



Iron County Water Stewards

Recognizing Candace Schaible

As Cedar Valley residents become more aware of the need for outdoor water conservation, they have a tremendous resource in talented horticulturist Candace Schaible, who continuously teaches community members through a variety of courses, programs and activities.

Schaible, Professional Practice Extension Assistant Professor of Horticulture and Water Conservation for the Utah State University Extension, works closely with the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District, helping with community outreach events,

teaching a water-efficient landscape design class called Localscapes, and facilitating free summer water checks.

She studied horticulture at South Dakota State University before coming to Cedar City in 2006. She loves plants, and that love led her to learn about plant water use, watering systems, landscaping and more.

Now, she serves on the boards for the Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper program and the USU Center for Water Efficient Landscaping. For the Utah Water Conservation Forum she serves as board member, treasurer, and Spring Conference Planning Committee member.

She is currently working on a joint project with USU, Alex Meisner Construction, and Big Trees Nursery called “USU Water-Wise Demonstration Street.” There are several participating homes in the Crescent Hills Subdivision and more information is available at www.usudemonstrationstreet.com.

They received grant funding in 2019 from the USU water initiative funds to create the “demonstration street,” and while it’s worked out to be more of a subdivision with participating homes throughout, Schaible is pleased with its progress.

The website highlights a few landscapes, and will be updated as the project progresses. She said the goal is to “demonstrate that sustainable landscape design, coupled with climate-appropriate plantings and efficient water management, will not only look good, but use minimal water in comparison to other types of landscaping.”

The USU Landscape Architecture Department, working with the homeowners, designs the space. Four landscapes have been installed so far, with two currently in progress and a few more planned to be completed by the end of the year, she said.

Julie Gillins, Washington County Water Conservancy District Water Conservation manager, said as soon as Schaible came to Iron County she began implementing great programs and events to educate community members on water-conserving behaviors.

“Candace is a great advocate for using water wisely,” Gillins said.

Schaible also teaches the USU Extension’s Master Gardener course as well as classes through SUU’s Community and Professional Development program.

Iron County Water Stewards are community members who significantly contribute to the effort to optimize every drop of water in Iron County. For every effort you make to conserve, we consider you a water steward, too. For more of the story and to Get to Know Your H2O, visit www.cicwcd.org.

The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District is actively engaged in education, conservation, reuse and import projects to meet the growing demands on local water supply and to provide solutions for the future.

