

Healthy Landscapes Program Post Survey

University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension, June 2006

129 post surveys administered, 48 surveys returned for a 37.2% return rate

32 post surveys were conducted with participants who took the on-line pre-survey only and did not participate in a program or event. 5 post surveys were returned for a 15.5% return rate in this category.

97 post surveys were conducted with program participants. 43 post surveys were returned for a 44.3% return rate in this category.

Question		%	N=total responses to question
1) I became aware of the Healthy Landscapes Education Program in the following ways. Please check all that apply:			
Newspaper or magazine		25.0%	12
The Puddle , the Town of North Kingstown Newsletter		18.8%	9
Plant Pro , TV news channel 10 or other TV news segment		10.4%	5
An event or workshop that I attended		14.6%	7
Through the URI Master Gardener Program or other organization that I am involved with		47.9%	23
Flyers or rack cards in a public area		4.2%	2
Word of mouth, friends, neighbors, etc.		6.3%	3
Direct mailing or door to door flyer		6.3%	3
URI Master Gardener Hotline		4.2%	2
A landscape professional or garden center			
I came across the Healthy Landscapes website			
Other:		8.3%	4
I do not remember how I heard about the program		6.3%	3
2) As a result of participating in a Healthy Landscapes Program activity (viewing website or attending a tour, workshop, or event), please tell us if you gained <u>new knowledge</u> about the following topics. Please check all that apply:			
The source of my drinking water		27.1%	13
The water cycle and watersheds		41.7%	20
Common landscape pollutants		50.0%	24
Concerns with over-watering and water supply		47.9%	23
Proper plant selection		43.8%	21
Recycling yard waste		37.5%	18
Proper fertilization techniques		47.9%	23
Proper pest management techniques		35.4%	17
Water conservation techniques		68.8%	33
Controlling runoff and soil erosion		56.3%	27
Pet waste management		29.2%	14
Proper management of fuels and hazardous products		12.5%	6
Other knowledge gained:		4.2%	2
I did not gain any new knowledge, I already knew the information presented.		4.2%	2
Not applicable, I have heard about the Program but have not obtained any information.		4.2%	2

Question		%	N=total responses to question
3) As a result of your participation with the Healthy Landscapes Program, have you adopted or do you plan to adopt any suggested practices? Please check all the responses that apply.			
Yes, I adopted a suggested practice(s).		54.2%	26
Yes, I plan to adopt a suggested practice(s).		20.8%	10
No		2.1%	1
I have already adopted many of the suggested practices.		47.9%	23
I would like to adopt practices but am reluctant due to various constraints.		2.1%	1
I do not have control over the property where I live, but have notified the property owners/managers of my ideas and concerns.		2.1%	1
I need to obtain more information to make a decision.		2.1%	1
4) As a result of your participation with the Healthy Landscapes Program, please check all the practices that you have either adopted or plan to adopt. (Do not check practices that you already adopted prior to your participation in the Healthy Landscapes Program.)			

Practices:	I have adopted the following practice(s).		I plan to adopt the following practice(s) soon.	
	N	%	N	%
Choosing the right plant:				
• Establish native/sustainable plants.	17	35.4%	10	20.8%
• Renovate lawn with site-suitable grasses.	3	6.3%	6	12.5%
• Plant a shoreline buffer.	2	4.2%	2	4.2%
Recycling yard waste:				
• Compost yard waste.	16	33.3%	3	6.3%
• Use yard waste as mulch.	19	39.6%	3	6.3%
• Leave grass clippings on the lawn.	13	27.1%	3	6.3%
• Move yard waste/compost piles to reduce pollution risk.	5	10.4%	1	2.1%
Fertilizer and pesticide use:				
• Take a soil test.	15	31.3%	8	16.7%
• Use compost or organic fertilizer.	16	33.3%	2	4.2%
• Use slow-release Nitrogen fertilizer (50% or more Water Insoluble N).	8	16.7%	2	4.2%
• Apply lime to raise soil pH.	17	35.4%	2	4.2%
• Establish low fertility and/or pest resistant plants.	7	14.6%	7	14.6%
• Plant low fertility and/or pest resistant lawn grasses.	4	8.3%	2	4.2%
• Improve the use of mulch.	16	33.3%	3	6.3%
• Scout and identify pests.	8	16.7%	4	8.3%
• Reduce/eliminate pesticide use.	13	27.1%	4	8.3%
• Use less toxic/risky pesticide.	9	18.8%	1	2.1%
• Change timing of fertilizer and/or pesticide application.	8	16.7%	1	2.1%

Practices:	Have adopted		Plan to adopt	
Fertilizer and pesticide use cont'd:	N	%	N	%
• Sweep up spills from paved areas.	7	14.6%	1	2.1%
• Calibrate spreader/sprayer.	4	8.3%	2	4.2%
• Use a drop spreader.	4	8.3%	1	2.1%
• Measure treatment area.	3	6.3%	2	4.2%
• Change where I store, mix, or fill up with fertilizer and pesticides.	3	6.3%		
Water Conservation:				
• Use a rain gauge.	23	47.9%	6	12.5%
• Establish drought tolerant plants.	14	29.2%	5	10.4%
• Plant drought tolerant lawn grasses.	7	14.6%	7	14.6%
• Reduce lawn area.	15	31.3%	8	16.7%
• Improve soil organic matter.	8	16.7%	8	16.7%
• Install a rain barrel or cistern.	8	16.7%	15	31.3%
• Use a soaker hose.	11	22.9%	6	12.5%
• Install a drip irrigation system.	3	6.3%	1	2.1%
• Change timing of watering.	12	25.0%	1	2.1%
• Adjust flow rate to sprinklers.	4	8.3%	1	2.1%
• Measure sprinkler output.	4	8.3%	4	8.3%
• Move sprinklers to avoid watering paved areas.	13	27.1%		
Reducing runoff and soil erosion:				
• Establish border beds.	14	29.2%	7	14.6%
• Use permeable paving materials.	8	16.7%	4	8.3%
• Improve the use of mulch.	17	35.4%	5	10.4%
• Improve vegetative cover.	7	14.6%	6	12.5%
• Install a rain garden.	1	2.1%	4	8.3%
Pet waste management:				
• Pick up after pets and dispose of solid waste properly.	5	10.4%		
• Move dog yard/animal pen to reduce pollution risk.	1	2.1%		
• Establish vegetation to control runoff from dog yard/animal pen.			1	2.1%
Fuels and Hazardous Products:				
• Change where I store fuels and maintain motorized equipment.	3	6.3%		
• Use an alternative product that is less hazardous.	2	4.2%	1	2.1%
• Dispose of hazardous waste through the RI Eco-depot.	8	16.7%	2	4.2%
Other practices:			5	10.4%

Question		%	N=total responses to question
5) I have adopted and/or plan to adopt the practices checked in question number 4 based upon the following factors. Please check all that apply:			
Cost		37.5%	18
Ease of implementation		50.0%	24
Landscape appearance		54.2%	26
Impact on water quality		58.3%	28
Time required		20.8%	10
Other:		12.5%	6
Not applicable, I did not/do not plan to adopt a practice.		2.1%	1
6) Did you or will you hire a landscape professional to assist you with the practices checked in question number 4? Please check all that apply:			
Yes, I did hire a landscape professional.		6.3%	3
Yes, I plan to hire a landscape professional.		2.1%	1
No		77.1%	37
Not applicable, I did not/do not plan to adopt a practice.		4.2%	2
7) As a result of your participation with the Healthy Landscapes Program have you shared any information with others? Please check all that apply.			
Family		58.3%	28
Neighbors		50.0%	24
Friends		66.7%	32
Co-workers		18.8%	9
Fellow members of a group or organization to which I belong		22.9%	11
Owner/manager of the property where I live		2.1%	1
Customers		8.3%	4
Other		10.4%	5
No, I have not shared information with others.		4.2%	2
8) As a result of your participation with the Healthy Landscapes Program has it prompted you to join or seriously consider joining a related organization (such as the URI Master Gardener Program)? Please check all that apply.			
Yes, I joined an organization. Please list here:		4.2%	2
Yes, I plan to join an organization. Please list here:		16.7%	8
No		16.7%	8
I already belonged to an organization. Please list here:		45.8%	22
9) Additional Comments:			
		33.3%	16

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

