



WATER TIPS

REPLACE HIGH WATER USE LANDSCAPE WITH XERISCAPE

USAGE

Landscaping accounts for 22% of water usage in a typical office building, and 20-50% of all residential water use.

Replacing high water use landscape with xeriscape can save over 50% of this water.

Albuquerque's average outdoor water use of 65 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) is significantly higher than Tucson's 38 gpcd average.

XERISCAPE

The term xeriscaping comes from the Greek term for dry, *xeros*, and describes the practice of using water efficient plants to create an attractive landscape.

Xeriscaping combines seven principles:

- Planning and design
- Soil improvements
- Efficient irrigation
- Choice and grouping of low-water-use plants
- Mulches
- Turf alternatives
- Appropriate maintenance

REBATE PROGRAMS

The Water Authority and the City of Albuquerque offer credits for replacing high water use landscape with drought tolerant plants and utilizing appropriate irrigation and planting methods.

Non-residential and multi-family customers receive a credit of \$0.40/sf of qualifying landscape for up to 12,500sf (\$5,000) per account. Single family customers receive \$0.40/sf of qualifying landscape up to 2,000sf (\$800).

Customers must submit a simple landscaping plan to the city, schedule an inspection of the original landscaping, complete the planting project, and arrange for the final inspection.

The city's new Rainwater Harvesting rebate program provides an increased rebate for landscapes which do not require supplemental irrigation. Customers can receive a credit of \$0.80/sf for landscapes of 500sf-2000sf. All plants must be from the low water use designation on the official xeriscape plant list. A rainwater collection or direction system must be approved by the Water Utility's Xeriscape Inspector.

Replacing high-water-use landscape with xeriscape can save water, money, and maintenance time.

For more information visit www.cabq.gov and search for 'xeriscape'. For information on local landscape companies, contact NAIOP at naiopnm@spinn.net or HBA at 344-3294.

