

DESIGNING FOR DROUGHT

LANDSCAPE DESIGN TEMPLATES FOR TURF REBATES

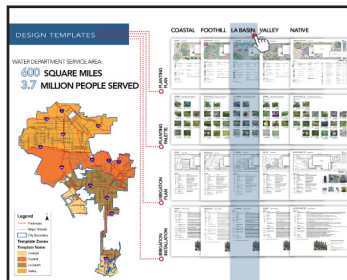
IMAGE SUMMARY

1



Five easy-to-understand and implement Landscape Design Templates posted on the Los Angeles DWP's website, were developed by the Landscape Architect as an incentive to customers to conserve water and participate in a Turf Rebate Program. There was a 58% increase in turf removal the year of the launch.

2



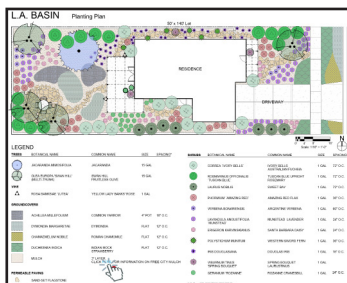
To apply for a Turf Rebate, customers must replace their existing lawn with drought resistant planting and drip irrigation to minimize water use. The Landscape Design Templates offer examples of beautiful, water efficient landscape options for each of this large city's four climatic zones. An all-native plant palette is also included.

3



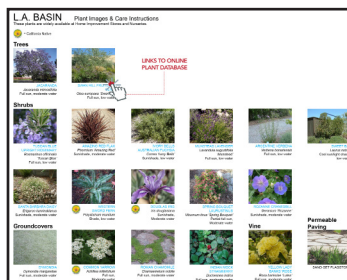
Using the templates on the Water Department's website, a family in any Los Angeles neighborhood can walk through the process of converting a water-intensive lawn into a California friendly and drought resistant landscape.

4

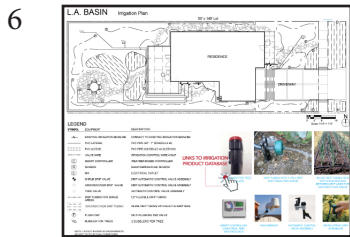


The design team assumed a typical residential lot with 1500 SF of lawn to be removed, which established the turf removal rebate and renovation budget. Plant and irrigation materials were limited to those widely available at home improvement stores and local retail nurseries.

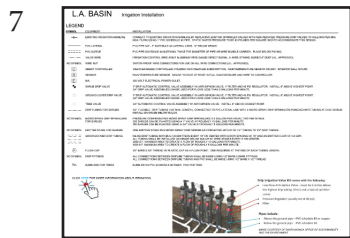
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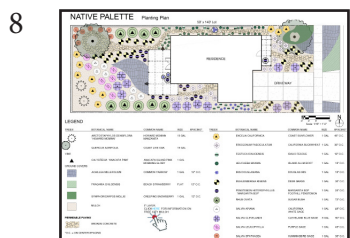
Plant materials were selected based on low to moderate water requirements, specific microclimate, easy maintenance, non-invasiveness, and wide availability. Hyperlinks are provided to an online plant database for further information. A permeable paving option is also included.



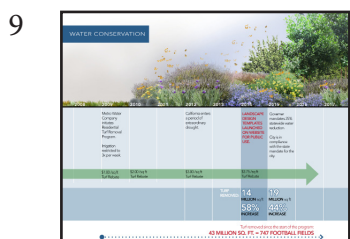
A new drip irrigation plan illustrates how existing turf valves can be replaced with new drip valves and connected to the existing irrigation mainline. A smart controller with rain sensor is included. Materials are hyperlinked to an online irrigation database.



Easy to understand and implement directions explain how to install the new drip irrigation system for the handy, do-it-yourself homeowner. Photos of equipment and a hyperlink to more information aid implementation.



An all Native Palette was included after the Landscape Architect encouraged the Water Department to address a growing interest in native landscapes. This palette supports the health and well-being of indigenous wildlife.



The Landscape Design Templates were developed on a fast track and launched in 2014. Over 14 million SF of turf and associated irrigation was removed that year, which represents a 58% increase over previous years.



Four years of drought has taken a toll on ornamental landscapes featuring extensive lawns and flowering shrubs. The Landscape Design Templates are easily accessible on-line and offer inspiring garden alternatives to the traditional lawn. Image courtesy of local Los Angeles resident who referenced the Landscape Design Templates using a turf rebate.