

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.

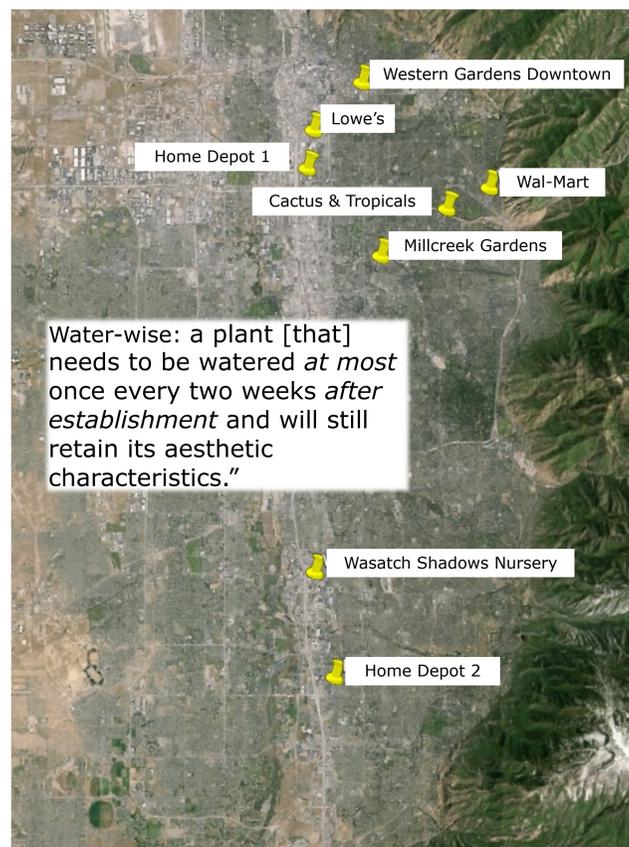


Figure 1. Nurseries chosen in Salt Lake County.

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.

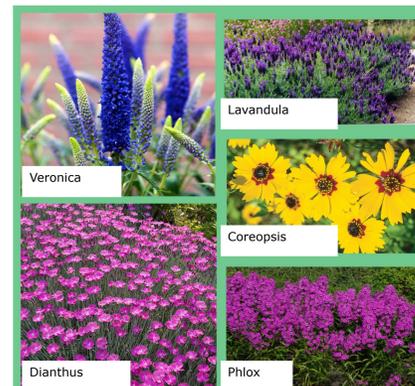


Figure 2: Top 5 water-wise Genus found in Nurseries.



Figure 3: Top 5 not water-wise Genus found in Nurseries.



Figure 4: Top 5 water-wise species found in residential yards.



Figure 5: Top 5 not water-wise species found in residential yards.

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.



Figure 6. Flowers at a local nursery.



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