

# Site Design



## Before you start:

- Call DigSafe at 811 for your underground utilities.
- Confirm plans with municipal Code Enforcement (possibly DEP and ACOE).



## 1. Map Your Property

Make a copy of your property map and pull some aerial pictures to determine your boundary lines and general layout.

## 2. Identify Property Details

Mark the following:

- Underground infrastructure like utility lines, irrigation systems, and septic
- Buildings, driveways, and other existing structures
- Setbacks or right of ways
- Waterbodies, wetlands, or areas with significant slopes
- Areas with invasive plants, erosion, poor soil conditions, and less than 6 hours of sunlight
- Your high use areas and where to keep lawn

## 3. Identify Water Movement

Where does water flow on your property? Does it collect somewhere during a storm?

If your roof has gutters, measure your roof's square footage and multiply by 1/12 to install enough rain barrels at the downspouts to capture a 1" rainstorm for later watering use.

## 4. Test the Site

Take a soil test and do a percolation test at the site to confirm your planned garden or landscape will succeed there.

## 5. Design for Maintenance Zones

Plan your design based off the concept of having landscapes that need daily attention for watering or harvesting closest to you and water sources. Place your lower maintenance landscapes further out. Your yard might not have all of these zones due to its size, shape, or location, and that's okay!

