

Fieldtrip to the Water Conservation Garden

Name: _____

Please follow the self-guided tour through the various areas of the garden, and answer the following questions:

1. What is the importance of mulching to water conservation?
2. Please draw a diagram of the normal soil horizons, then a second diagram showing the average suburban soil horizon.
3. Why is the soil important when planning a water-wise garden?
4. Please look at the types of Native Plants available for use in the garden. Which would be most useful for hedges or large shrubs?

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5. What are some of the fragrant plants that are also water-wise?
6. Please make observations about the use of hardscapes and art in this garden.
7. How does the Cactus and Succulent garden use less water than the other areas?
8. Please observe the covered areas in the garden. What kinds of structures are available, and what do they offer in the way of shade, plant protection, minimal water use, and creativity?

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9. What kinds of plants are best for container gardening?
10. What kinds of ground cover are appropriate for a water-wise garden?
11. How do they differ from what is commonly used in gardens in San Diego?
12. Please go to Turf Exhibit. Which grasses are most water hungry?
13. Which is the grass that will use the least amount of water?
14. Are there any drawbacks to artificial turf?
15. What is the most efficient type of irrigation? How much water is conserved or used by this method?

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16. Please be creative and draw a plan of your perfect water-wise garden. You can start with your own back yard, and plan using any of the plants, hardscapes, irrigation techniques, or garden art that you have seen. You may use a separate sheet of graph paper if you prefer.

Thank you for taking this field trip. I hope you learned a lot and had fun!