landscaping and site design that ensures water conservation.”</p>
Policy	
<p>1. Review the County's existing Landscaping regulations for changes that would improve water conservation. Revisions should contemplate modified landscaping options based on soil types, water source, available water supplies, and climate zones across Jefferson County.</p>	<p>Reworded and combined with Policy 3. Moved to Long Range section, Environmental Stewardship, Water, Conservation. Language would read: “Review the County’s existing Landscaping regulations for changes that would improve water conservation. Revisions should assess: a) Creation of differing standards for Mountain and Plains; b) Inclusion of and emphasis on native species in landscaping options; c) Protection of native vegetation, not just existing trees; and d) Limitations on turf areas.”</p>
<p>2. Consider landscaping regulations for single-family residential as well as non-residential and multi-family uses.</p>	<p>Stricken</p>
<p>3. Provide for the protection of and installation of native vegetation.</p>	<p>Reworded and combined with Policy 1. Moved to Long Range section, Environmental Stewardship, Water, Conservation. Language would read: “Review the County’s existing Landscaping regulations for changes that would improve water conservation. Revisions should assess: a) Creation of differing standards for Mountain and Plains; b) Inclusion of and emphasis on native species in landscaping options;</p>

	<p>c) Protection of native vegetation, not just existing trees; and d) Limitations on turf areas.”</p>
<p>4. Create an approved plant list to encourage native species and plants that use less water.</p>	<p>Reworded and combined with Policy 11. Moved to Long Range section, Environmental Stewardship, Water, Conservation. Language would read: “Create an approved plant list that supplements the landscape regulation and evaluates landscape options based on: a) Soil types b) Water sources (wells vs. public water) c) Water requirements d) Climate zones e) Wildfire hazard”</p>
<p>5. In the Mountain Ground Water Overlay District, any new developments served by groundwater should use plant materials that will not require irrigation once established.</p>	<p>Modified to remove “served by groundwater” and moved to Development Review section, Land Use, Site Design, Water Conservation. Language would read: “In the Mountain Ground Water Overlay District, any new developments served by groundwater should use plant materials that will not require irrigation once established”</p>
<p>6. Limit turf areas associated with development. Create a standard for moderate and low water use turf. Areas of native or naturalized grasses should be exempt from these limits.</p>	<p>Add limiting turf grass to the policy regarding future regulation updates in the Long Range section, Environmental Stewardship, Water, Conservation. Language would read: “Review the County’s existing Landscaping regulations for changes that would improve water conservation. Revisions should assess: a) Creation of differing standards for Mountain and Plains; b) Inclusion of and emphasis on native species in landscaping options; c) Protection of native vegetation, not just existing trees; and d) Limitations on turf areas.” Also, added language about existing vegetation to Development Review section, Land Use, Site Design, Water Conservation.</p>

	Language reads: “Evaluate existing landscaping at the time of rezoning applications for preservation at the time of site design.”
7. Streetscapes should utilize xeric plants over traditional turfgrass.	Add verbatim to Long Range section, Environmental Stewardship, Conservation.
8. Increase the percentage of landscape area that can be covered with non-living, permeable landscape material.	Stricken
9. Encourage efficient irrigation systems that eliminate run-off from landscaped areas, use water efficient fixtures (such as rain sensors, master valves, and flow sensors), and incorporate non-potable water.	Modified language and moved to Long Range section, Environmental Stewardship element, Water, Conservation. Language would read: “Promote efficient irrigation systems that eliminate run-off from landscaped areas, use water efficient fixtures (such as rain sensors, master valves, and flow sensors), and incorporate non-potable water.”
10. Water features should recycle water and be designed to reduce evaporation.	Stricken
11. Encourage landscape design that groups plant materials which require similar amounts of water to maximize irrigation efficiency.	Reworded and combined with Policy 4. Moved to Long Range section, Environmental Stewardship element, Water, Conservation. Language would read: 5. Create an approved plant list that supplements the landscape regulation and evaluates landscape options based on: a) Soil types b) Water sources (wells vs. public water) c) Water requirements d) Climate zones e) Wildfire hazard