



USDA-CSREES 2007 National Water Quality Conference

[New England Regional Water Quality: Protecting Water Resources through Sustainable Residential Landscapes](#)

The New England Regional Water Quality Program has seven focus areas which identify regional issues of concern. The Sustainable Landscaping Focus Area promotes the adoption of “smart” landscaping techniques to enhance and protect water quality. The group’s primary messages promote landscape practices designed to reduce surface water runoff and minimize nutrient loss to surface and groundwater resources. The New England states convey these preferred landscape management practices through programs on nutrient management, buffer establishment, native and non-invasive plant species and low input turf species. Methodologies used to disseminate these concepts include volunteer training and outreach through Master Gardeners, Youth Groups and students; demonstration sites (rain gardens, turf, native & non-invasive plants) and research-based educational programs. Collaborations among the New England land grant universities and local, state and federal agencies serve to provide the foundation of many of these educational efforts. The poster will illustrate state and regional approaches to these sustainable landscape programs as well as provide data reflecting the outcomes of their implementation.

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