

PATHWAY

Applicant begins the application process, contacts staff for assistance.



Applicant completes project sheet. Applicant (or a Landscape Professional) completes landscape design plan.



Applicant submits landscape package.



Staff reviews and approves. Okay to begin installation.



Project is installed as per plan.



Applicant completes Certificate. Applicant completes Irrigation & Maintenance Schedule.



County staff reviews and approves installation.



FINDING A LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL

A landscape professional is not required for alternative compliance submission - however, projects may benefit from using a local contractor, irrigation designer, or landscape architect. Use the information below to find a qualified professional:

IRRIGATION DESIGNERS

Can prepare an irrigation design plan and/or water use worksheet

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Can prepare the landscape design plan, irrigation design plan, and/or water use worksheet

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS (C-27)

Can prepare the landscape design plan, irrigation design plan, and/or water use worksheet

IRRIGATION AUDITORS

Can prepare an irrigation audit report after project installation.

To verify a license or search in your area, you can:

- follow the links included in the landscape package documents
- Visit the Solano County Green Building Program webpage to access links directly to the licensing databases.



SOLANO COUNTY

WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE ORDINANCE (WELO)

Alternative Compliance Guide:

Projects between 500-2500 Square Feet



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OVERVIEW

Beginning in 2025, Solano County will conduct a water efficiency review on all projects meeting thresholds below:

- Located in the unincorporated areas of Solano County.
- New landscaping area is at least 500 square feet.
- Renovated landscaping is at least 2500 square feet.
- Some exemptions apply (historical sites, ecological or mined-land reclamation projects with no irrigation, and botanical gardens/arboretums open to the public).
- Overall project is subject to a design review, plan check review, or other review by Solano County. Typically, landscape projects would be flagged during a building application review.



Applicants will be required to submit either the full compliance package (projects over 2500 square feet) or the alternative compliance package (projects between 500 and 2500 square feet). Completed landscape packages can be submitted via email to WELQ@solanocounty.com, via the online submittal portal, via mail, or in our office with an appointment.

To set up an appointment or assistance with a landscape review package, please contact WELQ@solanocounty.com or 707-784-6765. Our team is standing by to help with your project!

PLAN APPROVAL

The initial application package must include these two elements:

- ✓ **Project Worksheet.** This page lists basic information about the landscape project and contact information.
- ✓ **Landscape Design Plan.** Comprehensive layout for the landscape project, complete with water features, mulching areas, plant and turf areas, and irrigation system.

Once project is completed, a second round of document submission is required. These two elements must be completed:

- ✓ **Certificate of Completion.** The contractor (or architect) and the property owner must sign the completion certificate, certifying that the project was installed as per the approved plans.
- ✓ **Irrigation & Maintenance Schedule.** The plan must detail the watering plan for each hydrozone or station, a plan for regular maintenance, and that the total applied water will not exceed the approved water budget.



LOCAL RESOURCES



Many plant nurseries provide assistance with plant selection and local design plans. Check for these resources in your local area.