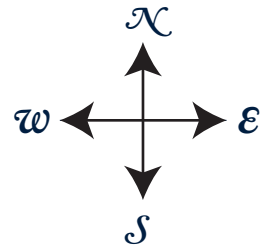
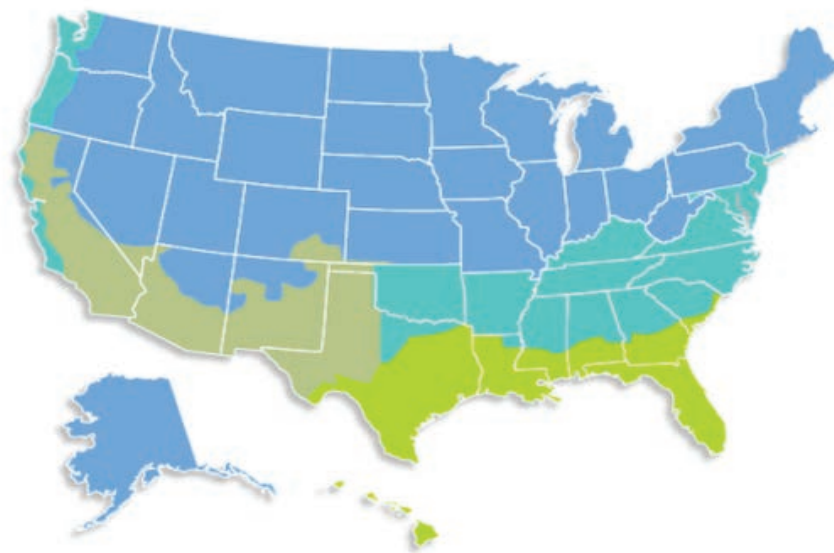


OUTDOOR SPACE

A Guide to Maintaining an Energy Efficient Yard

Customize by Climate:

Specialized Landscaping Tips for Each Area of the Country



Cool

Temperate

Hot-Humid

Hot-Arid

wind breaks

Plant windbreaks around the north, west and east sides.

Add windbreaks to the north and north-west sides of your house.

Direct summer winds at your home by planting low shrubs around your home.

Plant lots of trees, shrubs and vines around your house to keep it cool.

best plants



Deciduous Trees and Flexible Sun/Shade Perennials



Broad leaf trees and Shrubs and Sun-tolerant Flowering Perennials



Ferns, Heat-tolerant Shrubs and Bushes and Deciduous Trees



Succulents, Heat-resistant shrubs and Evergreen Trees

water use



shade tips

Shade the south and west sides of your home.

Plant other trees and shrubs along the west and east sides for shade, leaving the south side open to sun.

Shade around your home, but keep trees low to allow sun to enter during the winter.

Trees of all sizes will provide shade and keep your living environment

Steps for Saving Money and Energy

1.

Shade Your Home

- Planting trees around your home will increase the shade cover and help to lower your air conditioning bills. Well-placed trees can reduce cooling bills by 15-50%!
- Place deciduous trees along the south side of your house so that they can provide shade and still let breezes in.
- Shade patios and pavement with groundcover plants or shrubs to prevent heat radiation and keep walls and walkways cool.

2.

Deciduous

vs.

Evergreen



Use deciduous trees if you live in a cool climate - the leaves will fall in the winter, allowing sunlight to warm your home.



Choose evergreen trees, which keep their leaves throughout the year, if you live in an area that is windy or warm year-round.

3.

Add Windbreaks

- Adding trees, shrubs or a fence around your home can greatly decrease the amount of wind that your house experiences. (Evergreen trees are most common.)
- Windbreaks to the west, north and east of your home can reduce heating bills up to 40%.
- The windbreak also creates dead space between itself and your home, making it an insulating barrier that keeps your living space warmer.

4.

Reduce Water Use

- Group plants together based on their sun and water needs to prevent overwatering.
- Water plants in the morning so that they retain more of the water.
- Aerate your soil occasionally to prevent runoff.
- If you have a pool, use an energy efficient pump.
- For heated pools, use a cover and turn off the heater whenever the pool won't be used for several days. This helps to save money and energy.