

ECOASSISTANT

Home. Life. Solutions.

solutions@ecoassistant.net EcoAssistant is locally licensed in Davis, California We are a Cool Davis Partner and Gold-rated Partner for a Greener Davis by the City of Davis We work with these organizations and others to advance wise water management.

GREYWATER PLANNING GUIDE Updated Feb 2017

Benefits: Greywater systems direct drainage water from clothes washers, showers, tubs, and bathroom sinks to irrigate your yard. Using greywater saves potable water year round, potentially cutting water usage in half for some families in certain climates. Trees such as stone fruit, kiwi, figs, citrus, and redwoods, and berries are especially well suited but your entire yard will benefit. Greywater reduces energy consumption for your water utility and lowers your water and sewer bill.

Barriers: Untreated greywater cannot be used to water lawns, nor can it be stored for more than 24 hours. Root crops and plants resting on the ground cannot be watered with greywater but other veggies can. Low tech systems cannot supply drip irrigation, but high tech filters and pumps add cost and maintenance. Slab foundations make greywater system retrofit unfeasible but most post and pier foundations can work.

GREYWATER SYSTEMS	
Laundry to Landscape	Branched Drain
Uses washer pump to move water	Uses gravity to move water
No permit required	Permit required (about \$72 in Davis)
Requires low or no sodium soap and NO boron/Borax	Requires low or no sodium and neutral pH products
Usually possible	Retrofit not feasible with slab foundations
Water supply depends on washer and loads	Water supply reflects shower and sink use
TOTAL cost about \$800 to \$1200 per system depending on installation options	TOTAL cost about \$1500 to \$2200 per system depending on installation options

Is Greywater Right for You?

Are appliances and fixtures near exterior walls and the receiving landscape? What are your watering needs? Are you interested in adding fruit trees? Soil type allow for infiltration? Slope away or toward home? Is the plumbing accessible? Remodeling? New build? Consider greywater early in the process!