

EBMUD Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
06/26/17
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Meeting Location: EBMUD HQ

Present:

Eric Santos
Maura Baldwin
Jerri McNair
Helmut Winkelhake
Kristin Bowman
Dona Wessells

Absent:

Dan Palmer
Tom Stewart
Chris McNairy
Scott Sommerfeld
Jessica Woodard

Meeting Agenda:

1. Discussion of Creation of Hydro-Zoning and Drip Conversion Technical Documents
2. Status Update of Residential Lawn Conversion Water Savings Calculator
3. Review of Plant List
4. New Business – Deep Root Drip System, MWELo Committees

Meeting Notes:

Item #1 - The group had a discussion on providing links to existing technical resources:

- Drip Conversion Links – Urban Farmer has a great link for Home Owners
- Smart Controllers – EBMUD has a link to EPA's website which contains great information on smart controllers
- Hydrozoning – Group is not aware of any good links and will search for information before creating any new information
- Exposure – Maura offered to research available resources
- Irrigation Efficiency – KB mentioned that EBMUD has some information on this and would send ES the link to forward out

Item #2 – KB shared EBMUD's lawn conversion photo contest soon to be released. There will be two categories, one for "Do It Yourself" and a second for "Professionals".

Item #3 – KB shared that the LAC Professional Development Committee is planning on sending out a survey within the next month with 10-14 questions. 4 on contact info, looking for feedback on groups and interests. It will be done through survey monkey. DW offered to forward to APLD.

Item #5 – KB mentioned that Heather Farms is re-designing their site and is looking to collaborate to give the site a face lift. DW suggested they use the watershed approach. Heather Farms will be presenting their ideas to the education and outreach committee

Item #6 – KB shared Jessica's plant list. The goal is to get homeowners started with their lawn conversion project. Jessica is planning on doing cross reference with other sites. JM suggested using Bob Perry's definition on hydrozoning and cross referencing his list of plants. Water Wonk

also has a list with a water drop to denote which plants are summer dry and references Bob Perry's list.

DW mentioned that Bob classifies G1 and G2 and defines low, med, and high

KB expanded on list. If plants are very low in San Ramon, they should be low everywhere else.

DW stated she feels we should add summer dry hydrozoning category.

MB suggested taking smaller steps and not focusing on going extremely in depth.

DW stated she would like to see a summer dry preliminary list

MB suggested that we need to create a handout that a homeowner can take to a nursery without having a massive list. Something that's easily available. Plants that look good all year round.

KB mentioned the list should serve two functions. We could create a short list, plus provide a longer list of "Champions" with links to other more extensive lists. Create a short teaser list that is sanctioned by EBMUD. Jessica will review APLD, Water Wonk and Summer Dry lists. Water Wonks list is a better link.

KB recapped that the next steps will be to use MB's list as a short list of teasers for "champion plants" that will have a photo similar to WUCOLS list that came from Saxon Holt

ES asked the group if we should put our list outside our group and if so, with who.

Someone in the group suggested sending to Stewart Winchester to review what works vs. preferences for any soil type in EBMUD's region.

HW – suggested that the focus needs to be that the initial plant list will save water

DW volunteered to track down good pictures. Good pictures to promote.

The group's goal is to have the list of Champions developed sometime in August.

New Business:

Someone in the group brought up SB 780 and asked if anyone knew the difference between SB 780 and AB 1881 (MWELo). The group would do some research and discuss at the next meeting.