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SEP/OCT 2001

## De-watering the Lawn

By Dr. Steve Link  
 President, Columbia Basin Chapter, Washington  
 Native Plant Society

Watering the lawn can be the cause of psychological problems for numerous people, including myself. I'll have to clear stories with my friends before I discuss their problems with irrigation systems in public!

When I moved into my new house, way

back in 1987, I was happy. The price was good and I didn't think too hard about the lack of an irrigation system for the yard. I watered the lawn by hand for a couple of years with sprinklers. I knew I was not going to continue to do so for very long. I've always enjoyed working with pipes and electronic control systems at work so I thought it would be fun putting in my own irrigation system. It was fun until I tried to rent a trencher to dig the lines. I was asked where I lived. I said I lived in West Richland off Bombing Range road. That was all the proprietor needed to hear. He was not going to let me ruin his trencher trying to dig through all the gravel in my soils.

Exercise is good, so I put the irrigation system in by hand, myself, using shovels and picks. It took two or three years to finish this exercise program. Rocks are OK

unless they are where you are digging all the time! I was having less fun by now.

I did succeed in putting my irrigation system together, and had a lawn. For several years all I had to contend with was sprinkler heads blowing off while on vacation, mowing off the sprinkler heads, replacing them, attempting to make them spray in the right pattern (I had to take many naps), periodic difficulties getting the electronic control system to turn on or, worse, turn off, remembering to blow the system out before it froze, and the cost of all the water. I could go on, but fun was no longer part of my experience with the irrigation system.

I could also go on about my problems with lawn mowers, mowing the lawn, weed



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control, and fertilizing, but I suspect you can fill in the story with your own experiences here.

I am now enjoying myself letting nature do most of the work in my yard. I have let nature back in by appreciating the native plants that come back on their own and by putting native plants in myself. I do have to admit to putting a significant amount of time into controlling and removing non-native weeds from my yard, but this labor seems manageable. It is less work than managing the

lawn and irrigation systems, and the cost is much less. I do retain a small lawn near my house and under a tree. Watering these plants can be done with a sprinkler system with very little trouble or expense. My water use has gone way down as have my water bills in the summer.

I suspect reducing water use will sound good to city managers who are under the gun to provide adequate water for urban needs in our region. The National Xeriscape Council estimates that 60 percent of urban water use is for lawn irrigation

in the West. The National Xeriscape Council promotes landscaping with a minimum application of water. You can learn more about alternatives to lawns in recent books such as *Redesigning the American Lawn: A Search for Environmental Harmony* by F. H. Bormann et al. (1993).

Dr. Link is a member of the Biology faculty at the Washington State University Tri-Cities Branch Campus, and president of the Columbia Basin chapter of WNPS. He can be reached at 509-372-1526 and by e-mail at [slink@tricity.wsu.edu](mailto:slink@tricity.wsu.edu).

## Conservation Specialists at Your Command

By Paula Mohadjer

In light of all the new water conservation jobs opening up in Utah there's no excuse anymore that we Utahns have no access to information and help with using our water more efficiently, especially when it comes to our yards.

Utah is the second driest state in the nation, averaging 13 inches of precipitation a year. Gaining another second place, Utahns use the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest amount of water per capita. Only Nevada beats Utah with less rainfall and higher per capita use.

With over 65% of treated culinary water in Utah being applied to our landscapes (this doesn't include secondary water), it makes sense that this would be the first focus for conservation.

Many cities and water purveyors have recently hired Water Conservationists, many with a background in horticulture or landscaping. It's exciting that Utah is moving forward in this direction. Take advantage of the growing resources available:

**Stephanie Duer**, Water Conservation Coordinator, Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities: (801)483-6860 or [Stephanie.d@ci.sl.c.ut.us](mailto:Stephanie.d@ci.sl.c.ut.us)

**Doug Kjilgren**, Water Conservation Coordinator, City of Sandy: (801)568-6048 or [sandypo.dkilgren@state.ut.us](mailto:sandypo.dkilgren@state.ut.us)

**Cheryl Izatt**, Water Conservation Programs Coordinator, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District: (801)565-4300 or [cheryli@jvwcd.org](mailto:cheryli@jvwcd.org)

**Paula Mohadjer**, Horticulture-Water Conservation Specialist, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District: (801)565-4300 or [paulam@jvwcd.org](mailto:paulam@jvwcd.org)

**Georgia Barker**, Water and Energy Conservation Specialist, City of St. George: (435)986-9644 or [GBarkerPV@aol.com](mailto:GBarkerPV@aol.com)

**Nancy Hardman**, Water Conservation Program Coordinator, Central Utah Water Conservancy District: ((801)226-7187 or [nancy@cuwcd.com](mailto:nancy@cuwcd.com)

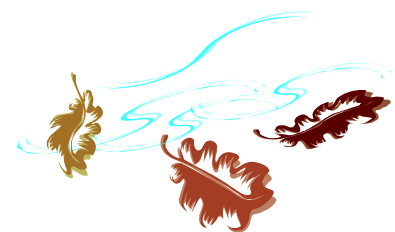
**Kelly Kopp**, Water Conservation Specialist, USU Extension Programs Coordinator: (435)797-1523 or [kellyk@ext.usu.edu](mailto:kellyk@ext.usu.edu)

**Julie Breckenridge**, Conservation Coordinator, Washington County Water Conservancy District. (435)673-3617 or [jbreckenridge@wcwcd.state.ut.us](mailto:jbreckenridge@wcwcd.state.ut.us)

**Carl Hanover**, Water Resources Manager, West Jordan City. (801)569-5015 or [carlh@wjordan.com](mailto:carlh@wjordan.com)

**Janice Richardson**, Conservation Projects Coordinator, US Bureau of Reclamation. (801)379-1069 or [jmrichardson@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:jmrichardson@uc.usbr.gov)

Also, the Division of Water Resources is now hiring a Water conservation Projects Coordinator, contact Lyle Summers at (801)378-7260.



## Yellow Starthistle: Destructive Weed is Encroaching on the Beehive State

By Sharon Haddock  
DESERET NEWS, July 17

The trick is to keep as few red dots on the weed map as possible.

And it helps if the seeds don't get into streams. Why? To keep a noxious weed that has taken over 8 million acres in California from doing the same in Utah.

"In California, it will completely cover a foothill. There are whole areas that it has made unusable, it's so infested," said Susan Garvin, a member of the Utah Native Plant Society and a forest service employee. "I would just hate to see it get that bad (in Utah)."

Garvin is talking about yellow starthistle, a bushy annual with yellow flowers and wicked spines that grows between two and three feet tall along roadsides and in pastureland. The plant is native to Mediterranean Europe and is now widespread in California, Idaho and Washington. It currently threatens rangeland and forests and can be harmful to horses if eaten.

Utah infestations have been identified from north Cache County to central Utah County and in the St. George area,

Garvin said.

"Right now, we have more of this in Highland than anywhere else," Garvin said, pulling at dry plants growing near a stream in the Dry Creek area in Highland. "But we also have some around the Adventure and Learning Park (now Highland Glen Park) and patches in both Battlecreek and Grovecreek canyons in Pleasant Grove."

There have been starthistles



reported in Cedar Hills and in Lindon as well.

On the weed map kept by Utah County's weed commissioner, Craig Searle, there are about 20 colored dots representing thistle stands in Utah County.

"We don't want any more," Garvin said. "The only way to stop it is now, while it's relatively new."

To combat the weeds,

Garvin has sent information to all of the north Utah County cities and is organizing "pull parties" of volunteers to clear out various patches. Garvin has sprayed where she can and is most successful with a chemical herbicide known as 2,4-D, but she can't spray on private property without permission.

She's keeping a close eye on the thistles growing near water because if left unchecked, the seeds will wash downstream and grow in new areas.

"These are starting to go to seed," she said. "That's bad for me because these are annuals that have a 5 percent seed back. That means they can start up again for up to 10 years."

Garvin hopes to raise such a clamor about the weeds that property owners and communities take notice and either pull or spray the weeds.

Garvin said Searle has purchased and released five species of biological control beetles and flies that chew into the seed heads and kill the thistles, but it's too soon to tell if that will be sufficiently effective.

In the meantime, Garvin is asking residents and visitors to call her at 801-377-5717 if any of the yellow starthistle plants are sighted.

Or people may e-mail Garvin at [Sgarvin@fs.fed.us](mailto:Sgarvin@fs.fed.us).



## Book Review: Creatures of Habit - The Changing Nature of Wildlife and Wild Places in Utah and the Intermountain West.

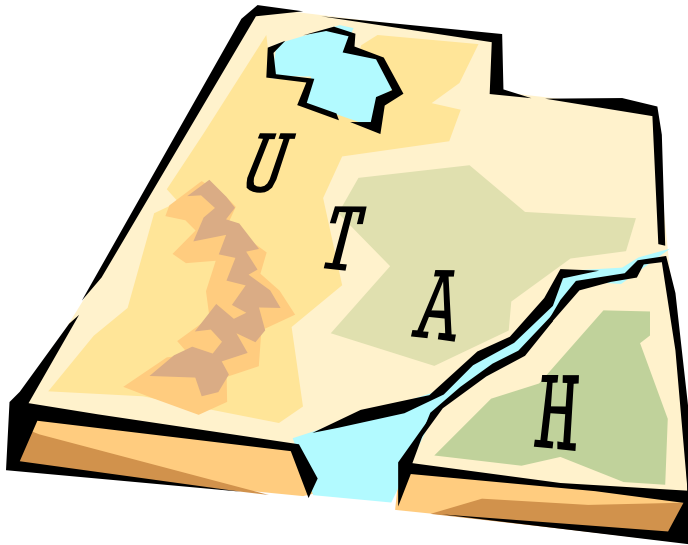
By Bill King

*Creatures of Habitat, The Changing Nature of Wildlife and Wild Places in Utah and the Intermountain West* is the title of an interesting new book out by Mark Hengesbaugh from Utah State University Press, 2001. Hengesbaugh is a freelance writer and former newspaper writer and editor.

Most of the sixteen chapters are reprints or rewrites of articles that were previously published elsewhere in the last three years, many of which are from the "Sports Guide."

The book has great sections on many of the Intermountain sensitive species of wildlife including the black-footed ferrets, pika, desert tortoise, sandhill cranes, and Burke's mustard. It has a

chapter on alpine species and another on alien weeds. It also takes on some institutions such as ski resorts and golf courses and praises others such as the Nature Conservancy. The book is illustrated with detailed pen and ink drawings by Karen Riddell, as well as distribution maps and a lot of black and white photos selected by Dan Miller, including one of mine.

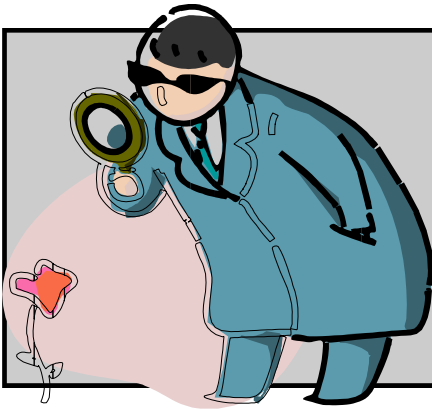


While the author freely admits that he is not a scientist, he is indeed a very perceptive writer and carefully spells out the nexus between wildlife,

habitat and humans. His writing style is mostly matter of fact newspaper style but then he will surprise you with a sentence worth repeating and contemplating in the style of some of the best nature writers such as "Death by habitat loss is simple to understand when you take a fish out of water."

There are four appendices that might be useful to some, including a Utah sensitive species list (no plants), a Utah wildlife checklist, Utah viewing locations and Intermountain refuges. The book is very well indexed but does not have a bibliography except for the bird section. It is softbound, over 200 pages long and sells for around \$20.

The book seems to be intended for general audiences and not professionals, but all of us can learn from his pervasive message about habitat loss. Each chapter in the book seems to hold its own and the book is ideal for the nightstand. It would make a fine gift for students and those who haven't yet seen the big picture about the importance of habitat..



## Plant Profile:

# Desert Four O'clocks

## *Mirabilis multiflora*

By Julie A. Rotolo

Just when you think there's no color out there anywhere, all the spring flowers are gone and the native grasses have long turned a golden brown, from out of the corner of your eye while walking past a majestic pinyon-juniper, a blast of magenta. A color so intense, you can hardly stay on your feet while running to see what it is. Your eyes can't stop scanning over the massive mound of dark green leaves amidst the myriads of tubular purple flowers. You fall to your knees in amazement: *Mirabilis multiflora*, Desert Four O'clock is the culprit.

With a Latin name that means, "wonderful, many-flowered plant," it's no surprise that this plant has that effect on all who have ever had the pleasure of seeing it in its native habitat or have planted one along a rock wall.

Four O'clocks are herbaceous, fast growing, long-lived perennial plants that die back to their roots every year. They form clumps 1-3 feet tall by at least that much wide once the soil starts to warm up in late April to early

May (to 6-8 ft. if given more water). The dark green leaves are opposite and are round to egg-shaped with short petioles. Both leaves and stems may be smooth or have sticky hairs. Leaves vary in size from  $\frac{3}{4}$ -7 inches long and are often pointed at the tip.

Flowers are borne in small clusters in the leaf axils. The funnel-shaped flowers protrude from a papery floral cup, which is made up of greenish bracts

that resemble floral sepals. Flowers are magenta in color and are 1-3 inches long by 1 inch across. Four O'Clocks do not have flower petals, rather very colorful sepals that are petal-like in appearance that together form a funnel-shaped flower. The fruit is a small, dark, very hard seed that is often held in the papery floral cup long after the flower blossoms have faded.

Like the species name



Bitsy Schultz

says, the plants are covered with blossoms from April-September. They tend to open up in late afternoon (hence the 4pm connotation) but will often be fooled into opening during times of heavy cloud cover. Once open, they will remain so throughout the night. They release a musky aroma shortly after opening, which attracts hawkmoths, the primary pollinator of these flowers.

Being native to the Southwest, these plants were used extensively by the various Indian tribes. The flowers were boiled to make a light brown or purple color for dyeing wool. The roots, which can grow to weigh 5 pounds or more, were chewed or boiled into a tea, which they used to cure sore throats, eye infections, muscle soreness, body swellings, rheumatism, indigestion, an appetite suppressant and even as a blood-strengthenener for pregnant woman.

Cultivation from seed takes some extra care. Moist pre-chilling for one month prior to sowing yields the most seedlings. Prick the seeds, put in flats, and place in a greenhouse. Care for them for a month or so until they have established a sufficient root system to survive outdoors. Propagation by root cuttings is also possible. Do so in the spring with a IBA/NAA dip and place in perlite. Once established, they are drought and elevation tolerant (from 2,300 to 7,500 feet) and cold hardy to -20 F. Make sure to plant in

full sun, in well-drained soil. with monthly deep watering. Too much water especially in clay, can cause root rot. Give them plenty of room; the vigor of this plant can quickly overtake smaller neighboring plants. Try to keep on the dry side and they will reward you with an awesome amount of blossoms. Use as a ground-cover for large borders with sage, cliffrose and apache plume. Perhaps over walls; under conifers— desert willows or as definition in a prairie planting. Native range is valley to foothills in Utah, Calif., Colo-



rado, Az., N. Mex., Texas, and Mexico. Plant association is salt desert shrub, mixed desert, and dry Mt. Brush (Pinyon-Juniper).

No matter how you do it, this one's a knockout! Plant this anywhere you want to draw attention. Perhaps it should be in the plans for at least a parking strip on every block. Once planted, the only way to discourage desert four o'clocks is to baby them. Just plant them, stand back and watch!

## Utah Native Plant and Seed Sources

### SEEDS

Utah Native Seed  
C. Paul Ames  
PO Box 355  
Eureka, Utah 84628  
435-433-6924

Utah Wildflowers  
Virginia Markham  
3650 West 2150 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84120  
801-277-8423

Granite Seed (wholesale)  
1697 West 2100 North  
Lehi, Utah 84043  
www.graniteseed.com  
801-768-4422/801-531-1456

### PLANTS

High Desert Gardens  
2971 S. Hwy 191  
Moab, Utah 84532  
435-259-4531

Wildland Nursery  
550 North Highway 89  
Joseph, Utah 84739  
janett@wildlandnursery.com  
435-527-1234

Great Basin Natives  
PO Box 134  
Holden, Utah 84636  
www.grownative.com  
435-795-2303

## State's Native Plants are Thriving in Heritage Gardens

**By Hilary Groutage-Smith**  
**THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE, July 22**

Darrin Johnson's interest in Utah's native plants came from an embarrassing moment on the golf course. His botanist friend asked him to identify a colorful plant growing nearby.

"I told him it was Indian paintbrush," Johnson said. "It was a firecracker penstemon. The two are completely different."

Indeed. And it was the look of that plant, one of the species that greeted early pioneer settlers when they arrived in Utah, that piqued Johnson's interest, changed the way he teaches and has grown into an absolute habit for the Utah County elementary school teacher.

It only took a couple of meetings with the Utah Native Plant Society before Johnson lobbied his principal and the Provo School District and succeeded in transforming the front lawn of Wasatch Elementary School in Provo into the state's first Heritage Garden.

That was 1998. The garden has grown into a beautiful collection of native plants including butterwort, pussytoes, buckwheat, Rocky Mountain columbine, countless penstemon varieties, Jacob's Ladder, cliffrose and currants.

At the same time, the Utah Native Plant Society's Heritage Garden Program has grown into 10 gardens with several others planned from Hurricane in the south to Cache Valley in the north.

There is a secret agenda, said Susan Meyer, chairwoman of the native plant society's board of directors.

"Utahns respect gardens. If they see these plants in a garden, they won't discount them anymore as something they only see on hikes," she said.

Meyer, who spends her days working as an ecologist, said native plants have pretty much taken over her life. The garden of her Elk Ridge home is full of native plants.

"It is what I do. It is my work and it is my play," she said. The root of her de-

votion to the plants and the Heritage Garden Program is two-fold: she is compelled to re-create and then preserve what once was found all over Utah, and she wants to make the plants accessible to Utahns who are curious about the splash of spring color in the hills.

Meyer encourages Utahns to take to the hills in the summer and collect seeds. Gather them about one month after the plant blooms, she said. For a successful seedling, the seeds should be planted in a weed-free area in the fall



University of Utah Heritage Garden

so they can experience winter just as they would in the mountains. Seeds and seedlings also are available at two Utah nurseries: Wildland Nursery in Joseph and Great Basin Natives in Holden.

Once the plants are established, Meyer said, they grow well with little intervention. That means they are a good choice for residents watching their water usage.

"We're going to run out of water," she said. "Here we are, the second driest state in the nation, pouring all that water on grass."

And as development eats up the natural landscape in Utah there are fewer places to see the native plants, and that is the purpose of the Heritage Garden program.

Behind every one of the 10 Heritage Gardens is a "gardening angel" just like Johnson, Meyer said. The plant society learned quickly that members could advise, supply plants and even help build a Heritage Garden, but there

was no way they could maintain them all.

The largest Heritage Garden is in Price, on a sprawling piece of land managed by the city and the Native Plant Society. The smallest is planted in containers at Salt Lake City's Jackson Elementary School.

A grant from the federal Bureau of Reclamation recently was used to buy a sign-making machine so plants in the Heritage Gardens can be labeled after they are planted.

The Wasatch Elementary garden

has become its own classroom, Johnson said. Besides students helping care for the garden, buses loaded with visitors and students from other schools frequently are seen outside the school.

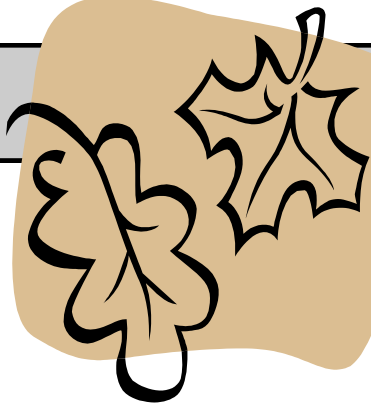
"Every spring we see students from Brigham Young University out there with their notebooks," Johnson said.

And Johnson's interest in the program has not waned just because his school's garden is established. During the last school year,

Johnson and his third-grade class grew about 9,000 plants. Some were sold to the Utah Native Plant Society for massive planting projects; others were planted by Johnson and his students at Timpanogos Cave in the American Fork Canyon.

The money earned by selling the plants is used to pay for field trips and other projects in Johnson's classroom, but it is the planting trips the students might remember most.

Davilyn Ferris' daughter, Lee, is now 10 years old, but still remembers what she learned in Johnson's class two years ago. On a recent drive through Bryce Canyon in Southern Utah, she pointed out plants and their names along the way. "She still talks about going up to Mt. Timpanogos and helping plant. Not just because she thought it was fun to be at Mt. Timpanogos, but she's clearly proud she's able to help restore the beauty around Utah. It enhanced her learning and her self-confidence," she said.



## State and Chapter News

### Cache Chapter

No news submitted

### Canyonlands Chapter

No news submitted

### Mountain Chapter

No news submitted

### Price Chapter

No news submitted

### Salt Lake Chapter

No news submitted

### Southern Utah Chapter

No news submitted

### Utah Valley Chapter

1) Susan Garvin has spear-headed Yellow Starthistle control near the mouth of Battlecreek Canyon in Pleasant Grove. The project will take a few years to complete (due to a persistent seedbank).

2) The Master Plan for the Rock Canyon Restoration Project is now out for review. The document is 30 pages in length, but the outline is attached to this document. Essentially, this ecological restoration is an attempt to re-create, as nearly as possible, the kind of plant communities that existed prior to arrival by white settlers. Because Rock Canyon is used for a variety of recreational activities, planning is needed to successfully complete the restoration, while at the same time maximizing benefits to user groups (e.g., wild animals, hikers, birders, rock climbers, bikers, etc). The master plan provides a framework for carrying out this project. For more information, contact April Sorensen at: [april\\_sorensen@hotmail.com](mailto:april_sorensen@hotmail.com) The mouth of Rock Canyon (the viewshed) where the restoration is taking place is 66 acres. Our efforts primarily focus on the floor of the viewshed, which involves 15 acres. Half of this is woody and native, the other half is herbaceous (almost all goatgrass, cheatgrass, bulbous bluegrass and alfalfa).

3) The Restoration project is well into the second year. What have we learned? Weed control should begin 18 months in advance of transplanting; otherwise weed seeds in the soil will dominate the landscape. The 2001 planting was much more successful than the 2000 planting, even though both years have been very dry. The main

difference is effectiveness of weed control. For more information contact [hil\\_allen@byu.edu](mailto:hil_allen@byu.edu)

4) Chapter members Susan Meyer and Bitsy Shultz continue aggressively promoting the use of native plants through an ever-expanding Heritage Garden Program. In addition, Susan is working closely with the folks at Grand Staircase Natl Monument to assure that appropriate native plants are included in the landscape surrounding the monument's visitor centers (5 centers, with varying needs for native plants).

### Vernal Chapter

No news submitted





# The Utah House, Living in Balance with Nature

In the spring of 1996, Utah State University Extension organized a workshop with the idea of creating an educational facility that would demonstrate new ways of building homes and creating landscapes. Nearly one hundred people were in attendance in which representatives from the "Florida House" presented their creation, an "earth-friendly demonstration house of appropriate technology and design for living in Southwest Florida."

The idea of a similar project in Utah created enough synergy that more than 50 people volunteered to participate in the development of what is now called as the Utah House. Participants volunteered to be on one or more of the five subcommittees, which focused on marketing, education, infrastructure, house design and landscape design.

From its inception, the project moved swiftly forward. Due to the tremendous cooperation of the Utah State University Extension and Utah State University Agricultural Experiment Station, the Utah House was able to acquire land at the new USU Botanical Center's mountain-view property in Kaysville. The demonstration landscapes at the Utah Botanical Center will be complemented by the Utah House, and together will serve as a clearinghouse of information. As an educational facility of broad regional appeal, the site is perfectly situated adjacent to Interstate 15, Utah's major north-south artery.

The mission of the Utah House is to educate the public about new ways of building homes and creating landscapes that promote the principles of sustainability, energy and water efficiency, healthy indoor environments, universal design principles, and economic development. The Utah House will serve as a learning and information center that will be open to the public for tours, workshops, and individual consultations.



## Principles of the Utah House

- Energy Efficient: Demonstrate practical and energy efficient solutions (goal to reduce energy use by 50%).
- Water Efficient: Demonstrate rainwater harvesting, water efficient fixtures, and water wise landscaping.
- Healthy Indoor Environments: Showcase healthy building materials and design strategies.
- Universal Design Principles: Demonstrate a home designed for all ages, abilities, and sizes.
- Economic Development: Promote economic development by showcasing local and state building prod-

ucts.

## The Utah House Landscape

The mission of the Utah House Landscape is to raise awareness and educate the public about the value of our home landscape and its ability to conserve water and save energy. The objectives are to promote the use of appropriate plants for Utah's home landscapes, demonstrate practical methods of water and energy conservation, and showcase a functional and aesthetically pleasing landscape that is in context with Utah's cold desert climate.

### Important Features

**Entry Landscape:** The entry to the Utah House is colorful, inviting and has year-round interest. Over 50% water savings is achieved through careful plant selection and efficient irrigation.

**Water and Energy Conservation:** Innovative water and energy conserving design principles are incorporated into the Utah House landscape. A 50 % water savings is expected for the entire landscape. Plants are grouped together and watered according to water needs while rain and snowmelt are harvested from the rooftop. Efficient irrigation and maintenance equipment help reduce outdoor water and energy use. Trees are strategically placed to reduce energy loads within house.

**Patio and Arbor:** The backyard patio will accommodate outdoor dining and entertaining small groups. Porous paving is used, potted plants add color, and a vine-covered arbor will provide essential shade in the summer.

**Water Feature:** A small efficient water feature is incorporated into the patio for visual interest, noise

abatement, and growing aquatic plants.

**Culinary Garden:** Fruits, vegetables, nuts, berries, and herbs can be found in the Utah House landscape. The culinary garden will demonstrate how to grow healthful, flavorful fresh food, while creating a garden that is both beautiful and functional.

**Children Garden:** A small garden designed especially for children will provide a place to play and begin discovering the wonders of the plant world.

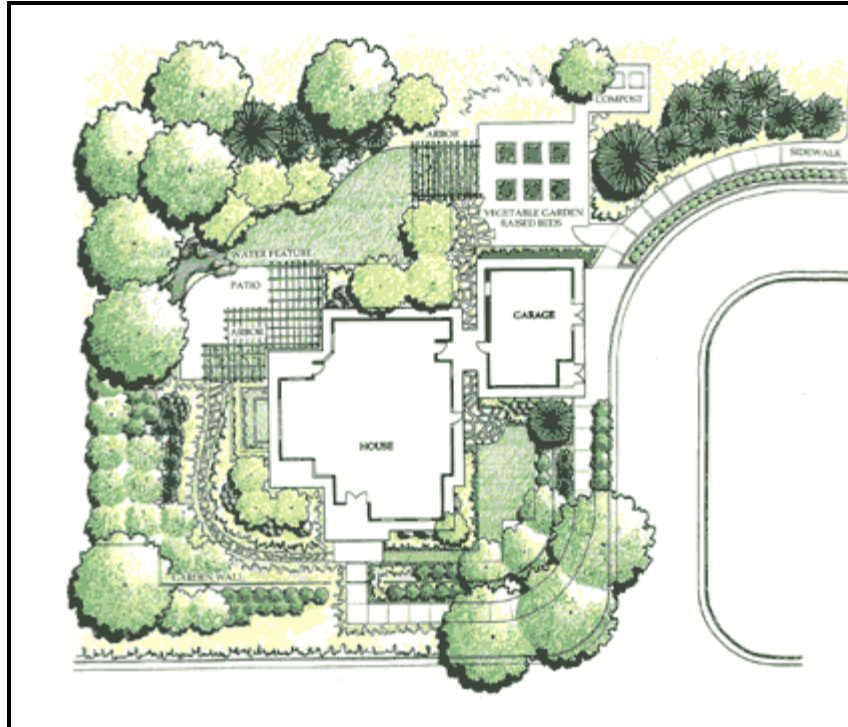
**Compost Area:** A compost area will demonstrate both the environmental and economic benefits of home composting.

**Irrigation System:** An innovative irrigation system that operates using soil moisture sensors is show-

cased. This unique system monitors soil moisture and irrigates only when soil is dry. A combination of drip irrigation with emitters is used to irrigate trees, shrubs, vegetables, and herbs while spray heads are used for annuals, perennials and groundcovers.

**Plant Material:** A variety of hardy trees, shrubs, groundcovers, turf grass, perennials and annual flowers are on display. Proper selection and arrangement of

plants demonstrate how to reduce typical irrigation needs by 50 %. Plants are grouped together according to irrigation needs. Plants were selected for their drought tolerance, pest and disease resistance, size, color, form, texture, leaves, flowers, and fruit. Native Utah plants in the landscape include Gambel Oak, Rocky Mountain Penstemon, Mountain Mahogany, Bigtooth Maple, Rabbit brush, Blue Flax, Chokecherry, Indian Ricegrass, Sandberg Bluegrass, Sand Dropseed, Western Wheatgrass, Oakleaf Sumac, Cliffrose, Apache Plume and Sandcherry.



*Irrigation Hydrzones:* Hydrzones from very low water use (no additional water once established) to a high water use zone.

*Water Collection Cistern:* Rain water and snow-melt is collected from the roof and stored in a water storage cistern located under the garage. This water is used later for landscape irrigation.

*Backyard for Wildlife:* Back yards can become havens for songbirds, butterflies, small mammals and many beneficial insects. With appropriate plant selection and proper landscape design, the Utah House backyard provides food, cover, and water necessary for attracting beneficial wildlife.

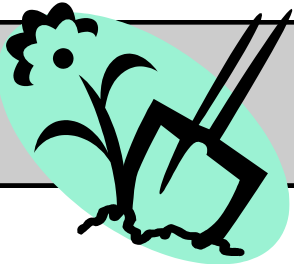
*Security:* Low physical separators between pri-

vate and shared spaces foster a sense of openness and community. Elements such as low walls, low hedges, and arbors are used to separate private spaces from public spaces. Efficient landscape lighting is used for security.

*Educational Components:* Interpretive signage, pamphlets, brochures, tours, workshops and a computer station are available to educate visitors about landscaping appropriately in Utah.

The Utah House demonstration house and learning center is located at the Utah Botanical Center in Davis County near Farmington, Utah, just off Interstate 15.

For much more information about the Utah House



## Events and Activities

### Utah Water Conservation Forum Fall Tour

This year's tour is one you won't want to miss! The Utah Water Conservation Forum's Fall Tour will be held on September 20th. The tour will begin at the Utah State University's Botanical Garden in Kaysville at 8:30 a.m. At the Gardens attendees will view test plots of various types of turf being raised by Pack Turf Farms at the site. Brad Pack will discuss the appropriate use of turf grass in the landscape. The tour will then hit the road as buses will take attendees to the Layton Heritage Garden, sponsored by the Utah Native Plant Society (UNPS). Heritage Gardens are forming throughout the State and offer examples of water wise landscaping, more specifically using plants that are native to Utah. A representative from the UNPS organization will guide the group and can explain about the Heritage Garden program and UNPS organization. Next the tour will visit Ogden's new business park, Business Depot Ogden, located on the site of the former Ogden Defense Depot. Greg Graves of Bingham Engineering will discuss the water conservation efforts being im-

plemented throughout the project, including the irrigation design, plant selection, etc. Buses will then return to the Botanical Garden where a lunch will be provided. During lunch, Dave Anderson from Utah State University will talk about what is happening at the Botanical Garden and its role in water conservation. The tour should conclude at 2:00 p.m.

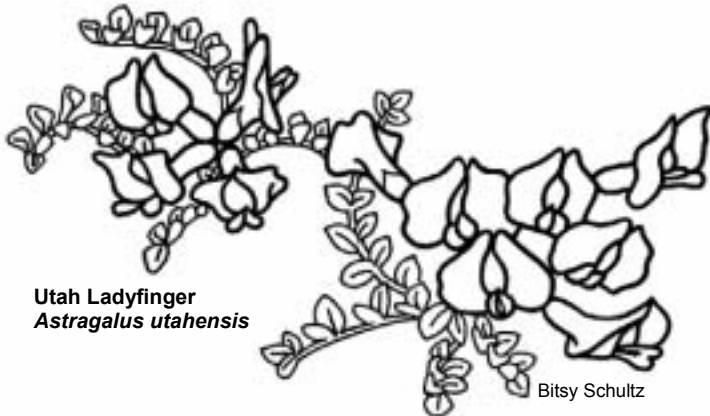


The beginning point for the tour will be just east of the Botanical Garden's ponds, which are visible from I-15 in Kaysville. To get there, take the Kaysville 2nd North exit, then travel east on 2nd North to Main Street. Turn right onto Main and travel south 3 short blocks. Turn right onto 50 West at 1st South. Stay on 50 West for just over a half a mile to 650 South 50 West.

Registration fees are \$35 per person before September 10, and \$50 per person September 11-20. For more information call Lyle Summer at 538-7279.

UNPS  
c/o Jo Stolhand  
Utah Native Plant Society  
P.O. Box 520041  
Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0041

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Utah Ladyfinger  
*Astragalus utahensis*

Bitsy Schultz

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For more information about the  
Utah Native Plant Society call:

Bill King: 582-0432  
Jo Stolhand: 521-0069  
Susan Garvin: 377-5717  
Larry Meyer: 272-3275  
Or write to: [unps@unps.org](mailto:unps@unps.org)

UTAH NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
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Lifetime	\$250.00

Please send a complimentary copy of the Segó  
Lily to the above individual.

Please enclose a check, payable to Utah Native  
Plant Society and send it to:

Membership  
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P.O.Box 520041  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84152-0041

**Check out our  
website!**

**[www.unps.org](http://www.unps.org)**

Many thanks to Xmission for  
sponsoring the Utah Native  
Plant Society website.

Please direct all suggestions,  
articles and events for the  
newsletter to Paula Mohadjer  
at [paulam@jvwcd.org](mailto:paulam@jvwcd.org). **Dead-  
line for next issue is Oct 15.**

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