

Landscaping Standards

Moab Municipal Code 17.10

How to Evaluate Your Landscape
Prescriptive Example

updated February 2024



Summary

Moab Municipal Code 17.10

Prescriptive Example

1 Check Moab
Municipal Code.

2 Examine your
property.

3 Get to
know your
landscape.

4 Compare your
landscape
with the code.

5 Plan the
adjustments.

6 Complete the
submission
worksheet.

7 Submit the
documents with
your application
to Moab City.

Find
More
Info
Online



Chapter 17.10 LANDSCAPING STANDARDS

Sections:

- 17.10.010 Intent.**
- 17.10.020 Scope and applicability.**
- 17.10.030 Landscaping – Maintenance.**
- 17.10.040 General standards.**
- 17.10.050 Buffering and screening requirements.**
- 17.10.060 Submittal requirements.**
- 17.10.070 Review procedures.**
- 17.10.080 Enforcement.**
- Appendix A Water Budget.**
- Appendix B General Template.**
- Appendix C Approved Plant List Criteria.**

17.10.010 Intent.

The intent of the landscaping requirements in this title shall be to enhance and preserve the community quality of life and property values by enriching the visual environment, supporting public safety, and contributing to a resilient and sustainable environment. (Ord. 23-08 § 3, 2023)

17.10.020 Scope and applicability.

In landscaped areas or where landscaping is required, such landscaping shall comply with the requirements set forth in this title for the specific use and location. The specific requirements relating to landscaping standards shall comply with the level of associated requirements based on scale of development, outlined in the review and procedures section of this title. Exemptions and exceptions are outlined in the review procedures.

A. *Required Landscaping.*

1. In addition to the specific sections of the Moab Municipal Code requiring landscaping, screening, or buffering, the requirements and regulations specified in this title shall apply to all provisions and processes requiring landscaping, including:
 - a. Permitted residential uses, including single-household dwellings, two-household dwellings, and multi-household dwellings between three and six units, shall require at least seventy percent of the area

Prescriptive Example

Step 1: Check Moab Municipal Code.

- Identify the extent to which the Moab Municipal Code applies to your landscape. ([17.10.020](#), [17.10.030](#), [17.10.050](#), [17.10.070](#)).

- No change to the property may just require regular maintenance.
- Minor adjustments to the landscape may require compliance for new aspects.
- Major changes to the landscape or any changes to the property may have more requirements and require a submission

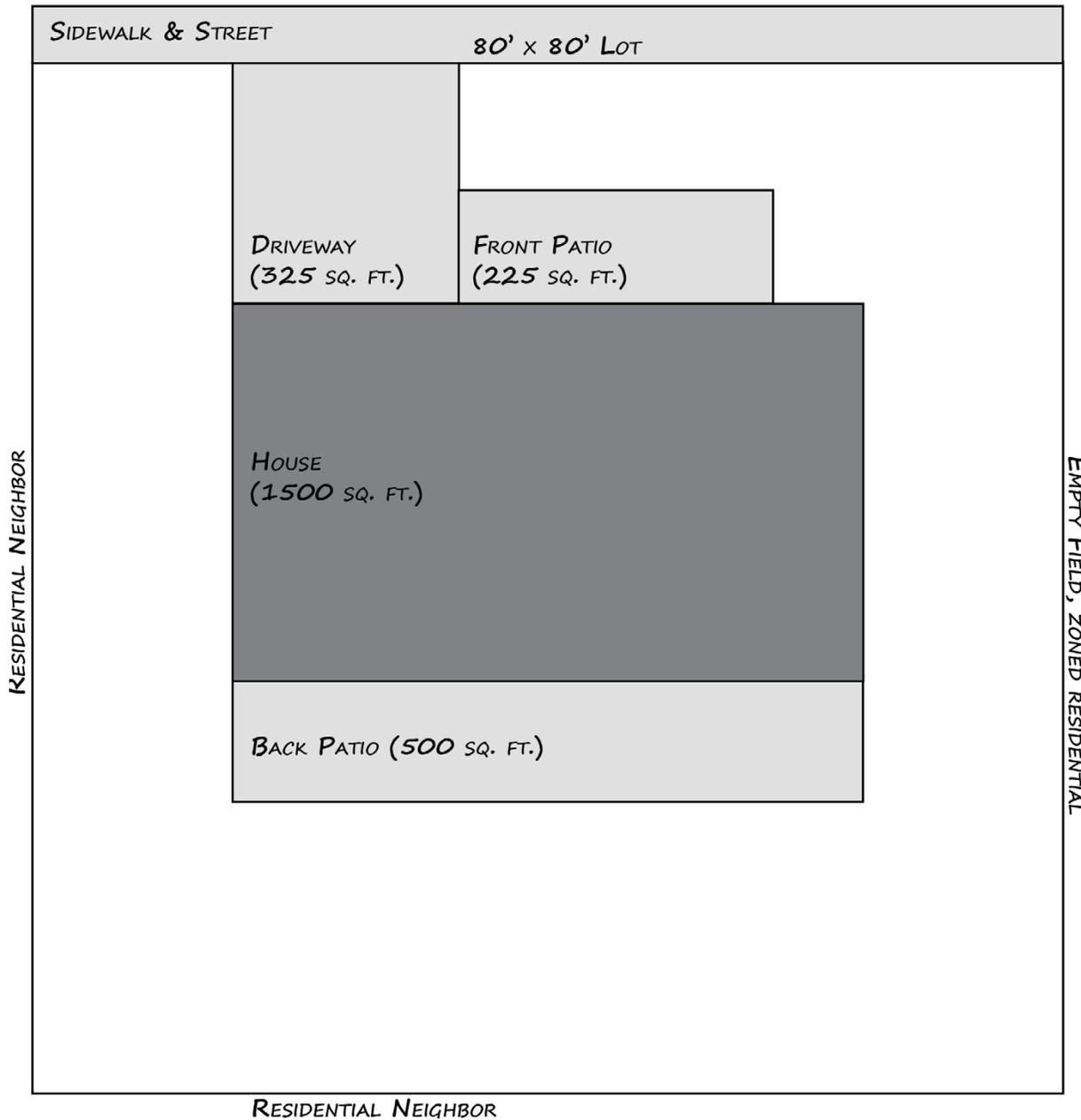
PAUSE HERE. Your determination at this step will guide how you proceed. Modifications that require "greater compliance" may use this as a resource. Changes that require full compliance or a submission should work through the following steps.

- If the change requires a submission, identify the type of landscaping plan required ([17.10.060](#)).

- General
- Level I
- Level II

- Identify the applicable standards. ALL landscaping plans must meet General Standards 1-3, plus—

- General plan, choose between
 - Prescriptive option: Standards 4-7, or
 - Water budget option: Standard 9.
- Level 1: Standards 5 – 9
- Level 2: Standards 4-9



Prescriptive Example

Step 2: Examine your property.

- Identify the—
 - Property zone
 - Neighboring property zones
- Identify the dimensions of the—
 - Property
 - House
 - Paved areas
 - Landscape area

Find helpful maps here:

moabcity.org/291/City-Maps

Example lot:

Lot size: 6400 sq. ft.

-1500 sq. ft. house area

-1050 sq. ft. driveway & patios

Landscaped area = 3850 sq. ft.

Plant spread:

Street trees:

Artificial plants:

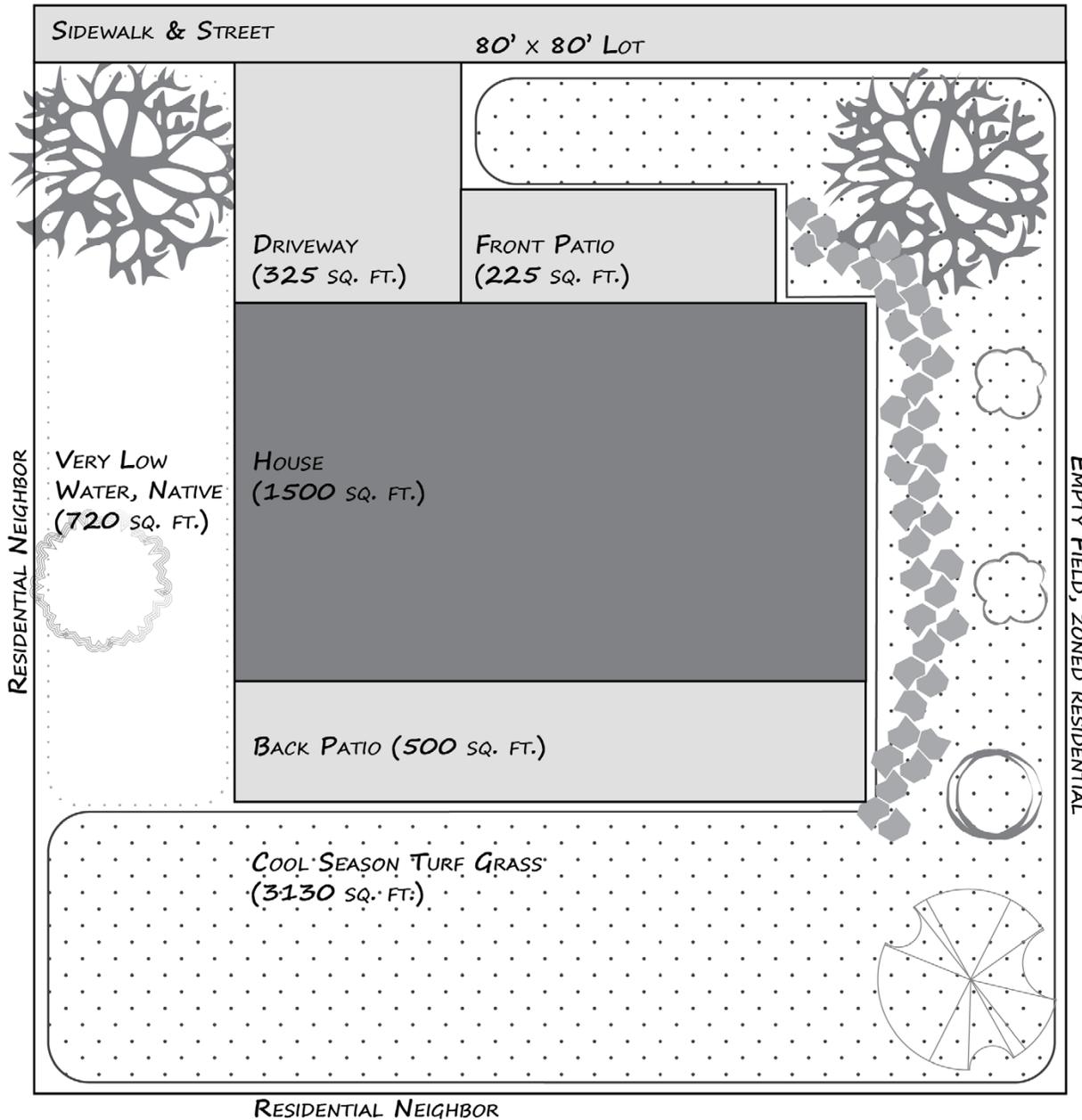
Non-approved plants:

Cool Season Turf:

Mulch:

Water features:

Hydrozoning:



Prescriptive Example

Step 3: Get to know your landscape.

- Identify landscape elements—
 - Trees, shrubs, forbs (small flowering plants), grasses, etc.
 - Mulch
- Identify zones of plants using differing amounts of water. These zones could include—
 - Vegetable gardens
 - Turf
 - Native plants
- Enter the plants into the Live Plant Calculator to assist. It's available at: moabcity.org/676/Landscaping-Standards

Example lot:

Lot size: 6400 sq. ft.

Landscaped area: 3850 sq. ft.

Plant spread: 99%

Street trees: 2

Artificial plants: None

Non-approved plants: 3

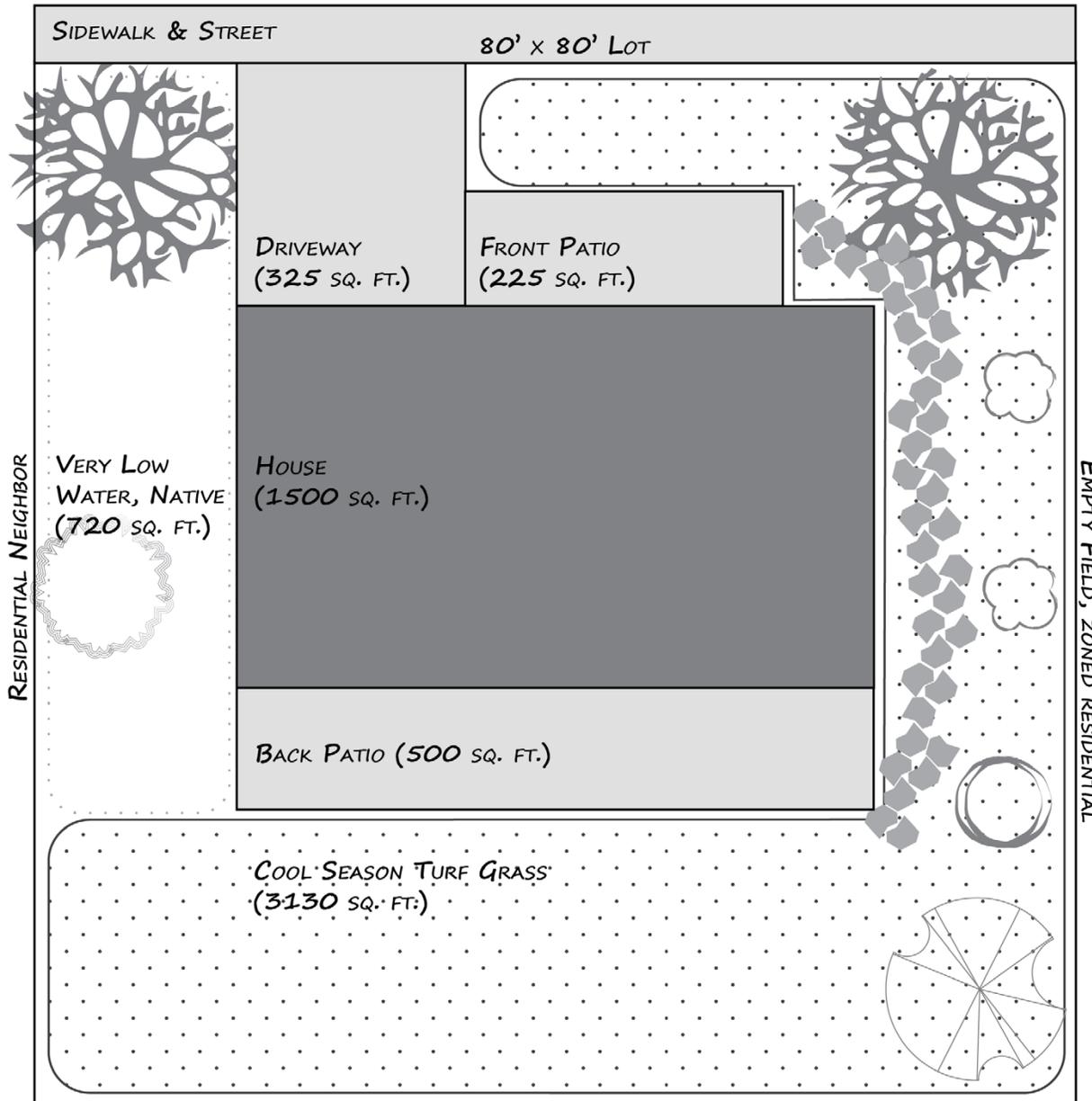
Cool Season Turf: 3130 sq. ft.

Mulch: N/A

Water features: None

Hydrozoning: Non-irrigated native zone and high water turf zone

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| TRAILING BELLFLOWER (3) | KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS |
| BIGTOOTH MAPLE (2) | RABBITBRUSH (4) |
| BLUE GRAMA (16) | UTAH JUNIPER (1) |
| CHASTE TREE (1) | PAVER |



RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBOR

-  **TRAILING BELLFLOWER (3)**
-  **BIGTOOTH MAPLE (2)**
-  **BLUE GRAMA (16)**
-  **CHASTE TREE (1)**
-  **KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS**
-  **RABBITBRUSH (4)**
-  **UTAH JUNIPER (1)**
-  **PAVER**

Prescriptive Example

Step 4: Assess differences between your landscape and code requirements.

- Use the Submission Worksheet for your landscape to identify changes necessary. It's available at: moabcity.org/676/Landscaping-Standards

Example lot:

Lot size: 6400 sq. ft.

Landscaped area: 3850 sq. ft.

Plant spread: 99% Meets requirements

Street trees: 2

Meets requirements of one tree per 40 ft.

Artificial plants: None

Meets requirements

Non-approved plants: (3)

Check noxious weed list and percentage.

Cool Season Turf: 3130 sq. ft.

Exceeds 200 ft. or 10% maximum

Mulch: N/A

None necessary in native areas

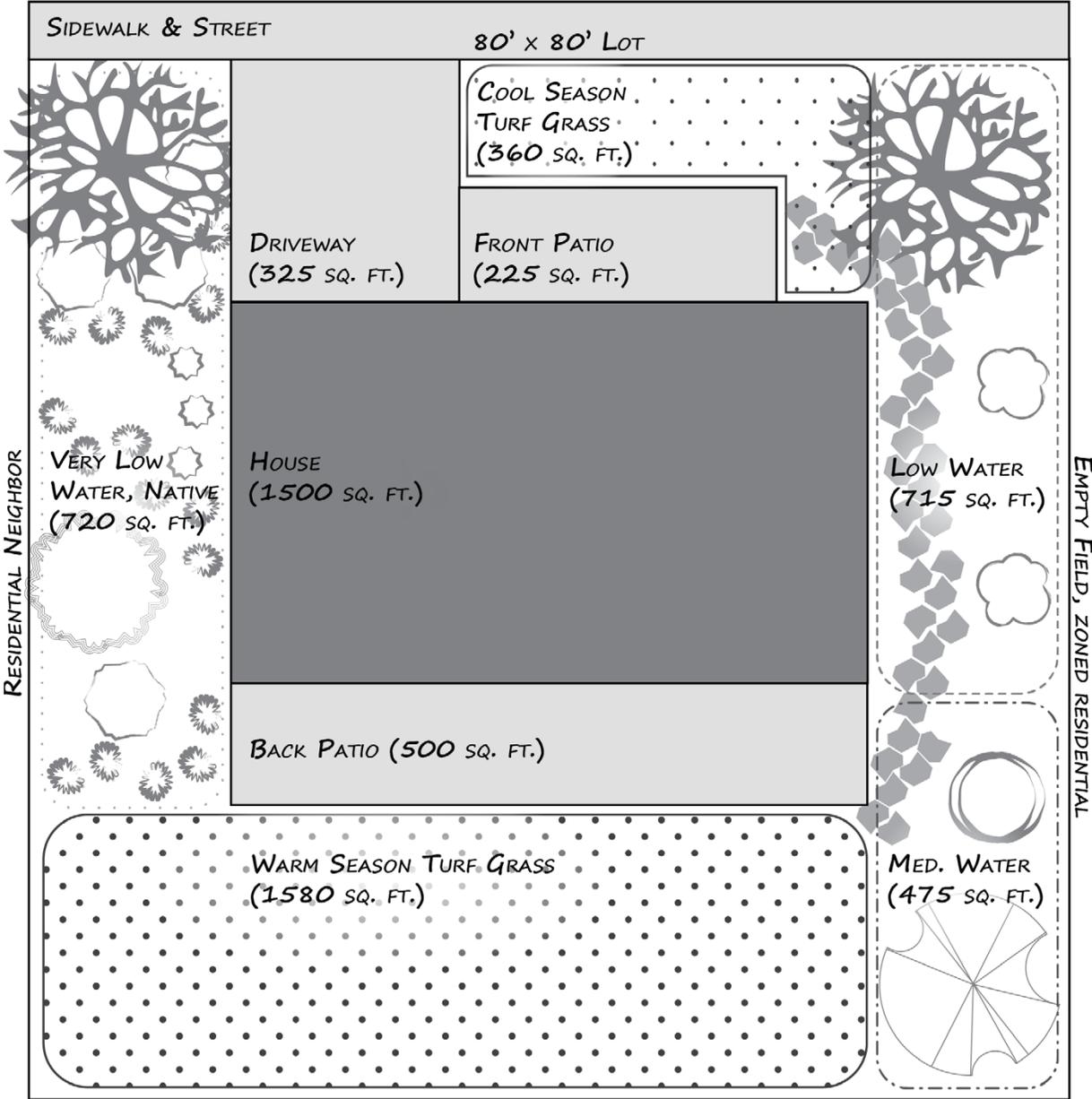
Water features: None

Meets requirements

Hydrozoning: Non-irrigated native zone and high water turf zone meet plant grouping requirements.

Prescriptive Example

Step 5: Plan the needed adjustments.



Example lot:

- Lot size:** 6400 sq. ft.
- Landscaped area:** 3850 sq. ft.
- Plant spread:** 69%
Lower but still meets 25% standard
- Street trees:** 2
- Artificial plants:** None
- Non-approved plants:** 3
They're not on the noxious weed list and not more than 10% of the landscape.
- Cool Season Turf:** 360 sq. ft.
Now less than the 10% maximum
- Mulch:** 2"
Added to low and medium water areas
- Water features:** None
- Hydrozoning:** *Non-irrigated native zone and high water turf zone meet plant grouping requirements.*

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| TRAILING BELLFLOWER (3) | CHASTE TREE (1) | BLUE MIST SPIREA (2) |
| BIGTOOTH MAPLE (2) | KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS | UTAH JUNIPER (1) |
| BLUE GRAMA (16) | RABBITBRUSH (4) | PAVER |
| BUFFALO GRASS | ROCK SPIREA (1) | |

Fill in blue cells. Submissions must comply with the standards in [Chapter 17.10](#), which is the definitive source of information. This template is for assistance in creating a General Landscape Plan, as described in section [17.10.060](#).

1. Applicants' Landscape Plans must comply with General Standards 1-3.
2. Then, applicants may choose between the following options:
 - a. Prescriptive Option Landscape Plans shall also follow General Standards 4-7. Continue to section I.
 - b. Water Budget Landscape Plans shall also follow General Standard 9. Continue to section II.

Total Landscaped Area = **3,850.0** sq. ft.

Submittal Requirement Number	Requirement summary Name	Requirement summary	Submittal I verify that this landscape contains...	
1	Plant Material 17.10.040(A)(1)	Living Plant Material Minimum ≥ 25% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measured by the estimated spread at maturity • Tree canopy may count as up to 15% or the 25% requirement. <hr/> Trees are required on street frontage, one for every 40 feet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternatives include trees located within allowed areas of private property or an agreement to plant or pay a fee in lieu. • Required trees are no more than 120 ft. apart. 	Living plant material at maturity	3,139.0 sq. ft.
			Live plant material <i>Living plant material ft²/Total landscape x 100 (Please use the live plant calculator.)</i>	66 %
			Check to confirm plant list is attached*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Street frontage of the property	80.0 linear ft.
			Trees required <i>Linear feet of street frontage /40</i>	2 trees
			Of required, trees in right-of-way	2.0 trees
			Of required, trees on private land	trees
Of required, trees planted in city agreement. Describe in comments.	trees			
2	Artificial Plants 17.10.040(A)(2).	Artificial plants and turf, do not count toward the required landscape.	Check to confirm landscape does not include artificial plants.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Approved Plant List 17.10.040(A)(3)	90% of forbs, shrubs, and trees shall be from the Plant List .	Percentage of plant material is on the Approved Plant List.	99.9 %
			This percentage is measured by:	<input type="radio"/> Quantity OR <input checked="" type="radio"/> Spread
			100% of groundcovers and ornamental grasses shall be from the Plant List.	Check to confirm groundcovers and ornamental grasses meets this standard.

*Attached documentation may be included in the landscape plan. Spreadsheets to help calculate live plant material and water budget are available online. <https://moabcity.org/676/Landscaping-Standards>
Updated: 1/25/2024

Prescriptive Example

Step 6: Complete the Submission Worksheet.

It's available at:

moabcity.org/676/Landscaping-Standards

Step 7: Submit your Worksheet and documentation with the building permit or relevant Moab City application.

Scan the QR code

for landscape resources, including calculators, FAQs, the Approved Plant List, and more!

