



FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

*This fact sheet is offered as a courtesy to assist in supporting greater understanding of water-related issues in the Southwest Florida Water Management District.*

## Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles

### **Right Plant, Right Place**

Plants selected to suit a specific site will require minimal amounts of water, fertilizers and pesticides. Group plants according to their maintenance needs.

### **Water Efficiently**

Irrigate only when your lawn and landscape need water. Efficient water is the key to a healthy Florida yard and conservation of limited resources.

### **Fertilize Appropriately**

Less is often best. Over-using fertilizers can be hazardous to your yard and the environment. Use a slow-release product to avoid washing away of nutrients.

### **Mulch**

Maintaining an approximate 3-inch layer of mulch will help maintain soil moisture, prevent erosion and suppress weeds.

### **Attract Wildlife**

Plants in your yard that provide food, water and shelter can conserve Florida's diverse wildlife.

### **Manage Yard Pests Responsibly**

Unwise use of pesticides can harm people, pets, beneficial organisms and the environment.

### **Recycle**

Grass clippings, leaves and yard trimmings recycled on site provide nutrients to the soil and reduce waste disposal.

### **Reduce Stormwater Runoff**

Water running off your yard can carry pollutants such as soil, debris, fertilizer and pesticides that can adversely impact water quality. Reduction of this runoff will help prevent non-point source pollution.

### **Protect the Waterfront**

Waterfront property, whether on a river, stream, pond, bay or beach is very fragile and should be carefully protected to maintain freshwater and marine ecosystems.

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