

URI Cooperative Extension Healthy Landscapes Program
Healthy Landscapes General Survey Results (spring 2003 – June 2005; 200 surveys total)

Question	n	%	N=total responses to question
2) Who performs your home landscaping activities? Check all that apply.			
Professional Landscaper	13	6.70%	194
Other non-professional (student, neighbor, etc.)	4	2.06%	194
We do our own landscaping	139	71.65%	194
Other (please explain)	5	2.58%	194
Professional and non professional	1	0.52%	194
Do own and professional	22	11.34%	194
Other and professional	1	0.52%	194
Non-professional and do own	3	1.55%	194
Do own and other	3	1.55%	194
Professional, do own, other	1	0.52%	194
Professional, non-professional, do own	2	1.03%	194
3) About what percentage of your property consists of lawn?			
0 to 10%	12	6.09%	197
11 to 25%	48	24.37%	197
26 to 50%	59	29.95%	197
51 to 75%	68	34.52%	197
more than 75%	10	5.08%	197
Blank	1		
4) Have you ever reduced lawn area by installing other landscaped areas such as mulched beds, gardens, walkways?			
Yes	170	85.86%	198
No	26	13.13%	198
Blank	1		
Not applicable	2	1.01%	198
5) Would you be interested in reducing lawn area, replacing it with other sustainable landscape options?			
Yes	113	58.55%	193
No	29	15.03%	193
Maybe, I need more information	49	25.39%	193
Blank	5		
Not applicable	2	1.04%	193

Question	n	%	N
6) Do you water your lawn?			
Yes	110	56.41%	195
No	85	43.59%	195
Blank	2		
7) If yes to # 6, what method is used? Check all that apply.			
In-ground sprinkler system	39	33.33%	117
Portable sprinklers	66	56.41%	117
Other	7	5.98%	117
Blank			
In-ground and portable	3	2.56%	117
Portable and other	2	1.71%	117
8) If yes to # 6, do you know how much water you apply to your lawn?			
Yes	39	34.51%	113
No	74	65.48%	113
Blank	33		
9) If yes to # 6 how often do you water your lawn each week?			
One – Two Times/week	29	32.22%	90
Three or More Times/week	26	28.89%	90
Depends on rain	25	27.78%	90
No	3		93
1"	2	1.11%	90
½ hr	1	1.11%	90
1-3 Times/week	1	1.11%	90
2-3 Times/week	5	5.56%	90
Too often	1	1.11%	90
10) What is your drinking water supply?			
Town Water	154	78.97%	195
Private Well	39	20.00%	195
Both	2	1.02%	195
Blank	1		

Question	n	%	N
11) When you water outdoors, do you use: Check all that apply.			
Town Water	121	62.05%	195
Private Well	37	18.97%	195
Rain Barrel or Cistern	6	3.08%	195
Surface Water Supply	1	0.51%	195
Other	1	0.51%	195
Town and well	5	2.56%	195
Town and rain	16	8.21%	195
Well and rain	4	2.05%	195
Rain and other	1	0.51%	195
Town and other	2	1.03%	195
Town, rain, and other	1	0.51%	195
Well, rain, and surface water	1	0.51%	195
12) Would you consider establishing lawn grasses that are typically more drought tolerant?			
Yes	126	67.38%	187
No	13	6.95%	187
Maybe, I need more information	47	25.13%	187
Blank	4		
Not applicable	4	2.14%	187
Condo	1	0.53%	187
13) Would you consider installing a rain barrel or cistern to collect roof runoff for lawn watering?			
Yes	116	61.05%	190
No	27	14.21%	190
Maybe, I need more information	42	22.11%	190
Blank	5		
Have one	4	2.11%	190
Not applicable	1	0.53%	190
14) Are fertilizers and pesticides applied to your lawn?			
Yes	135	68.88%	196
No	59	30.10%	196
I'm not sure	1	0.51%	196
Blank	2		
Not applicable	1	0.51%	196

Question	n	%	N
15) If yes to # 14, what basis is used for these applications? Check all that apply.			
Professional landscaper handles it	34	22.97%	148
Hired help (non-professional) handles it	3	2.03%	148
I/family member follows advice given by the products and/or store employees (Scott's 4-step program, etc.)	67	45.27%	148
Based on periodic soil tests and identifying pest problems as they occur – use recommendations from URI Master Gardener Program, etc.	19	12.84%	148
Other basis _____	14	9.46%	148
No fertilizers and pesticides are applied	10	6.33%	158
Professional and Family	2	1.35%	148
Family and soil test	5	3.38%	148
Family and other	1	0.68%	148
Soil test and other	2	1.35%	148
Professional, Family, Soil test	1	0.68%	148
16) When did you last have your soil tested?			
This year	20	10.31%	194
Last year	22	11.34%	194
Within the last 5 years	34	17.53%	194
Within the last 10 years	13	6.70%	194
Never had the soil tested	100	51.55%	194
Blank	2		
12 years ago	1	0.52%	194
Not applicable	4	2.06%	194
17) If you found that there were environmental concerns with your current application of fertilizer and pesticides, would you be willing to reduce or change your activities?			
Yes	148	83.15%	178
No	4	2.25%	178
Maybe, I need more information	20	11.24%	178
Blank	9		
18) On my property, I have the following: Check all that apply.			
Vegetable garden	44	23.40%	188
Flower garden(s)	77	40.96%	188
Compost pile	50	30.00%	188
Vegetable and Flower	27	14.36%	188
Vegetable and compost	1	0.53%	188
Flower and Compost	39	20.74%	188

Question	n	%	N
19) If you have a dog, do you pick up solid waste after it and dispose of it in the trash or toilet?			
Never	13	13.54%	96
Only when I go for walks, I leave it in the yard	7	7.29%	96
I always pick up after my dog on walks, and periodically in the yard	51	53.13%	96
I make my dog go in "natural areas" such as woodlands.	25	26.04%	96
Not Applicable (no Pet)	94	49.47%	190
20) Does your property border or contain a stream, pond, wetland, coastal shore, or other drainage feature?			
Yes	72	37.50%	192
No	118	61.46%	192
Blank	3		
Not applicable	2	1.04%	192
21.) If yes to # 20, how much of this water resource is buffered by natural vegetation within 25 to 50 feet?			
Very little, we keep it in lawn for access and view	5	7.14%	70
A small portion is buffered by trees, shrubs & groundcovers	12	17.14%	70
About half the area is buffered by trees, shrubs & groundcovers	12	17.14%	70
Almost all the area is buffered by trees, shrubs & groundcovers except for some small access areas	41	58.57%	70
Not applicable	68	49.28%	138
22) If yes to # 20, would you consider enhancing these water resource areas with natural buffer vegetation?			
Yes	24	52.17%	46
In areas, it is important that I maintain some access and view	9	19.57%	46
No	5	10.87%	46
Maybe, I need more information	7	15.22%	46
Not applicable	87	65.41%	133
Blank	27		
Already exists	1	0.75%	133

Question	n	%	N			
23) If information and/or assistance were available to you, how willing do you think you would be to change your current yard and garden practices?						
Very willing	103	55.98%	184			
Somewhat willing	44	23.91%	184			
Not at all willing	1	0.54%	184			
Need more information	34	18.48%	184			
Blank	5					
Somewhat willing/Need more info	2	1.09%	184			
24) What type of practices are you interested in learning more about? Check all that apply.						
Proper fertilizing techniques	105	52.50%	200			
Alternative pest control techniques	117	58.50%	200			
Water conservation techniques	95	47.50%	200			
Sustainable planting techniques	114	57.00%	200			
Yard waste management	60	30.00%	200			
Proper pet waste management	29	14.50%	200			
Composting	84	42.00%	200			
Proper disposal of household hazardous materials	57	28.50%	200			
Other	1	0.50%	200			
25) What factors would influence your decision?						
(percent)	A lot				not at all	N
	1	2	3	4	5	
Cost	29.76%	2.38%	3.57%	4.76%	5.95%	84
Ease of implementation	35.59%	31.64%	24.29%	3.95%	4.52%	177
Lawn appearance	23.73%	19.77%	34.46%	14.69%	7.34%	177
Impact on water quality	59.88%	22.09%	12.79%	1.74%	3.49%	172
Time required	28.09%	30.90%	24.72%	12.36%	3.93%	178
25) What factors would influence your decision?						
(number)	A lot				not at all	
	1	2	3	4	5	
Cost	25	20	29	8	2	
Ease of implementation	63	56	43	7	8	
Lawn appearance	42	35	61	26	13	
Impact on water quality	103	38	22	3	6	
Time required	50	55	44	22	7	

1) What city or town do you live in?	N=197
Ashaway	2
Assonet	1
Barrington	4
Burrillville	1
Cambridge, New York	1
Charlestown	1
Coventry	2
Cranston	7
Cumberland	2
Dartmouth	1
East Greenwich	6
East Providence	1
Exeter	3
Felton	1
Foster	1
Glendale	1
Greenville, SC	1
Hope Valley	2
Jamestown	3
Johnston	1
Kenyon	1
Kingston	1
N/A	15
Narragansett	4
Newport	4
North Kingstown	71
North Providence	2
North Smithfield	1
Portsmouth	4
Providence	6
Readfield, Maine	1
Rehoboth, MA	1
Richmond	1
ROSEBURG, OREGON	1
Saunderstown	8
Seekonk, MA	1
Smithfield	1
South Kingstown	7
Southington, CT	1
Tacoma	1
Thomas Kolling	1
Trumbull	1
Wakefield	7
Warwick	7
West Greenwich	2
Westerly	2
Wickford	3

For more information visit our website at
www.healthylandscapes.org or call
 URI Cooperative Extension (401) 874-5398

