

Background

In Atlanta, Georgia many trees were removed during urban growth. An "urban heat island" was created resulting in more wind, smog and a temperature increase of 5-8 degrees. NASA measured ground temperatures of parking lots and found that shade trees lowered the temperatures of parking areas by 30 degrees.



Parking areas are much cooler with the right plants.

Using a calibrated heat gun, temperatures of landscapes in Moab, Utah were tested on July 11th, 2005. The air temperature was 97 degrees. Ground temperatures of locations with **energy-efficient landscaping** ranged from 85-87 degrees. Areas without **energy-efficient landscaping** exceeded 112 degrees.

What is energy efficient landscaping?

This is a style which uses at least 15 large shade trees per acre, smaller trees, wind breaks, shrubs, evergreens, and fescue grass lawns.

Sun and wind effect the temperature of unsheltered buildings. Removing trees creates desert-like conditions and



can reduce rainfall for an entire region.

Designed to be passive solar, it considers the orientation of the building and outdoor spaces.

Energy-efficient landscaping insulates and protects structures by using fast growing plants which spread horizontally and vertically in large areas.

Increased use of hardscape -- roofs, rock, gravel, blacktop and defoliated soil - - has a long-term effect on energy use and the environment.

Proper landscaping is necessary to decrease greenhouse gasses, pollution, and prevent global climate changes.

Solutions

Ways to save energy through landscaping include reducing the use of hardscape and blacktop, planting more shade trees and installing state-of-the-art irrigation systems.

It is important to have a balance of green space surrounding new and existing buildings. This also creates valuable outdoor living area.

TreeUtah tells us we need to plant more trees. Properly designed landscape can save up to \$250.00 a year on energy costs according to CNN News.



Fescue grass and meadow lawns create a fire break.

"Meadow lawn" is a fescue-based, low-maintenance lawn. It stays green with very little water to cool the area around the home. Fescue minimizes dust and provides food and habitat for birds and beneficial insects.

Benefits of Energy Efficient Landscaping...

- Saves on energy bills
- Lowers maintenance
- Protects the environment
- Provides cleaner, safer air
- *Is naturally beautiful!*



Evergreens are essential to your landscape.

Planting the proper vegetation is an investment in the long term value of our properties and our environment. It's investment landscaping at its finest...

By becoming aware of the value and importance of proper landscaping we can help preserve the planet for future generations.



Butterflies, Trees & Dreams

A not-for-profit organization dedicated to the enhancement of family life in the Four Corners Area.

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Sponsored by...

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ENERGY EFFICIENT LANDSCAPING...



...a natural way to make your personal landscape into a long-term investment.



Plants save energy by cooling your home in the summer and warming it in the winter.

Moving Ahead With Landscaping ...