

WASHINGTON TURFGRASS SEED COMMISSION TERMINATION REPORT FOR 2021 PROJECTS

Project No.:

Title: Turfgrass design and water maintenance perceptions and preferences of homeowners

Personnel: Katherine Kraszewski

Reporting Period: Fiscal Year 2021

Accomplishments:

This study demonstrated that sustainable watering methods for homeowners lawns are present and desired by homeowners. A greater need for case studies where stormwater harvesting on site and managed through a programmable timer in the State of Washington the the nation at large are needed to train contractors and homeowners of the success of the concept. This responsibility will fall primarily on the shoulders of home builders and landscape designers in the near and present future.

Homeowners in many communities will face significant challenges in meeting their expanding water needs as a result of depleted resources relating to climate change issues. These obstacles can be addressed through new design initiatives in stormwater management for on-site storage at residential locations, as well as policies that encourage conservation and increase water use efficiency. Within the small sample size of this survey, there still remain significant signs that Washington households are eager to adopt more sustainable lawn watering alternatives to offset existing freshwater usages, but there are few examples and qualified contractors available to supply this need at this time.

Results:

Key findings suggest:

- Management preferences play an important role in decision making as 64% prefer a programmable timer for low maintenance use.
- Water scarcity issues are important to homeowner decision making process
- Rain Garden application interest indicates that 45% are very interested in a rain garden on their property
- Homeowners are most Likely to adopt an automated sprinkler system with underground stormwater storage tanks of rainwater from rooftops as a water source according to 50% of those surveyed.

**Request for Proposal
Washington Turfgrass Seed Commission**

- Strong likelihood to adopt stormwater irrigation- and in direct contrast with this, 91% not likely to change their current irrigation system to use due to lack of precedent or skilled contractors.

Publications:

Conference Presentation And Proceedings:

Kraszewski, K. Austin, S. 2022. Landscape unArchitecture for the Crisis Century. Washington American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Conference. Seattle, WA.

Kraszewski, K., Mettler, J. 2022. Turfgrass design and water maintenance perceptions and preferences of homeowners. Annual Conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture.

Invited Lectures:

Kraszewski, K. 2020 Waterscape: the dynamic moving whole northwest faculty exchange program. University of British Columbia Vancouver BC. Dec 1st.

Publications (under review)

*Kraszewski, K., Mettler, J. 2022. Turfgrass design and water maintenance perceptions and preferences of homeowners. Water air and soil pollution journal.

*Under review

Name (List PI#1 first)	Supporting Agency and Project #	Total \$ Amount	Effective and Expiration Dates	% of Time Committed	Title of Project
Katherine Kraszewski	Current: Washington Turfgrass and Seed Commission & Washington State University	\$12,383	Start March 2021 End March 2022	20%	Turfgrass design and water maintenance perceptions and preferences of homeowners