

# Memorandum

**REPORT TO:** City Commission

**FROM:** Jessica Ahlstrom, Water Conservation Program Manager  
Alex Nordquest, City Forester  
Shawn Kohtz, Director of Utilities

**SUBJECT:** Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Professional Services Agreement with Green Gardens Group LLC. for a Bozeman Watershed Wise Landscape Education Series

**MEETING DATE:** March 11, 2025

**AGENDA ITEM TYPE:** Agreement - Vendor/Contract

**RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Professional Services Agreement with Green Gardens Group LLC. for a Bozeman Watershed Wise Landscape Education Series.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** 6.1 Clean Water Supplies: Ensure adequate supplies of clean water for today and tomorrow.

**BACKGROUND:** The core objective of the City's water conservation program is to educate and empower residents to use water efficiently. The City hired the Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense® accredited Green Gardens Group the past four years to host their Watershed Wise Landscape Webinar Series for Bozeman residents to provide them with the knowledge to increase outdoor water use efficiency through landscape and irrigation changes. Dozens of community members signed up for the Webinar Series each year and overwhelmingly provided positive feedback about the content.

With fifty percent of summer water use going into lawns and landscapes, expanding efficient outdoor water use practices in the community is central to reducing overall water demand and extending the reach of the City's current reliable water supply.

The City would like to offer the Green Gardens Group Watershed Wise Landscape Webinar Series to customers in 2025, including an in-person DIY landscape design class. The Webinar Series provides comprehensive guidance to water customers regarding landscaping basics, turf removal and organic maintenance, efficient irrigation scheduling, cost effective landscaping, and tree care. Throughout the webinars, attendees are invited to submit their questions in the online Q/A chat box. Live responses to

questions will be provided by professional landscape designers and various polls create an interactive environment and an opportunity to engage the audience. During the in-person program, attendees will receive hands on training for DIY drought tolerant landscape design.

In a collaborative effort, the Forestry Division of our Parks & Recreation Department will fund the tree care webinar portion. The Forestry Division shares the goal of public education pertaining to landscapes and efficient watering for the benefit of healthier trees. The webinar aligns with the City's Urban Forest Management Plan, which recommends increased community engagement to support a holistic, sustainable urban forestry program.

Taught by experienced landscape designers through a series of five interactive online and one in-person class, these topics will again provide water customers with the information needed to transform their landscape to improve water quality and reduce water use. All course content is customized for the City of Bozeman and would be offered to customers throughout the months of April and May 2025.

**UNRESOLVED ISSUES:** None.

**ALTERNATIVES:** As suggested by the Commission.

**FISCAL EFFECTS:** Total costs for this project equal \$10,500.00. A total of \$8,900.00 will be paid for out of the Water Conservation Division professional services fund and \$1,600.00 will be paid for out of the Forestry Division professional services fund.

Attachments:

[Professional Services Agreement\\_G3\\_Water Wise Landscape Webinar Series.pdf](#)  
[Exhibit A\\_G3\\_Scope of Services .pdf](#)

Report compiled on: February 27, 2025