



SMARTSCAPE

Promoting the Adoption of Water-Efficient Landscapes
 University of Arizona, Pima County Cooperative Extension
 Jack DeBoer, Master's in Development Practice



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
 GRADUATE COLLEGE
 Peace Corps
 Coverdell Fellows



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
 Cooperative Extension

Smartscape's History

The Smartscape program was launched in Pima and Maricopa counties in 1994 by Tucson Water, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, and the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA), with the goal to increase water efficiency in landscapes. The program has been providing education outreach for over 25 years.



What is Smartscape?

Smartscape is a comprehensive, research-based training program for: landscape and irrigation professionals, such as; supervisors and crew members, company owners and office staff involved in scheduling or contracting landscape architects and designers. It is also beneficial for nursery personnel, municipal employees, Master Gardeners and those who work with these professionals; such as HOA board members, property managers and homeowners.

Why is Smartscape Important?

Landscape and irrigation professionals have the capacity to improve water efficiency through the design, installation, water scheduling, and maintenance of these landscapes.

Smartscape empowers these professionals by providing an opportunity to distinguish themselves from their competition, to provide their customers with quality service, and to take personal responsibility for a resource critical to the industry.

Smartscape fosters a shared vision and understanding of sustainable landscapes throughout our community.

Smartscape improves the standard of living in Pima and Maricopa counties, through the smart use of water in our arid lands.

The Coverdell Fellow's Role

As a University of Arizona Peace Corps Coverdell Fellow working as graduate assistant in the Smartscape program, Jack DeBoer supported existing programming and developed new projects. He began by collecting and managing data for an evaluation of the Smartscape program. Jack also collected interview data for a case study of Tucson Water's Neighborhood Scale Stormwater Harvesting (NSSH) grant program. He is currently developing an online rainwater harvesting (RWH) course for residential properties. The course is required in order to receive rebates from Tucson Water, for the installation of a RWH system.

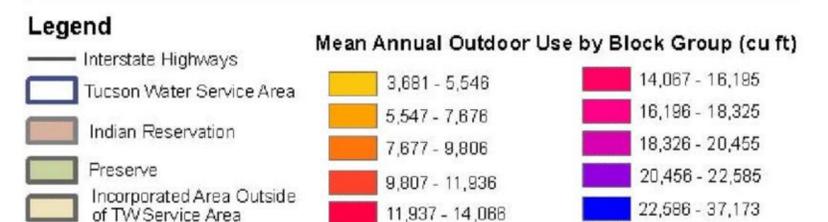
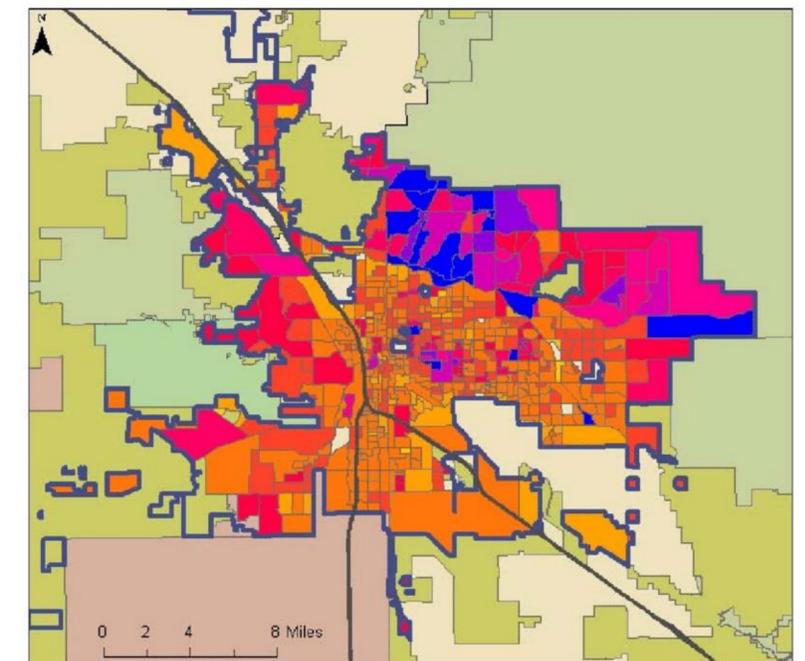
What does Smartscape do?

Smartscape offers an eight-part series on the fundamentals of design, installation, and maintenance of sustainable, desert-adapted landscapes and irrigation systems, twice a year in both English and Spanish. After successful completion of the series, participants are eligible to enroll in advanced classes that build upon these topics. The program also offers a beginner and advanced class on rainwater harvesting for homeowners. Smartscape engages the community and like-minded organizations through partnerships, and events such as the annual Sustainable Landscapes Expo.

“Tucson is a national leader in efficient outdoor water use. In fact, residential outdoor use has decreased over 50% in the last three decades as xeriscape design and rainwater harvesting have been integrated into our landscapes. Yet, outdoor water use still accounts for 30% of total residential and multifamily water use in the Tucson area.” - Tucson Water



How We Use 80 Gallons of Water Per Day**



Outdoor water use tends to be higher in affluent areas which have lush landscapes and lawns, such as Tucson Country Club Estates, and Catalina Foothills.