

Sustainable Landscapes Demonstration Site Network

The Sustainable Landscapes Education Program has established twelve demonstration sites illustrating best management practices for low-maintenance, environmentally friendly landscaping. Practices are implemented to enhance the goals and reduce resource consumption at each site.

Residential Renovation

Lakehurst, NJ
Not Public

Issues:

- Prior high-maintenance turf
- Not watered or fertilized
- Thatch and die-off
- Invasive ornamentals
- Unused lawn space



Site Highlights:

- Tall fescue turf
The front yard was roto-tilled and seeded with a high performing tall fescue blend appropriate for sandy soils. Seeding, watering, and fertilizer rates were determined with soil tests and NJAES information.
- Native ornamentals
Invasive plants were removed, and replaced with native, naturalized and drought tolerant species.
- Rain barrel
A rain barrel was constructed from a 35 gallon trash can to water ornamental beds.
- Lawn size reduction
Ornamental beds were expanded around the fence lines. In addition, a small garden was planted on the side of the house.

Impacts:

- Cost/Benefit
 - No city water was used to irrigate this landscape after installation.
 - Turf fertilization occurs annually in response to soil test results.
- Environmental
 - Approximately 270 square feet of lawn was converted to other uses.
 - Approximately 200 gallons of water was conserved using the rain barrel.