1. Planning and Design

- Identify condition of your site
- Draw a map showing existing plants & features
- Identify how you will utilize your landscape entertaining, play, wildlife viewing, vegetable or flower gardening, beautification
- Use hardscapes in your new design to reduce area needing irrigation and separate use areas
- Plant trees to shade home, garage & hardscapes
- Plant windbreaks to reduce cooling effects of wind

3. Practical Areas of Turf Grass

- Plan or retain only turf areas you need
- Shape and locate turf areas for efficient irrigation
- Utilize turf grass alternatives such as ground covering plants or mulch
- Use hardscaping such as paths, curbs, patio, or walls to separate turf from other zones
- Choose the right turf grass species for the area

4. Choose Appropriate Plants

- Right plant in right place
- Consider native or drought tolerant species
- Group plants in zones according to their soil and water requirements
- Consider mature size of plants when selecting species

5. Use Mulches

- Reduce evaporation for uniform soil moisture
- Reduce crusting and compaction
- Reduce runoff improving water infiltration
- Insulate roots from heat and cold
- Inhibit weed growth
- Decomposing organic mulch adds nutrients

6. Smart Irrigation

- Install irrigation system with clock
- 'Automatic' is not attention free. Adjust watering cycles for seasonal and daily moisture requirements or use an evapotranspiration rate to set water cycles
- Drip systems put water where it is needed
- Know how much water your irrigation system delivers
- Maximize amount of water delivered to root zone and staying there by adjusting water frequency to soil type, sand, silt or clay.

7. Maintain the Landscape

- Control weeds
- Fertilize conservatively or convert to "organic management"
- Mow turf appropriately
- Manage thatch and soil compaction
- Observe plants and soil conditions as landscape matures
- Prune as needed for plant health

2. Soil Management

- Identify soil texture... sand, loam, or clay with a jar test (see instructions on Water-Wise web site).
- Add organic matter to improve water infiltration and moisture retention of all soils.
- A soil test will determine the chemical composition of soil (acidity or alkalinity (pH), amounts of organic material, Nitrogen, Potassium, and Phosphorus).
- Adding unnecessary nutrients is expensive and can be harmful to plants and the environment.
- Contact your County Extension office for a soil test and for recommendations based on the results.
- Amend soil with organic and nutrients as indicated by testing.
- Prepare soil for planting.

The Water-Wise Demonstration at Modie Park is a cooperative project of the City of Lewiston's Water Division, Parks and Recreation Department, Modie Park Conservancy, Inc., Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District, and Asotin County PUD. The demonstration is a component of the Regional Drinking Water Quality Protection Plan.

Lewis-Clark Valley Water-Wise

www.lcvalleywaterwise.org

LC Valley Water-Wise Demonstration is situated in Modie Park, 750 feet north, along the fitness path of the parking lot at 1035 21st Avenue.

Phase I funding from an Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Source Water Protection Grant.

Water-Wise Landscaping

Seven smart steps to modify existing landscapes or create new efficient landscapes.

Save water ... *save money*

Reduce risks to children and protect the environment by reducing the need for fertilizers and herbicides ... *save money*

Reduce the need for weekly mowing reducing harmful emissions ... *save money*

Lewis-Clark Valley Water-Wise