

Low-impact street landscaping

Benefits:

- Friendly to the environment
- Storm water filtration
- Reduced irrigation
- Informal design

Low-impact street design will showcase an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional roadside landscaping. Roadside swales are landscaped with native drought-tolerant plants which help filter pollutants, improve quality of runoff, recharge groundwater and require less irrigation.

North Logan City and the Utah Botanical Center will create two low-impact demonstration streets, both showing examples of low-impact landscaping.

Swales are planted with an attractive native grass and wildflower mix and trees and shrubs are arranged in an informal design. Homeowners can easily blend front yard landscaping with low-impact roadside swales.

Key features of low-impact street landscaping

- Landscape contains primarily drought-tolerant plants;
- Landscape will reduce storm water runoff;
- Landscaped swales help recharge groundwater and improve quality of runoff;
- Landscaped swales trap and filter pollutants carried by storm water;
- Native plants are more resistant to damage from insects and require little or no pesticides.

Acknowledgement

Funded by the EPA, Utah Soil Conservation Commission and North Logan City. Questions regarding this project should be directed to: Utah Association of Conservation Districts (435) 753-6029 or gordon-younger@ut.nacdnet.org.

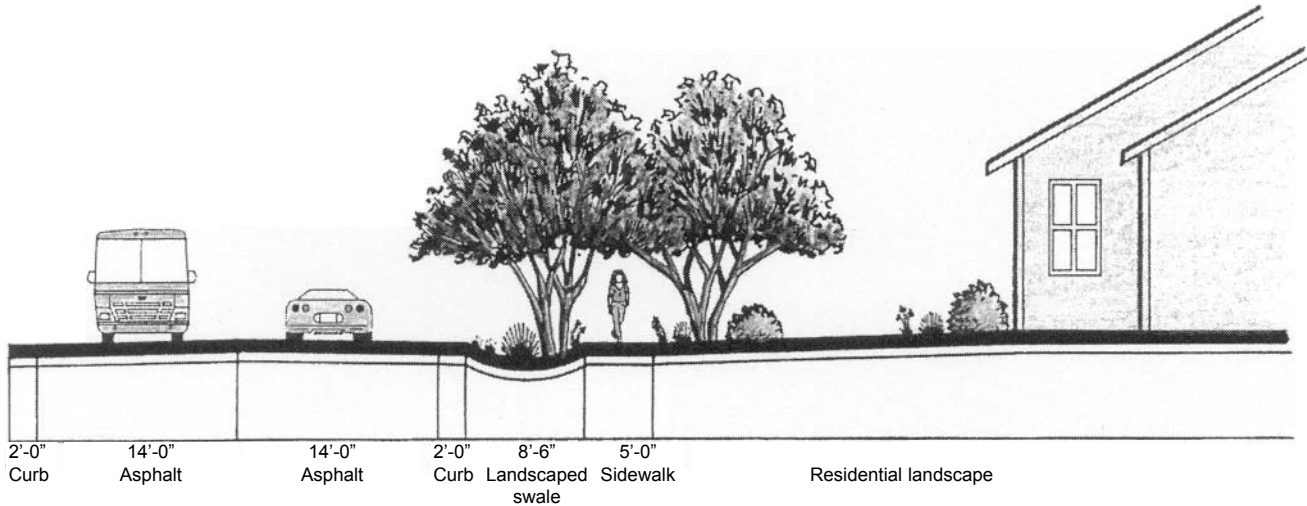
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Low-impact street landscaping & residential lot frontage



Primary design principles used to integrate residential property with low-impact street landscaping:

1. Start with a landscape plan: Check existing soils, drainage, topography, solar orientation, existing views, utility lines, etc.
2. Plant selection: Select species used in the landscaped swale and integrate them into your home landscape plan.
3. Plant trees, shrubs, perennial flowers and groundcovers adjacent to sidewalk and landscaped swale. This will help reduce runoff from excess turf irrigation.
4. Irrigate plants efficiently – not excessively.

