

Water Efficient Landscape Guidelines - Installation Tips

Mission Springs Water District and the City of Desert Hot Springs developed a set of four pre-approved landscape designs that are the first step in water-efficient landscaping. Installing an efficient irrigation system and checking it regularly will reduce your water bill over the lifetime of the plants.

Here are a few of the standards that will help you install your landscape and irrigation system in conformance with the Water Efficient Landscape Guidelines:

- Restricted use of turf—not more than 25% grass for Lush & Efficient landscapes.
- 24" set-back of irrigation heads from all hardscape—if the heads are drip emitters, they may be closer but there can be no ponding or run-off.
- Similar plant material on the same valve—put shrubs and trees on their own valve; put grass on its own valve.
- Use fixed-rate emitters and bubblers (not adjustable) that apply water evenly to all plants.
- Avoid problem areas—strips of grass less than 10 feet wide or irregular shapes or slopes.
- Use a smart irrigation controller that will automatically adjust the schedule of multiple irrigation zones and run times.
- Avoid low head drainage. Install check valves if your slope is more than 10' high.
- The Guidelines expressly prohibit over spray and runoff from landscape irrigation.

Irrigation Details:

