

**WASHINGTON TERRACE CITY
ORDINANCE 24-01
WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPING**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON TERRACE AMENDING
CHAPTER 13.10 “ EFFICIENT LANDSCAPING”; SEVERABILITY; AND
EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the City of Washington Terrace (“City”) is a municipal corporation duly existing under the laws of Utah;

WHEREAS, in times of scarcity Utah Code Annotated §10-7-12 allows the Mayor to limit the use of water;

WHEREAS, on or about May 13, 2021, Utah Governor Spencer Cox issued a second Executive Order declaring a state of emergency due to continued drought conditions in Utah;

WHEREAS, water in Utah is an increasingly scarce resource, of limited supply, and are subject to ever increasing demands

WHEREAS, it is the policy of Washington Terrace City to promote the conservation and efficient use of water and to prevent waste of this valuable resource;

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that landscapes provide areas for active and passive recreation;

WHEREAS, landscape design, installation, maintenance and management can and should be water efficient;

WHEREAS, the City desires to promote the design, installation and maintenance of landscapes that are both attractive and water efficient;

WHEREAS, the City has the authority to adopt this Ordinance in accordance with Utah Code Annotated §10-3-702, and hereby exercises its legislative powers in doing so.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council as follows:

Section 1. Repealer. Any Ordinance that conflict with this Ordinance is repealed.

Section 2. Amendment. Section 13.10.40 and 13.10.70 is hereby adopted to read as follows:

13.10.40 Landscape Design Standards.

1. Plant Selection. Exhibit A provides a non-comprehensive list of recommended plants for various landscape situations and conditions, subject to the following:
 - a. Plants shall be well-suited to the microclimate and soil conditions at the project site. Both native and locally-adapted plants are acceptable. Plants with similar water needs shall be grouped together as much as possible.
 - b. Areas with slopes greater than 33% shall be landscaped with deep-rooting, water-

conserving plants for erosion control and soil stabilization.

- c. Park strips and other landscaped areas less than eight (8) feet wide shall be landscaped with water-conserving plants, that do not a mass planting of any type of plant material requiring uniform overhead spray irrigation. Park strip and other landscaped areas less than eight (8) feet wide shall not be turf.
2. Mulch. After completion of all planting, all irrigated non-turf areas shall be covered with a minimum four (4) inch layer of mulch to retain water, inhibit weed growth, and moderate soil temperature. Non-porous material shall not be placed under the mulch.
3. Soil Preparation. Soil preparation will be suitable to provide healthy growing conditions for the plants and to encourage water infiltration and penetration. Soil preparation shall include scarifying the soil to a minimum depth of six (6) inches and amending the soil with organic material as per specific recommendations of the Landscape Designer/Landscape Architect based on the soil conditions.
4. Tree Selection. Tree species shall be selected based on growth characteristics and site conditions, including available space, overhead clearance, soil conditions, exposure, and desired color and appearance. Trees shall be selected as follows:
 - a. Broad canopy trees shall be selected where shade or screening of tall objects is desired;
 - b. Low-growing trees shall be selected for spaces under utility wires;
 - c. Select trees from which lower branches can be trimmed to maintain a healthy growth habit where vision clearance and natural surveillance is a concern;
 - d. Narrow or columnar trees shall be selected where awnings or other building features limit growth, or where greater visibility is desired between buildings and the street for natural surveillance;
 - e. Tree placement shall provide canopy cover (shade) and avoid conflicts with existing trees, retaining walls, utilities, lighting, and other obstacles; and
 - f. Trees less than a two-inch caliper shall be double-staked until the trees mature to a two-inch caliper.

13.10.070 Non-residential Developments.

1. Requirements. Commercial, industrial, and institutional landscapes shall meet the Landscape Design Standards and Irrigation Design Standards of this ordinance, and the turf area shall not exceed 15% of the total landscaped area, outside of active recreation areas. Park strip and other landscaped areas less than eight (8) feet wide shall not be turf. If culinary water is used to irrigate the turf there shall only be 10% turf on the total landscape.
2. Landscape Plan Documentation Package. A copy of a Landscape Plan Documentation Package shall be submitted to and approved by the City prior to the issue of any permit. A copy of the approved Landscape Plan Documentation Package shall be provided to the property owner or site manager and to the local retail water purveyor. The Landscape Plan Documentation Package shall be prepared by a registered landscape architect and shall consist of the following items:
 - a. Project Data Sheet. The Project Data Sheet shall contain the following:

- i. Project name and address;
 - ii. Applicant or applicant agent's name, address, phone number, and email address;
 - iii. Landscape architect's name, address, phone number, and email address; and
 - iv. Landscape contractor's name, address, phone number and email address, if available currently.
- b. Planting Plan. A detailed planting plan shall be drawn at a scale that clearly identifies the following:
- i. Location of all plant materials, a legend with botanical and common names, and size of plant materials;
 - ii. Property lines and street names;
 - iii. Existing and proposed buildings, walls, fences, utilities, paved areas and other site improvements;
 - iv. Existing trees and plant materials to be removed or retained;
- v. Scale: graphic and written;
- vi. Date of Design;
- vii. Designation of a landscape zone, and
- viii. Details and specifications for tree staking, soil preparation, and other planting work.
- c. Irrigation Plan. A detailed irrigation plan shall be drawn at the same scale as the planting plan and shall contain the following information:
- i. Layout of the irrigation system and a legend summarizing the type and size of all components of the system, including manufacturer name and model numbers
- d. Grading Plan. A Grading Plan shall be drawn at the same scale as the Planting Plan and shall contain the following information:
- i. Property lines and street names, existing and proposed buildings, walls, fences, utilities, paved areas, and other site improvements, and
 - ii. Existing and finished contour lines and spot elevations as necessary for the proposed site improvements.

Section 3: Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction determines that any part of this Ordinance is unconstitutional or invalid, then such portion of this Ordinance, or specific application of this Ordinance, shall be severed from the remainder, which shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 4: Effective date. This Ordinance takes effect immediately upon mayoral approval and posting.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council on this 2 day of January, 2024.

Mark Cole

Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy J
City Recorder

RECORDED this 2 day of January, 2024.

PUBLISHED OR POSTED this 3 day of January, 2024.

CERTIFICATE OF PASSAGE AND PUBLICATION OR POSTING

In accordance with Utah Code Annotated §10-3-713, 1953 as amended, I, the City Recorder of Washington Terrace, Utah, hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly passed and published or posted at: 1) City Hall, 2) City website, and 3) PUBLIC NOTICE website on the above referenced dates.

Amy J
City Recorder

DATE: 1-3-24