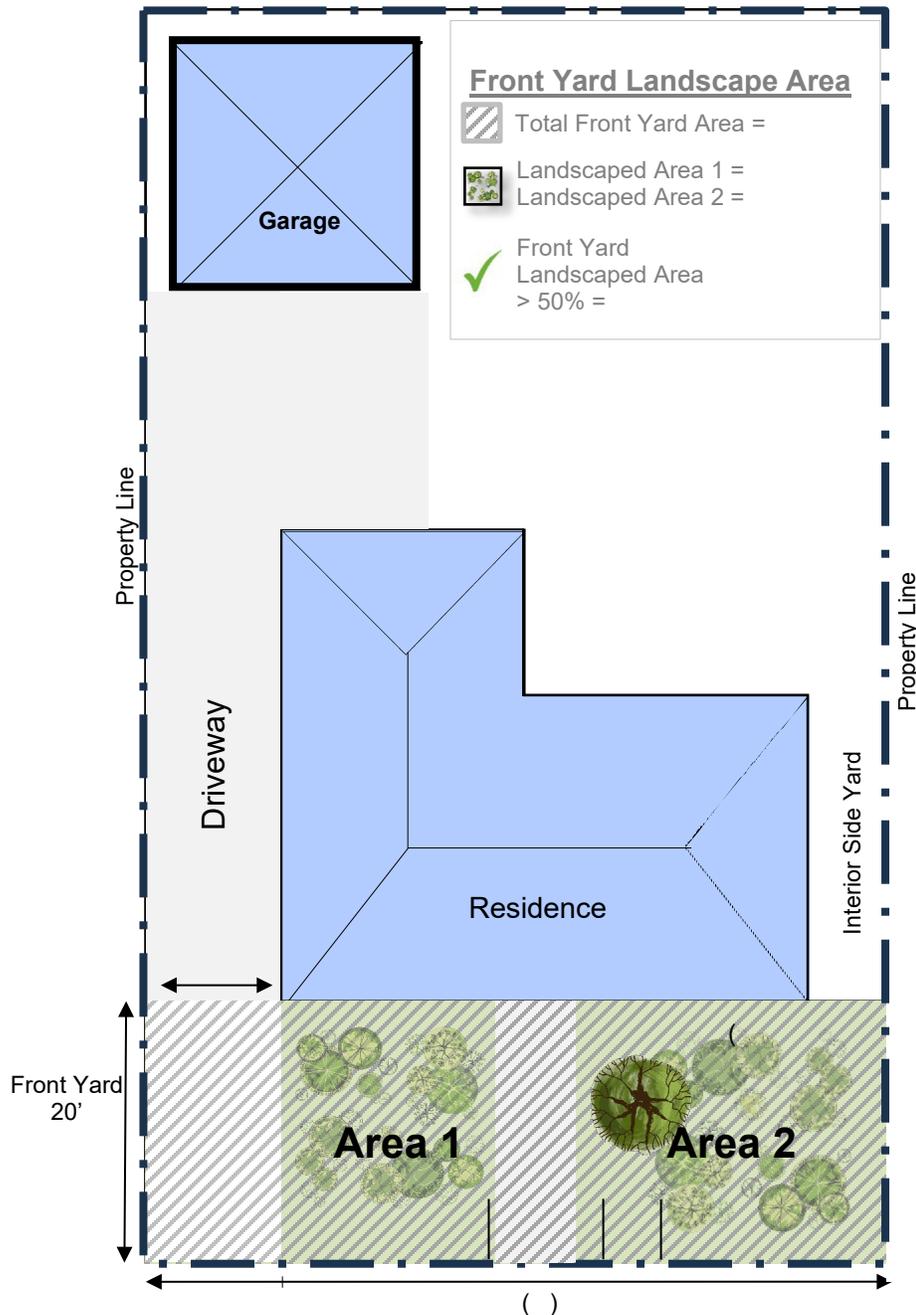




RESIDENTIAL FRONT YARD LANDSCAPINGS

City of Lomita * Planning Division * 24300 Narbonne Ave., Lomita, CA 90717
 Voice: (310) 325-7110 * Email: dutyplanner@lomitacity.com

If renovating or altering the existing front yard landscaping of a residential zoned property, at least 50 percent of the front yard area shall contain drought-tolerant plant species and irrigation. Projects which propose new or altered landscaping exceeding 1,500 square feet shall comply with Article 82 of the City of Lomita.



Notes:

1. The Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) shall apply to new projects equal to or greater than 500 square feet and rehabilitated landscape projects greater than 1,200 square feet.
2. A separate irrigation plan for landscaping in the front yard is required.



LANDSCAPING FAQs & RESOURCES

1. Does my front yard need landscaping?

Yes. A landscaped yard provides immediate benefits to the resident and community. It enhances the property and street’s appearance; it protects the watershed, and it creates a healthy environment and habitat.

2. Does Lomita require the front yard to contain drought-tolerant species?

Yes. Living plants and trees can improve energy efficiency of the home, reduce extreme heat, provide a sense of belonging, reduce traffic noise pollution, and provide habitat for wildlife.

3. Does my existing yard have to be redone with drought-tolerant landscaping and irrigated?

That depends on the situation.

- a. If changes aren’t being made to the existing yard, then the existing landscaping can be maintained as-is.*
- b. If changes are being made in connection with a project that was issued a building permit and the area is more than 500 sq. ft., or the front yard is being altered, the yard area must be landscaped to meet Lomita’s Code and/or CA Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO).*

4. Does synthetic grass or artificial turf qualify as drought-tolerant landscaping?

No. Drought-tolerant landscaping and zero-water consumption are different. CA Government Code Sec. 53087.7 (SB 676) specifically states that synthetic grass/artificial turf is not considered drought-tolerant landscaping.

5. Where can I find out more?

Online resources provide a wealth of information. Here are a few:

| Topic | Website |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Water-Efficient Landscaping | https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Conservation-Tips/Plant-and-Landscape-Guide |
| Grass Replacement Rebate | https://www.westbasin.org/water-use-efficiency/programs/grass-replacement-146 |
| Landscape Architects & Designers | https://my.asla.org/my-asla/directories/firm_search.aspx |
| Sustainable Landscaping | https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/landscaping/ |
| Garden Planner | https://gardenplanner.calscape.org/ |
| Free Design Ideas | https://www.calscape.org/design-ideas |