



CREEKSIDE I HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION  
**INTERIM GUIDELINES FOR WATER-WISE LANDSCAPING**

Adopted July xx, 2023

**Water-wise** — A term used to describe a water- and plant-management practice that emphasizes using plants that have lower supplemental water needs and grouping plants by water needs to encourage more efficient water use.

-From GardenCenterMag.com

On May 17, 2023, Senate Bill 23-178 was signed into Colorado law addressing water-wise landscaping in Homeowners Association communities with single family detached dwellings. This interim policy converts the detail of the law into practical application for homeowners in the Creekside neighborhood.

1. Artificial turf is allowed in the backyard in areas not visible from the public sidewalk as a nonvegetative option. Corner lots will need to work with the Design Review Committee to define an appropriate area in the backyard and may require additional screening using plant material. Care must be taken to ensure that potential increases in runoff/drainage will not affect neighboring properties.
2. The use of different hardscape aspects of the landscape design is encouraged. This can be concrete, pavers, stone pavers as some examples. The hardscape design should typically include a variation to add interest to the overall design, however there are no minimum amounts of hardscape required.
3. Each landscape design should be unique to each property and there are no minimum or maximum requirements in regards to non-drought and drought tolerant vegetation. However, the landscape design will be evaluated in regards to the appearance or show of the landscaping in each season.
4. Vegetable Gardens are allowed in the backyard and the side yards within the side and rear setback requirements. Elevated Soil Beds are allowed in backyards, however the design and placement must be reviewed by the Design Review Committee and approved prior to installation. The number and size of the Elevated Soil Beds is dependent on the size of the backyard and the design chosen by the Homeowner and will need approval from the Committee. Coverage greater than 5% of the available backyard will receive additional scrutiny by the Committee.

Vegetable gardens located in the side or front yard must be incorporated with traditional or xeriscape landscape designs to provide year around show. The use of pollinator plants, flowers, herbs, fruits and leafy greens or other edible plants must be cultivated, weed free and trimmed for appropriate appearance.

Elevated Soil Beds are considered an above ground structure that must be reviewed and approved for appropriate location and design as well located within the approved setback requirements and view corridors.



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Definitions:

- Vegetable Garden (per SB23-178): A plot of ground or elevated soil bed in which pollinator plants, flowers, or vegetables or herbs, fruits, leafy greens, or other edible plants are cultivated.
- Elevated Soil Bed: A plot of ground bordered on all sides and filled with additional soil four inches (4") or more above the surrounding grade.

5. The following Preapproved Designs may be incorporated in an overall traditional or xeriscape landscape design. These preapproved designs are not complete yard designs by themselves. The chosen one(s) must still be submitted as part of a full landscape design for review and approval with the completed [Project Submission Form](#).

- <https://plantselect.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/HIGH-ELEVATION-PLANTING-DESIGN-front-yard-with-list.pdf>
- <https://plantselect.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/HIGH-ELEVATION-PLANTING-DESIGN-Backyard-with-list.pdf>
- <https://plantselect.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2-PS-Part-Shade.pdf>
- <https://plantselect.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/PS-Part-Shade-2.pdf>