**Before You Begin:**

Before heading to the nursery, take a look at the following questions to ensure this plan is the right choice for you.

**Do I have the right exposure?** The “Some Plants Like it Hot” landscape template is intended for a very hot, sunny location. If your location has existing shade or cooler temperatures, you may need to consider plant substitutions or another design.

**Will this fit in the space I have?** This plan is created for a long narrow space approximately 40’ long x 5’ wide and 9’ long x 5’ wide. If your site is smaller, fewer plants may be needed or sections of the plan may be eliminated. If your site is larger, consider adding more of the same plants to create a cohesive landscape or repeat sections of the plan to fit your space.

**Am I ready to plant?** Before buying the plants, make sure the area is prepared. Remove any unwanted vegetation, till and amend the soil, and modify the irrigation in order to begin planting.

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**Planting Tips:**

**Before You Dig, Call 8-1-1 to Have the Underground Utilities Marked!**

- Space plants according to mature size.
- Only remove dead or broken branches on trees and shrubs at planting time.
- Keep mulch away from the base of plants.
- Dig planting hole 2-3x’s the width of the root ball.
- Install drip irrigation emitters at the outer edge of the root ball. Cover the drip pipe and ground with mulch to reduce moisture loss & add protection.
- Amend and till the soil before planting. Use the amended existing soil for the backfill.

**Valley Cushion Mugo Pine adds great winter interest to any garden.**

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**Successful Landscaping Tips**

**Remove Unwanted Vegetation:** Remove existing grass, weeds, and unwanted plants before installation.

**Improve the Soil:** After removing vegetation, spread 1-2 inches of compost and till it into the soil at least 6 inches deep. If working around an existing tree, mix in the compost by hand.

**Install Mulch:** Add mulch after planting to reduce evaporation of moisture from the soil.

**Water Smart:** Although these plants are low water, they are not no water. Once established, water 1-2 times a week to ensure good plant performance.

**Don’t Forget Maintenance:** All of the plants selected for this plan are easy to maintain. Cut back perennials & grasses in the spring. Prune only dead or broken branches on trees and shrubs.
WHAT WILL IT LOOK LIKE?
The bird's eye view demonstrates how to layout the plants.
The street view below represents how the plants will look when established.

Set out plants before you begin planting to ensure space for plant maturity.

Use mulch to finish the look of this garden. Apply 3" of any shredded wood mulch or 2" of 3/4" rock mulch without fabric.

Use multi-colored river rock of various sizes (3/4" - 8") to achieve a natural looking dry stream bed. Mix in some boulders to add drama.

Some Plants Like it Hot
A Landscape Design Template for a Parkway

Converting these narrow strips of grass to xeric plants and drip irrigation is a great place to begin transforming your landscape. Parkways are often hot and dry, making it difficult to sustain grass. The plants showcased in this template thrive in these conditions while staying short enough to provide good visibility.

Plant List:
- Kentucky Coffee Tree (1)
- Valley Cushion Mugo Pine (2)
- Pawnee Buttes Sandcherry (3)
- Prairie Sky Switchgrass (3)
- Blonde Ambition Blue Grama (5)
- English Lavender (3)
- Jupiter's Beard (5)
- Mersea Yellow Pineleaf Penstemon (8)
- Snow in Summer (4)
- Soapwort (6)
- Lavender Ice (8)

Above: Mersea Yellow Pineleaf Penstemon cascades over an informal rock wall.

Check out our website for more great information on these and other water-wise plants at www.csu.org

Blonde Ambition Blue Grama is a great addition to any warm and dry garden due to its soft blue-green foliage and elegant tan seed heads.

Jupiter's Beard has long lasting pink flowers followed by light yellow seed heads.

Pawnee Buttes Sandcherry has fragrant spring flowers and a red fall color.

Colorado Springs Utilities
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