Water-wise Plants Salt Lake County Nurseries

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Goal

• Understand the relationship between the plants nurseries offer and the plants commonly planted in residential yards.
• Investigate the water use of the most common water-wise and high water use plants.

Research Methodology

• Inventory herbaceous flowering plants and deciduous non-fruit bearing trees at 4 local nurseries and 4 big box stores.
• Study six commonly planted species of herbaceous flowering plants, 3 water-wise plants, 3 high water use plants to determine their water usage.

Impact

• Utah is the 2nd driest state in the US and in the summer, residential plants use a lot of water.
• Legislators recognized the need for more water-wise plants and worked with nurseries to meet a common goal.
• If we can understand (1) the water use of plants that are offered and (2) the relationship between nurseries and residential yards we might be able to lower water usage in yards.