

Energy-Efficient Landscaping

This playbook guides you through the process of designing a landscape that enhances energy efficiency. By using strategic planting and shading, you can naturally reduce your home's energy consumption.

Step 1: **Assessment**

Start by assessing your yard's current layout and note areas of sun and shade throughout the day. Consider seasonal changes in sun exposure.

Step 2: **Planning**

Create a landscape plan that includes shade trees, shrubs, and ground cover. Position trees to shade the home during summer yet allow sunlight in winter. Include windbreaks to protect against cold winds.

Step 3: **Tree Selection**

Select deciduous trees for areas you want shaded in summer but sunny in winter. Choose evergreen trees for year-round windbreaks.

Step 4: **Planting**

Plant trees and shrubs according to your designed plan, considering mature size for spacing. Ensure proper soil preparation and watering to establish the plants.

Step 5: **Maintenance**

Regularly maintain your landscape by pruning, watering, and mulching. Seasonal care ensures the health of your plants and the effectiveness of your energy-saving design.

General Notes

Climate

Adjust your plant choices and landscape design according to your specific climate zone and the unique conditions of your property.

Professional Advice

Consider consulting a landscape designer or local extension service for personalized advice suited to your property's needs and local environmental conditions.