



# PETSCAPING

*Pet friendly* **TIPS FOR CREATING THE  
PERFECT LANDSCAPE  
FOR YOU AND YOUR  
DOG**

# Introduction

As pets become a bigger part of our lives, it makes sense that we should include them in the planning of our home landscapes.

The information found here it by no means an exhaustive list of do's and don'ts, step by step of what's best for pets and people when it comes to landscaping. What I've found in landscapes and life is that it's usually best to strive to leave all things better than you found it , whether that means a landscape, a job or a life situation. And sometimes you just have to "roll with the punches".



# Understanding your breed

Or mix of breeds



## Breed Types

## Characteristics

## Landscape Considerations

**Herding breeds**

**Retrievers**

**Terriers**

**Herding and Guard breeds**

**Terriers**

**Poodles**

**High Energy**

**Highly intelligent  
and active**

**Maximize exercise space,  
include heavy duty pathways  
and groundcover**

**“Working” breeds thrive with  
tasks like agility courses and  
other active games  
fetch**

Breed Types	Characteristics	Landscape Considerations
Bulldogs		
Hound Dogs	Digger or escape artist	Proper fencing and digging area are must-haves
Terriers		
Guard breeds such as Rottweilers, German Shepherds, Mastiffs, Akitas, Terriers	Territorial or aggressive	Protective fencing and obstructive shrubs prevent unwanted attacks

## Breed Types

Poodles and water dogs

Setters and Spaniels

Retrievers and collies

Cold weather breeds such as  
Malamutes, Huskies, Great Pyrenees,  
St. Bernards, Newfoundlands, Akitas

## Characteristics

Loves water  
and swimming

Heat Sensitive

## Landscape Considerations

Consider a pool,  
pond, or fountain

Breeds with thick fur coats  
developed for frigid climates  
must have abundant shade  
and water sources



# Site Planning



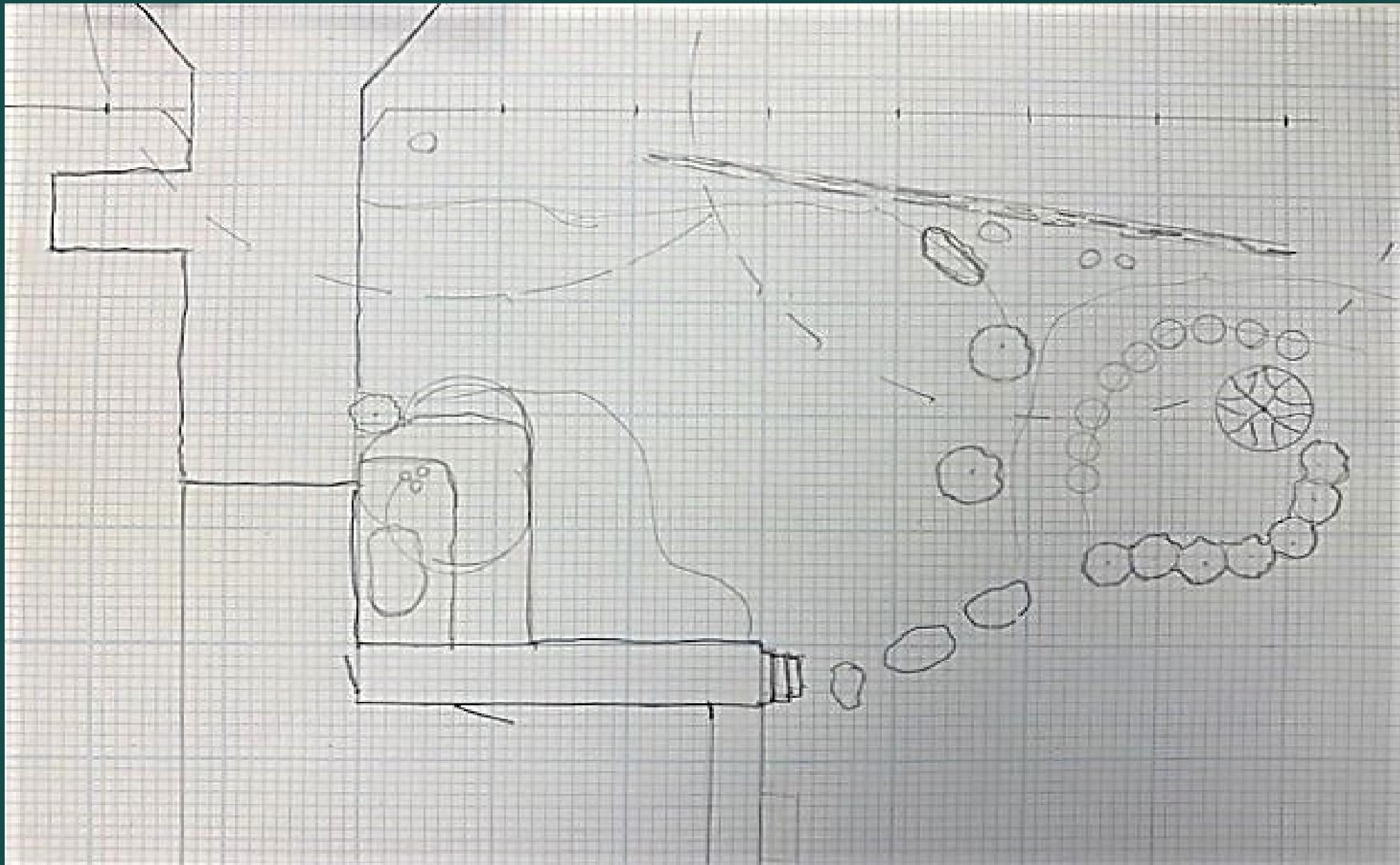
# Prioritize and Plan

Your pet will need at bare minimal

- A place to pee and poop
- A safe place to walk, play, run
- Water
- Shelter/shade

What do you need?

- WHAT ARE YOUR USE NEEDS
  - Relaxing, kid play, gardening, sports
- HARDSCAPING
  - Porches, walkways, drives, decks, fence, patios, parking, storage
- SOIL AND PLANTING BEDS
  - Where, does soil need to be amended, plants, shade, water





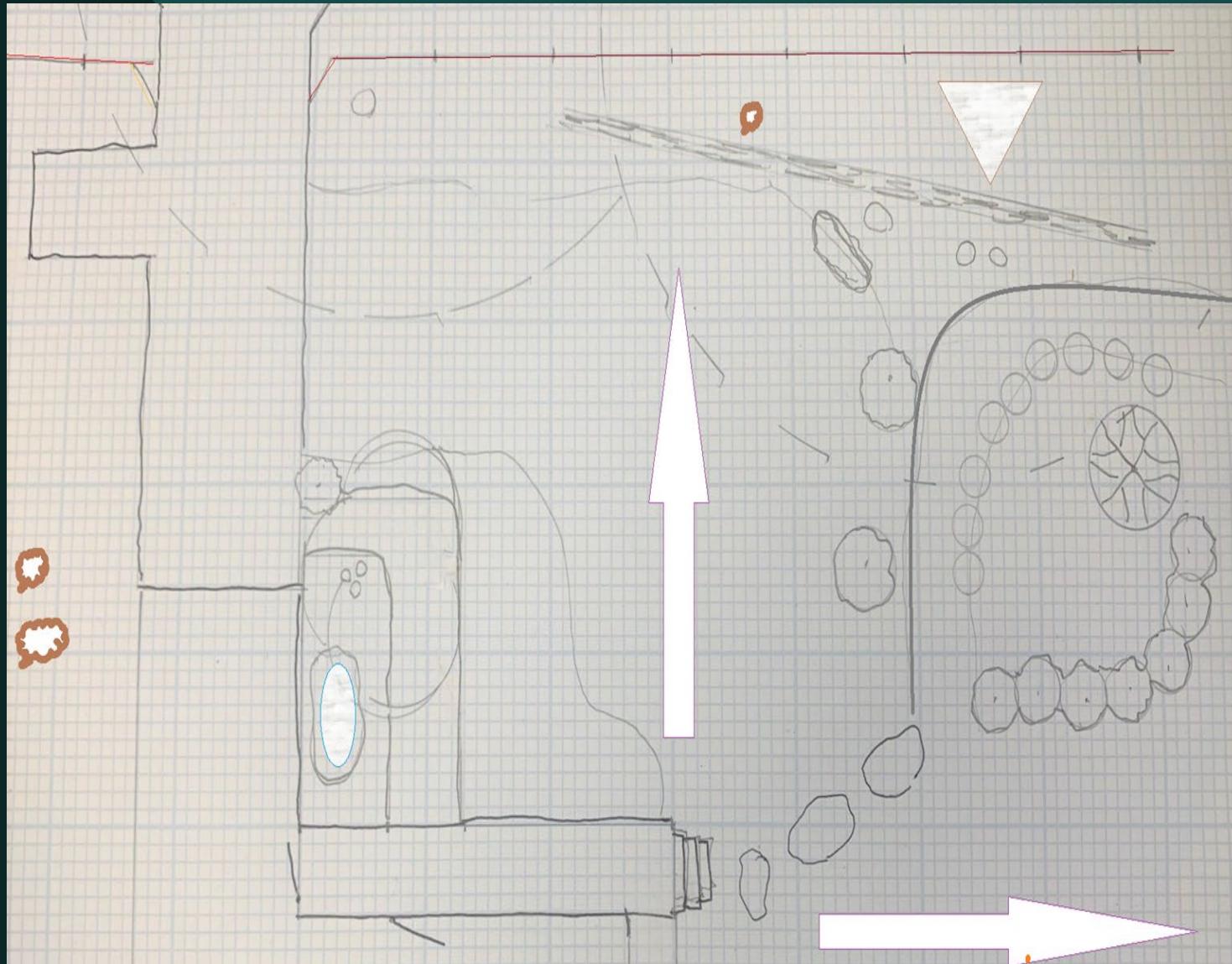
# A Dog's Place

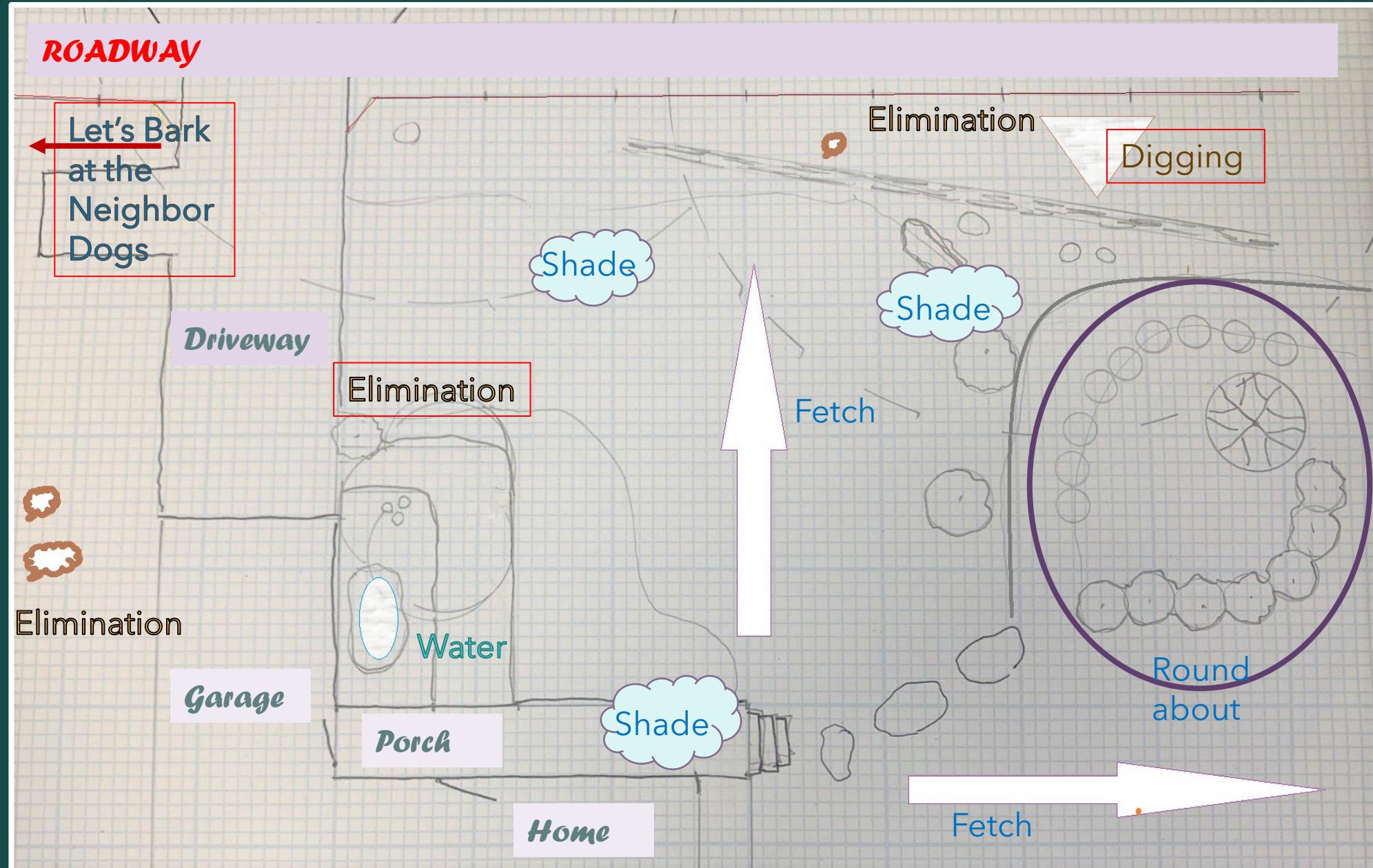
- Exercise/Running
- Shade
- Water
- Elimination
- Digging
- OFF LIMITS AREAS
- Confinement
  - Dog run or doghouse
- Grooming
- Feeding
- Sleep



# A Dog's Place

## ZONING FOR YOUR PET'S ACTIVITIES







# LAWN MAINTENANCE

## MOW TALLER

- Add  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to your cutting height videos.

## WATER DEEPER/LESS OFTEN

- Water enough to equal 1" of rain
- Water slowly over time
- Or session watering
- Water only when needed

## CONSIDER AN ALTERNATIVE

- Clover Lawn
- nitrogen fixers
- tolerates compaction
- Not mowed as often as do lawns composed of grass
- draws pollinators to your landscape



1. Leach out urea (salts) by flooding area with water
2. Remove dead turn and rough up the soil
3. Apply seed mixed with soil and work into the top  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of surface
4. top dress with mulch or loose rich soil

**Do you have burn out?**



# MULCH - STICKS AND STONES

- Untreated wood mulch
- Cedar mulch
- Cypress mulch
- River rock
- Recycled rubber





# BEWARE OF THE DOG

MULCH



- AVOID LARGE SHRED OR CHUNKED WOOD MULCH
- AVOID COCOA BEAN SHELLS
- AVOID COCONUT HUSKS

# FENCING

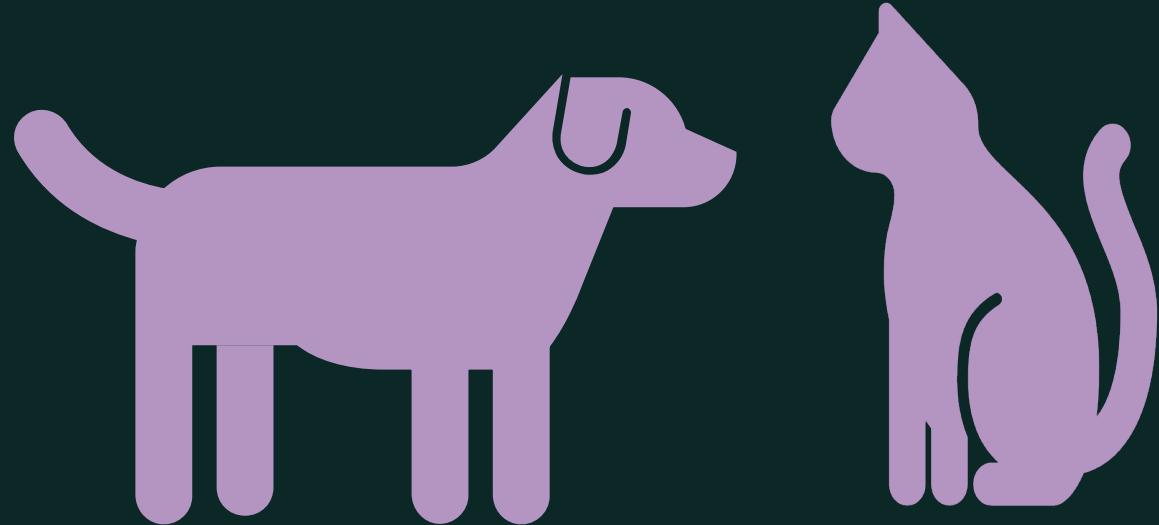
- Solid Wood
- Chain Link
- Farm Fence
- Iron or Aluminum
- Invisible
- Vinyl
- Plastic



# Plant Selection

## consider plants that . . .

- Can survive interaction with your pet
- Will hide damage done by pet
- Can be used as deterrents
- Are suited for our hardiness zone
- Are suited for the microclimate of your yard





## Plant Selection consider plants that . . .

- Try to choose nontoxic plants
- But also - recognize signs and symptoms of poisoning

Also, be advised that the consumption of any plant material may cause vomiting and gastrointestinal upset for dogs and cats. Plants listed as either non-toxic, or potentially toxic with mild GI upset as their symptoms are not expected to be life-threatening to your pets.



# 10 PLANTS TO AVOID

*if your pet spends a little more time chewing on plant material*

- Azalea/rhododendron (*Rhododendron spp.*) - entire plant, especially the leaves
- Caladium (*Caladium spp.*) - entire plant – including water cuttings are in
- English Ivy (*Hedera helix*) - foliage
- Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*) - entire plant
- Hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla*) - entire plant
- Jimsonweed (*Datura spp.*) - entire plant, especially sap and seeds
- Lady's slipper (*Cypripedium spp.*) -
- Lily-of-the valley (*Convallaria majalois*)
- <https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants>

# Pest and Weed Control

- Mullet Approach
- Grow More Tolerant
- Always follow Label directions
- Use Beneficials



A black and white tuxedo cat is sitting on a dark wooden railing. Behind the cat is a large, open blue patio umbrella. The background shows a grassy lawn and some bare trees. The overall scene is outdoors and suggests a shaded area for pets.

# SHADE

- Shade is essential to pets
- Shade trees and shrubs
- Structures such as porches, or pergolas
- Vining structures



# WATER

- Clean water should always be provided for your pet



# What to expect when you have a pet in the landscape

LAWNS-digging, compaction, yellow spots

FLOWER BEDS- digging, pooping, breaking

SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES-peeing, breakage, chewing

GROUNDCOVERS-digging, mashing, nesting, tracking

VEGETABLE GARDENS-eating, digging, breakage, eliminating





# Roll with

A TIP quoted from respected author on pets and landscaping " dogs love freshly dug soil to dig in, so instead of planting your annuals in a bed,...and providing temptation... try potting them (annuals) this year for gorgeous (untouchable) displays."



# the punches

Thank you

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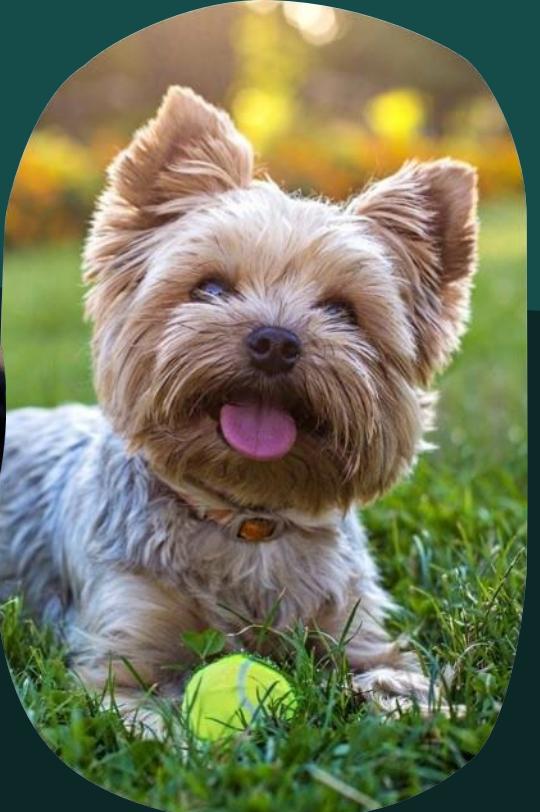


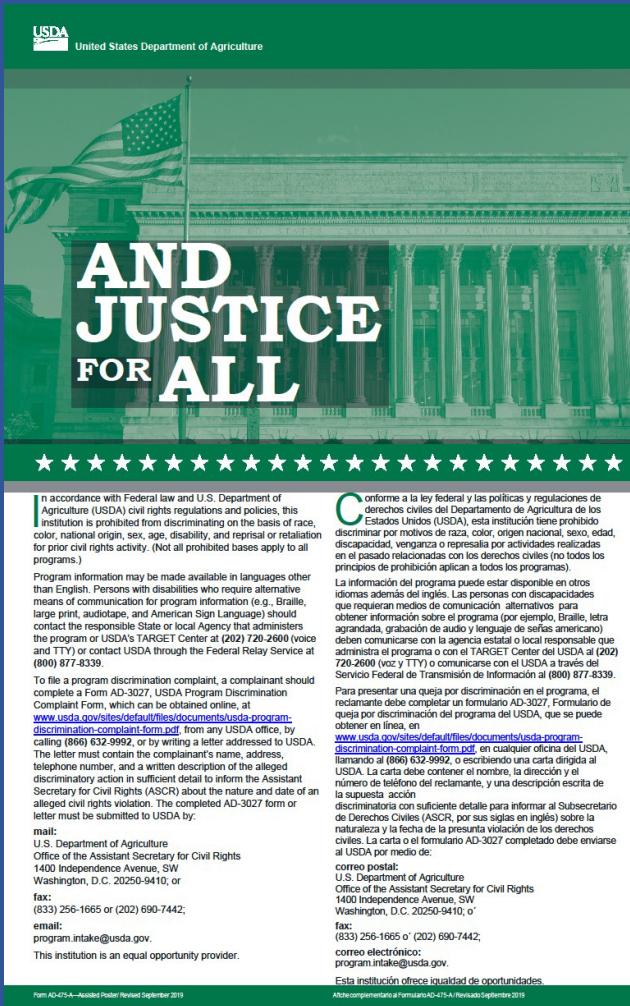
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Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

# RESOURCES

- Dog Friendly Gardens: Garden Friendly Dogs; Smith Cheryl S.
- Dogscaping: Creating the Perfect Backyard and Garden for You and Your Dog; Barthel, Tom
- Petscaping: Training and Landscaping with Your Pet in Mind; Cohen, Scott; Doherty, Carolyn
- [poisonous2pets](#); Plants poisonous to dogs and cats; O'Kane, Nicole
- [aspca.org/poison plants](#)

