

MURRAY CITY'S Park Strip Guide



TREE CITY USA®



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Why park strips?

Park strips. That pesky bit of land that never quite seems to get enough water. They are also one of the largest water wasters in residential landscape because they are so hot and narrow. Happily, they are also one of the easiest to transition into a water wise oasis. Let's get started!

Is there money available to help?



So glad you asked! There is. Check out the following website for more information:

www.murray.utah.gov/1853/Flip-Your-Strip-Information

Keep in mind that there are limited funds and that there are eligibility and guideline requirements to follow. **Don't make any changes to your park strip until you read the guidelines, or you may not qualify.**

Getting Started

Make a **plan**. What kind of trees will your park strip include? What type of plants grow best in the park strip? Be aware of the size of plants/trees. You don't want them to overgrow unto the sidewalks and roads. If you have power lines over head, choose a smaller tree. Be sure to include drought tolerant plants **and** trees in your plans.

For tree recommendations and planting tips go to:

www.murray.utah.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12778/Tree-Brochure?bidId=

As a reminder, trees provide shade, reduce water evaporation, and beautify the neighborhood.

When planning your landscape, choose native plants that are naturally adapted to the local climate, which means they require less water and maintenance. Definitely a win, win!

Don't forget the water!



Design and add a drip system. It's likely you already have water in that area for your grass and that it is on its own zone. Now's the time to upgrade so that your plants and trees are cared for. Consider drip irrigation or soaker hoses to deliver water directly to the roots of the plants. If you have trees, you may want to use a watering bag. Don't worry, you'll still be saving water compared to when you had grass there.

Choose Your Hardscapes Carefully

You don't always have to choose rocks! In fact, stones and rock add to the heat island effect. (Meaning cities experience higher temperatures due to concrete, stone, and buildings than rural areas.) Try mulch or wood chips when planning your park strip.



MURRAY CITY'S Park Strip Guide Continued...

Blue Stakes

Call **811** two full business days PRIOR to digging. It is a free service and will protect you from costly repairs or even injury.

City Ordinances

The park strip area shall be landscaped with vegetation, as approved by the Community and Economic Development Division with the exception of a few high traffic streets listed in Murray City Ordinance 16.16.140 F4j.

It shall be unlawful for any person to remove turf, trees or forms of landscaping from a park strip which were required by the provisions of this section unless first approved by the Community and Economic Development Division. This provision does not apply to routine maintenance of a park strip.

City ordinances also don't allow the park strip to be cemented in. Will cars park along the park strip? It's likely; so you may want to include a few paths guests can take to cross the park strip. Consider concrete pavers or flagstone for paths.

Looking for More Inspiration?

Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District has beautiful gardens you can wander around to receive inspiration. They also have classes you can sign up for.

Red Butte Garden and Arboretum is operated by the University of Utah and is open year-round to the public. There you will see beautiful vistas and panoramic views. Take a class and let your love of gardening bloom!



What's to love about this park strip?

Well-Planned	Mulch Instead of Rocks
Stepping Stones	Drip Irrigation
Drought Tolerant Plants	Beautiful Color
Trees Included	Plants Don't Obstruct Visibility

Jim and Jean Hendrickson

Beautification Awards

If you see a Murray City neighbor who has done a beautiful job incorporating trees and drought tolerant plants in their park strip, you can nominate them for the Water Wise Living Park Strip Award.

<https://www.murray.utah.gov/1082/Jim-Jean-Hendrickson-Beautification-Awar>