ReScape California is a non-profit organization that educates about and advocates for a whole-systems approach to landscaping that works in harmony with the natural world and addresses the changing environment. ReScape’s landscaping practices are based on 8 regenerative principles which foster soil health, sequester carbon, conserve water and protect habitat and valuable resources while reducing waste and preventing pollution in our communities and watersheds.

Our **Conserve Energy** principle recognizes that conventional landscaping practices such as mowing, leaf blowing and transporting materials long distances consume large amounts of fossil fuels. A regenerative landscape conserves energy by reducing the need for mowing and shearing, by shading buildings and paved areas, using efficient outdoor lighting, and buying local landscape products.

**SIMPLE STEPS TO CONSERVE ENERGY**

1. **Plant and protect trees to moderate building temperatures.** Shading buildings minimizes the need for air conditioning in the hot summer months. In the winter trees can help reduce heating needs by slowing the wind.

2. **Design lighting carefully.** Use energy efficient bulbs and take steps to minimize light pollution.

3. **Choose equipment for fuel conservation.** Use hand powered tools when possible. When power tools are necessary, select fuel efficient or electric models.

4. **Purchase local products from local suppliers.** Buying local reduces the fuel consumption and air pollution from transporting products. Emissions from cars and trucks is a leading contributor to air pollution in the Sacramento area.

5. **Shade paved areas and air conditioners.** Sacramento County residents can receive free shade trees through the Sacramento Shade Tree Program.

**CONSERVING ENERGY PROTECTS OUR WATERSHED**

- Planting trees stabilizes the soil and reduces erosion from winter rains that can lead to sedimentation in local creeks and rivers.
- Installing high-efficiency or solar-powered lights and pumps reduces greenhouses gas emissions that contribute to climate change.
- Using hand-powered tools eliminates the need for fuel and avoids spills that can end up in storm drains and waterways.

More information, including how-to guides, available at [www.rescapeca.org](http://www.rescapeca.org) | info@rescapeca.org | 415.766.0191

Published in a series of ReScape California’s 8 Principles to Landscaping with support from Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership.