



Efficiently Operate Designing Your Garden for the Environment

Designing for the environment doesn't end when a building goes up.

You can make choices to reduce the impact your home and garden have on the environment.



USE NATIVE PLANTS

Non-native species are not necessarily well-suited to the area, requiring more tending and watering. They can also be invasive – crowding out beneficial native plant species. Local plant species form part of local ecosystems, providing a source of food and shelter to indigenous wildlife. Native tree species are hardier and provide shade for your home during the hot summer months, lowering air conditioning costs.

USE COMPOST / GREEN MANURE

They add nutrients to your garden without using expensive and harmful chemical fertilizers. Compost completes the food cycle by taking a waste and returning the nutrients to the soil. It is available at local garden centers, or can be made at home either in the backyard or inside in a worm bin (“vermicomposting”).

“Green manure,” is a fast growing plant species, often a nitrogen-fixing legume, planted at the end of the growing season and turned back into the soil the following spring. The root structure provides erosion control throughout the winter and early spring melt. Green manure provides a long-term source of nutrients that are slowly released throughout the growing season.



LOSE THE LAWN

Replace it with local plant species. A healthy lawn needs to be watered, weeded, fertilized, and mown, and doesn't provide any natural habitat for local wildlife. Native wildflower gardens are low maintenance, and generally do not require watering. They attract local wildlife and pollinators such as bees and butterflies, and never need a lawnmower.

Where grass is growing, consider raising the blades of your lawnmower one or two steps. The higher grass will help to keep water in the soil, requiring less frequent watering.



Let's do our part to design and manage green properties.



QUESTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

1. How have you adapted your garden to design for the environment?
2. What has worked for you?
3. What has not worked for you?
4. What other tips have you heard of for environmentally friendly landscaping?



You must be the change you wish to see in the world.
Mahatma Gandhi
www.walkerind.com



Our Environmental Messenger™

Efficiently Operate

GARDEN DESIGN

COMMIT ■ CREATE ■ PARTICIPATE

Company _____ Date _____ Delivered by _____

Other topics discussed _____

Name	Signature	Name	Signature
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RECORD RESPONSES

- How have you adapted your garden to design for the environment?
- What has worked for you?
- What has not worked for you?
- What other tips have you heard of for environmentally friendly landscaping?

— EARTH1st CHAMPIONS —

Congratulations to the operations team at Walker Brothers Quarry and Asphalt!

As a result of their continued diligence in controlling dust emissions from the Quarry and Asphalt Plant facilities, the number of dust exceedences recorded at off-property monitoring locations has been the lowest on record since monitoring started with RWDI in 2002.



Who do you know who commits, creates and participates in EARTH 1st?

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