



# ALTERNATIVE LANDSCAPES



Piet Oudolf: The Sense of Landscape Today

# What are alternative landscapes?



# **DISCUSSION POINTS**

WHY ALTERNATIVE LANDSCAPES

XERIC-SCAPE

ECOTYPIC (NATIVE) LANDSCAPES

POLYCULTURE

TRADITIONAL ALTERNATIVES

Why alternative  
landscapes?

# WATER



## Development of the 2026 Regional Water Plans

### 2022 Texas State Water Plan



#### Demands by Usage Type (acre-feet/year)

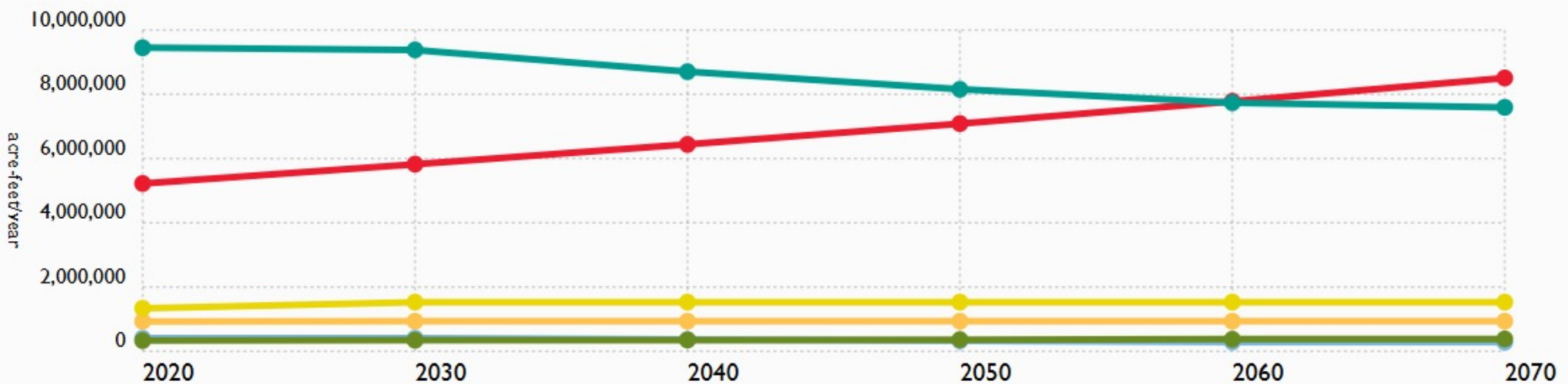
Irrigation Municipal Manufacturing  
 Steam Electric Power Livestock Mining

DEMANDS

EXISTING SUPPLIES

NEEDS (POTENTIAL SHORTAGES)

STRATEGY SUPPLIES



[SHOW DATA TABLE](#)

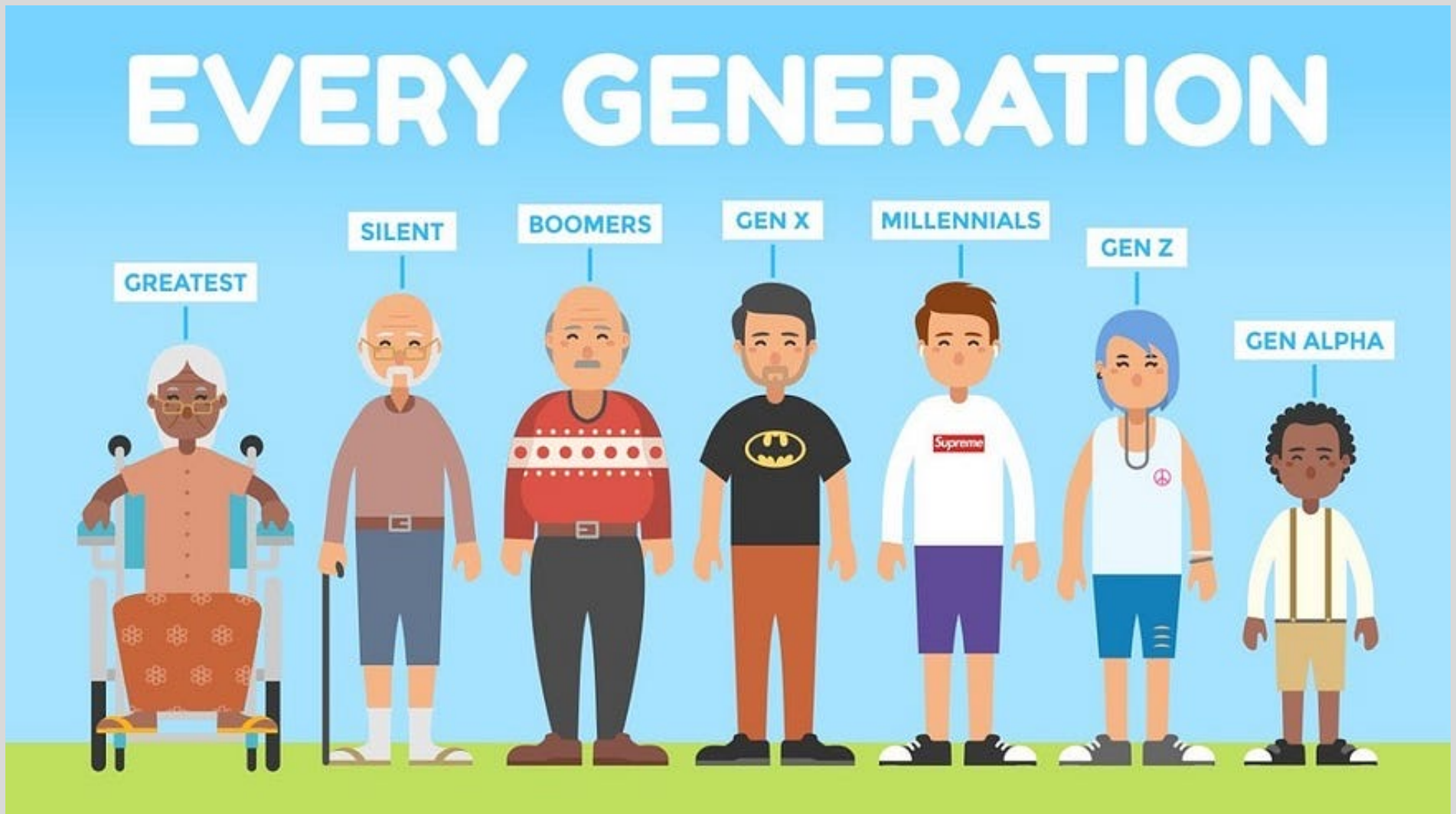
Why alternative  
landscapes?

# CLIMATE CHANGE



Why alternative  
landscapes?

# GENERATIONAL CHANGES

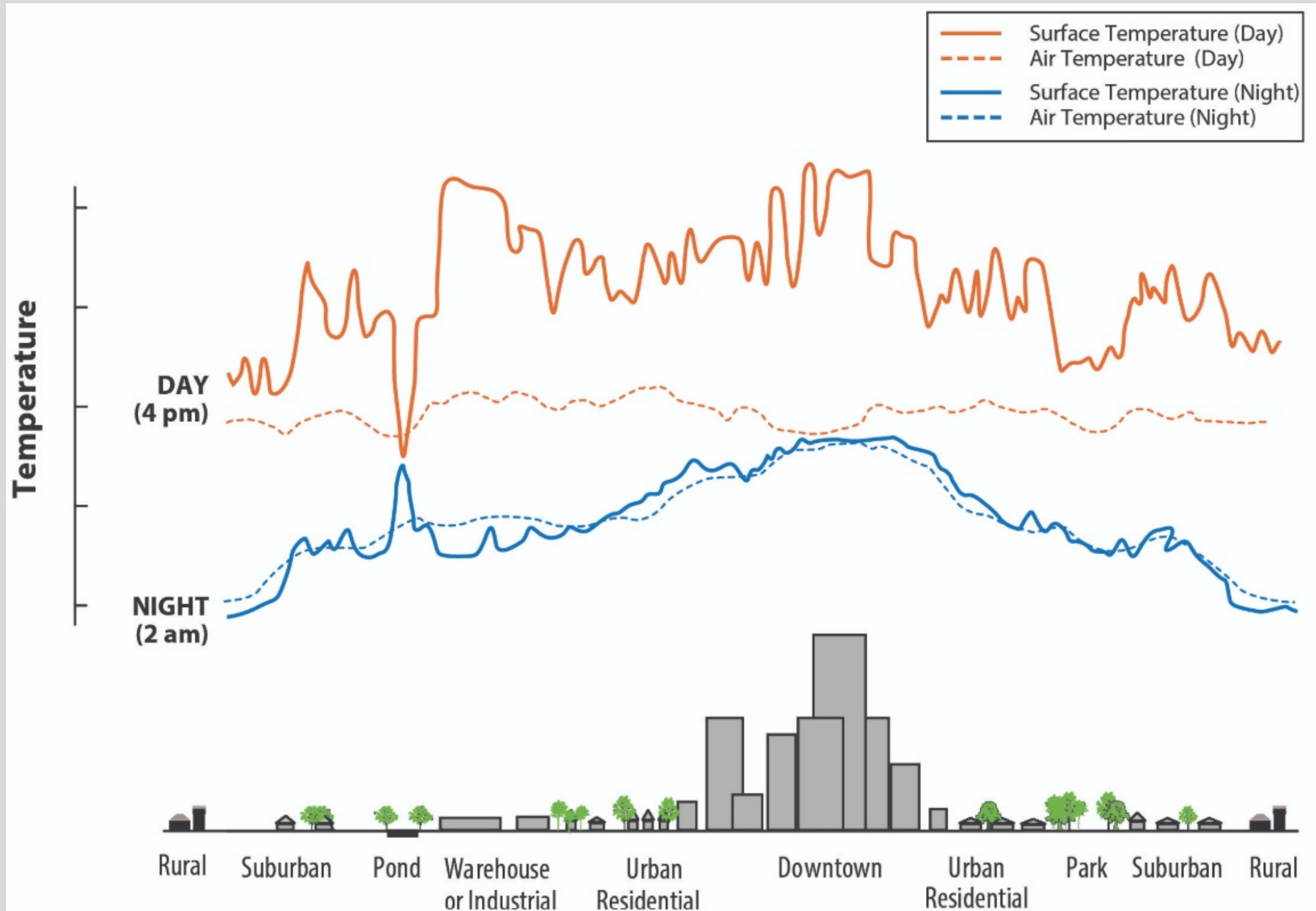


# XERIC-SCAPE

## XERISCAPE, ZERO-SCAPE OR XERIC-SCAPE



# XERIC-SCAPE



# Heat Island Reduction Solutions

Activities to reduce heat islands range from voluntary initiatives, such as cool pavement demonstration projects, to policy actions, such as requiring cool roofs via building codes. Most solutions have multiple benefits, including cleaner air, improved human health and comfort, reduced energy costs, and lower greenhouse gas emissions. Heat island reduction can also help cities become more resilient to the [impacts of climate change](https://www.epa.gov/heat-islands/heat-island-reduction-solutions).



## Increase Trees and Vegetation

Learn simple and effective ways plants can cool the environment.

**Find Trees and Vegetation Solutions**



## Create Green Roofs

Explore green roofs as a proven method to reduce heat islands and achieve cost-effective benefits.

**Explore Green Roof Solutions**



## Install Cool Roofs

Find what cool roofs are, how they work to reduce heat islands, and other benefits.

**Learn About Cool Roofs**

Why alternative  
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# WATER



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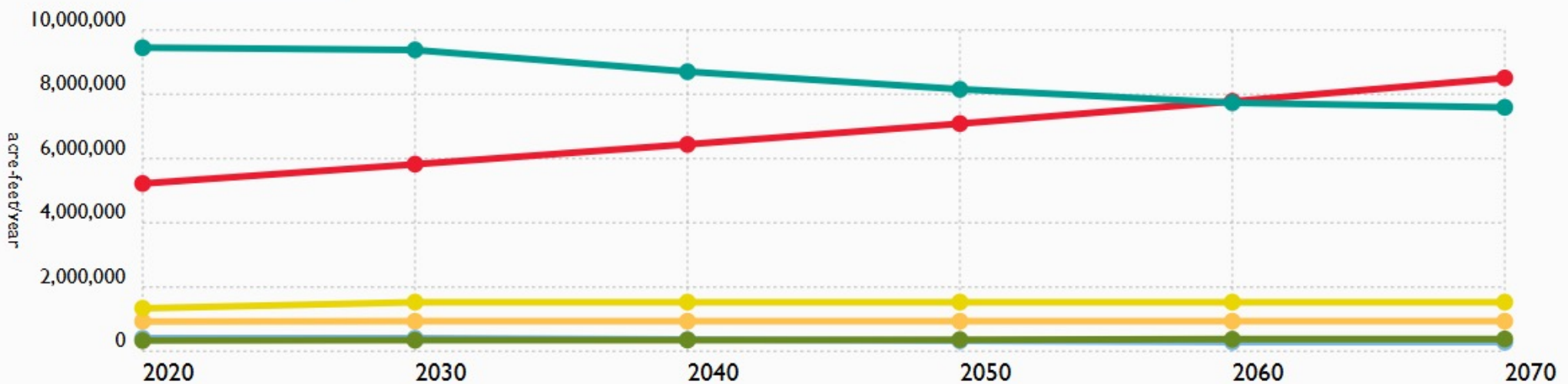
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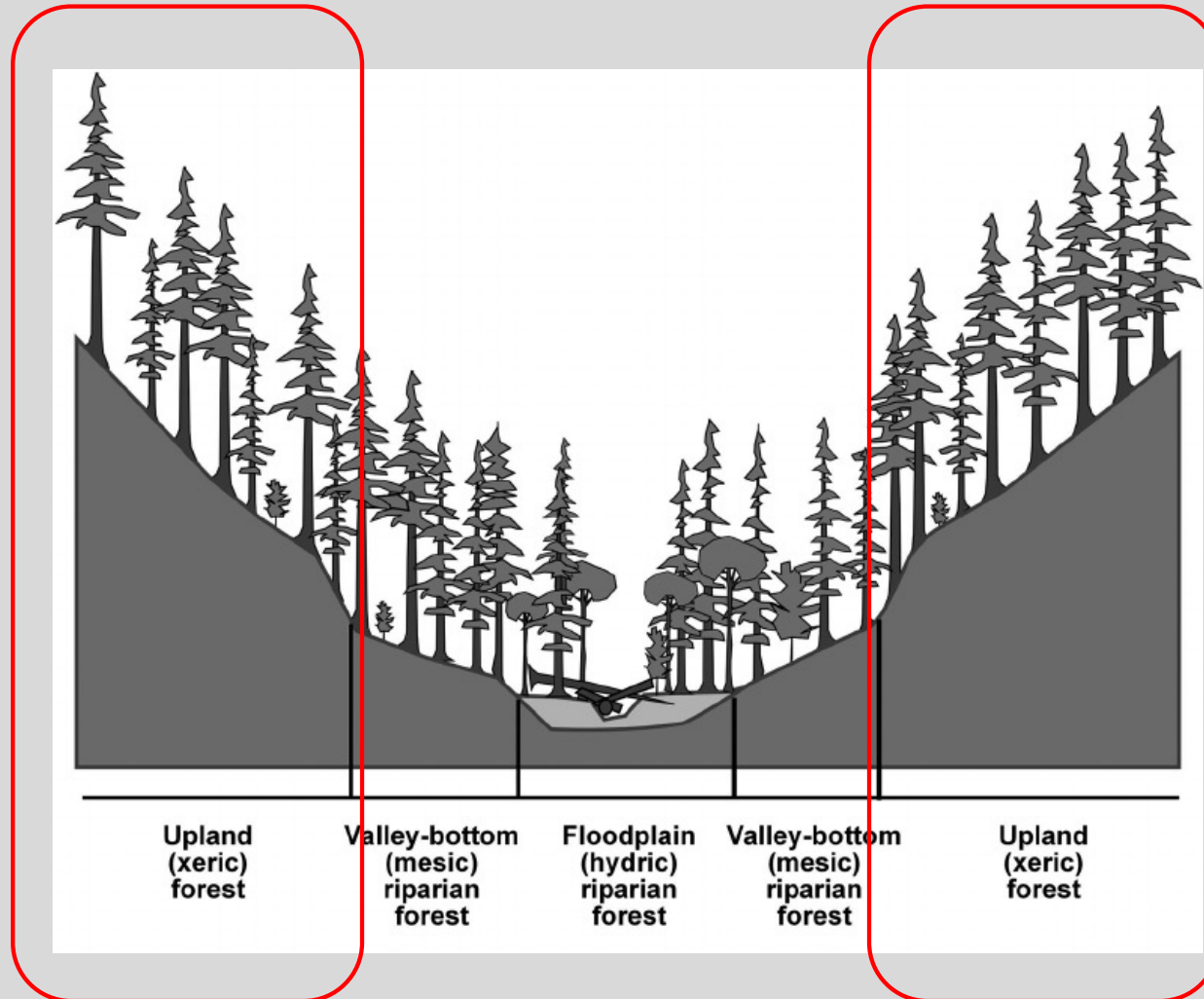
NEEDS (POTENTIAL SHORTAGES)

STRATEGY SUPPLIES



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# XERIC-SCAPE



# XERIC-SCAPE

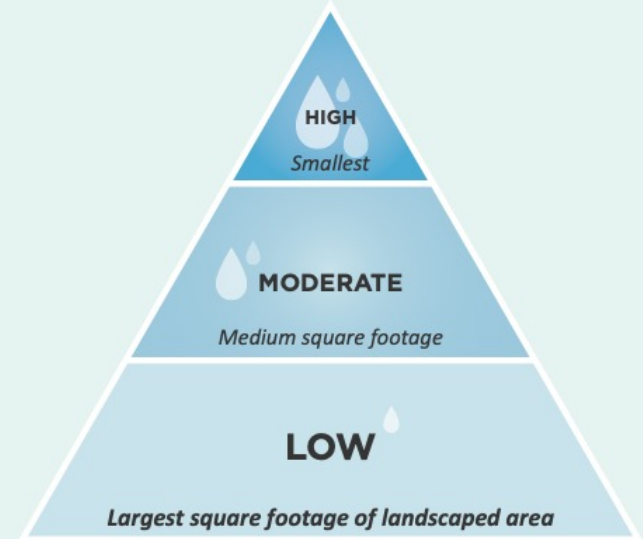


# ~~XERIC~~ SCAPE HYDROZONE

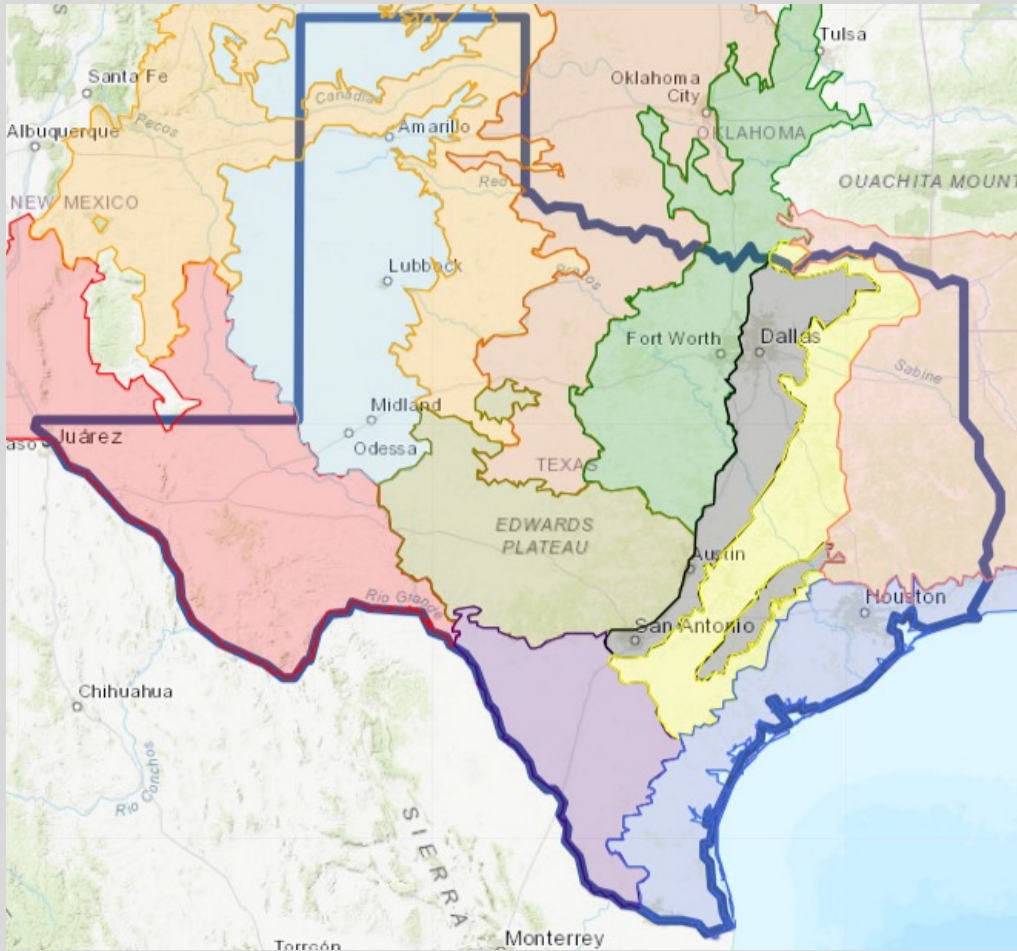


## HYDROZONE TRIANGLE

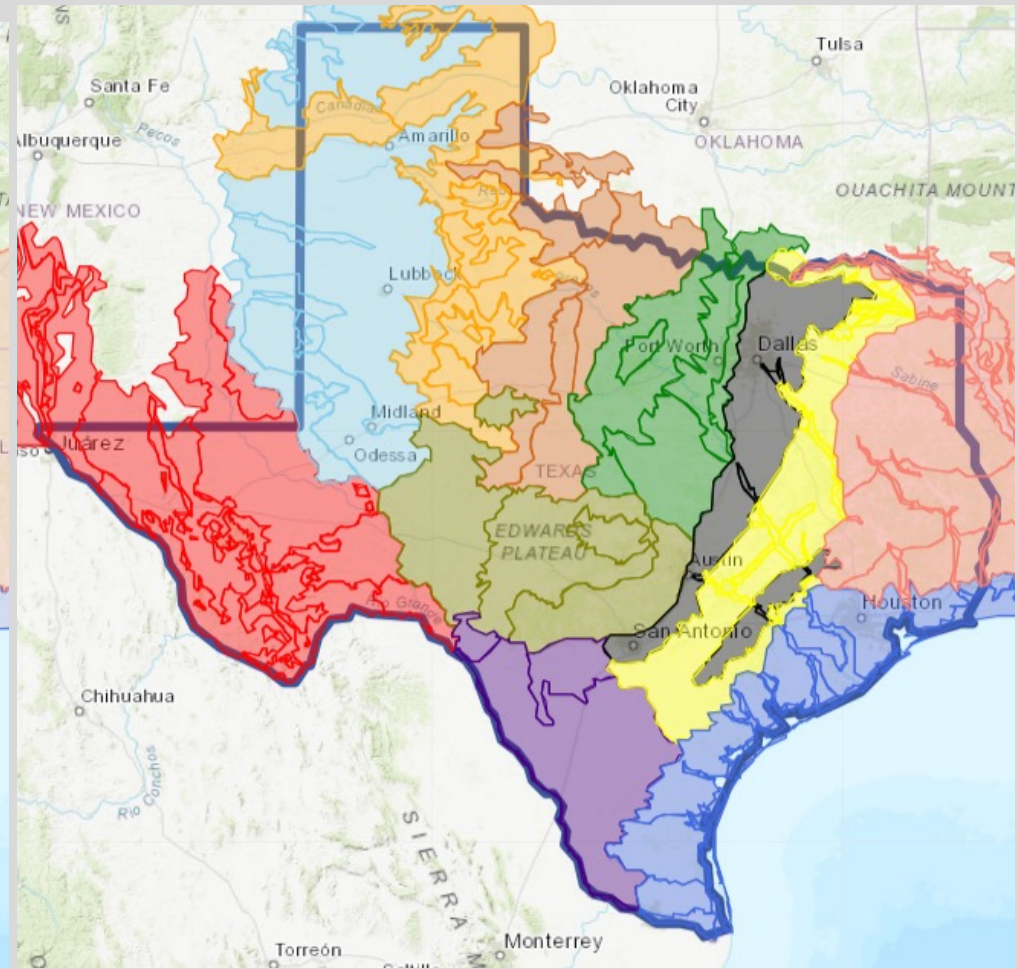
*Hydrozone means the grouping of plants by their water requirements for efficient irrigation and plant health.*



# ECOTYPIC LANDSCAPE DESIGN



LEVEL 3 ECOREGIONS

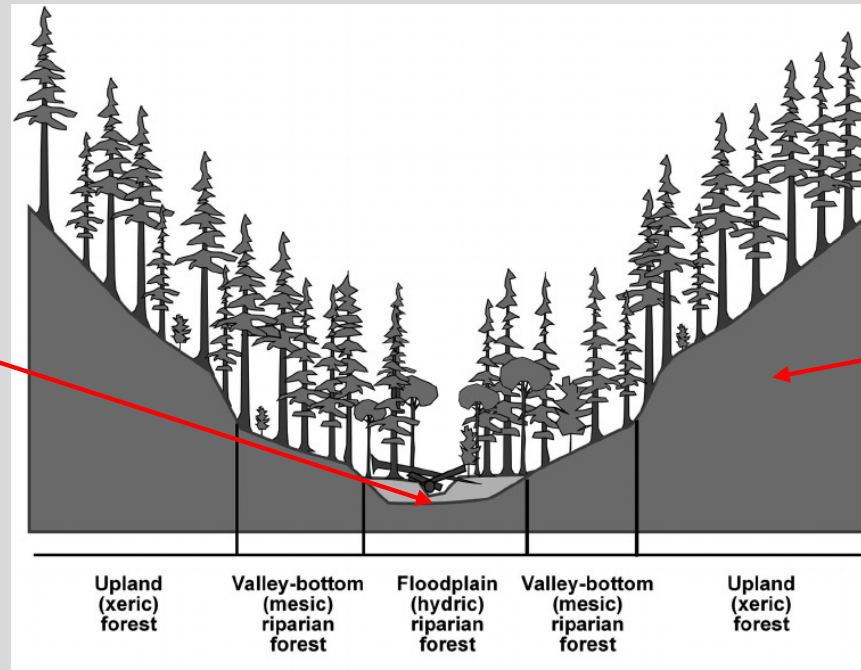


LEVEL 4 ECOREGIONS

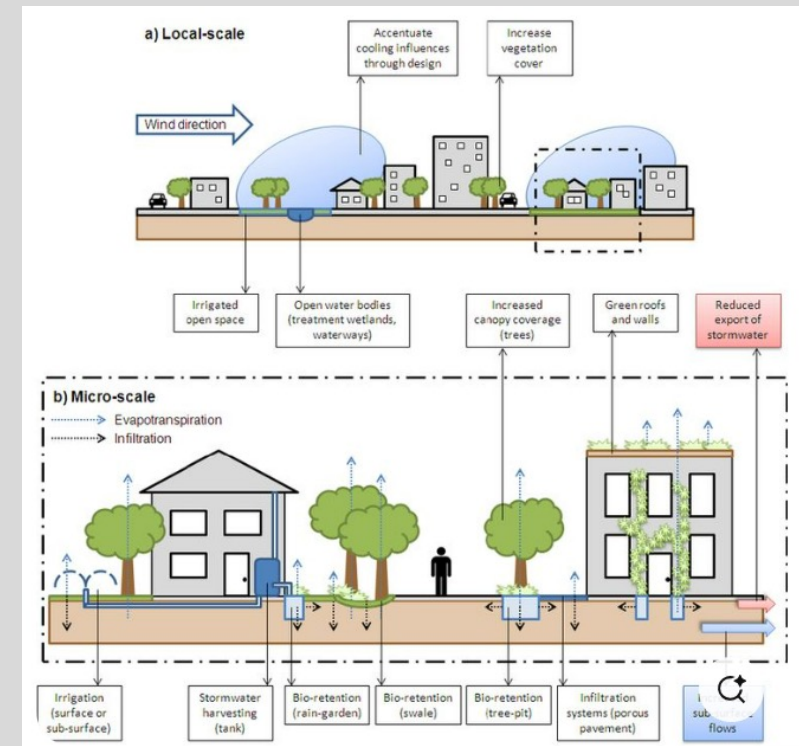
RIGHT PLANT, RIGHT ~~PLACE~~ ECOTYPE

# ECOTYPIC LANDSCAPE DESIGN

...WHY NOT NATIVE?



A microclimate is the local climate difference of a small area within the surrounding area and can offer different growing conditions in the larger USDA Hardiness Zone.



# POLYCULTURE



# POLYCULTURE

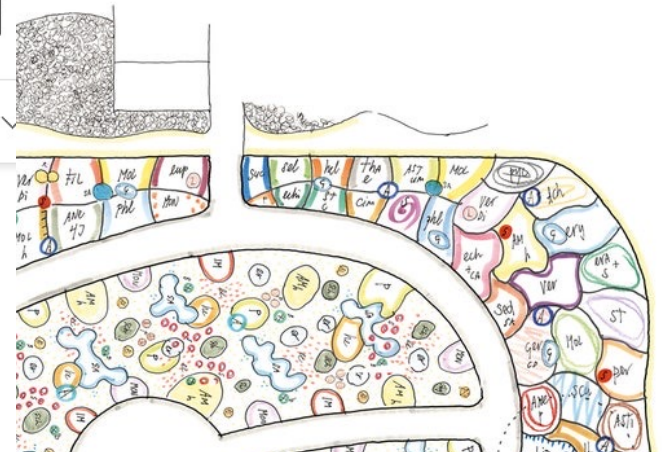


The High Line gardens, planned by the renowned Dutch garden designer Piet Oudolf, are among the best-known examples of naturalistic landscape design anywhere. Timothy Schenck

# POLYCULTURE



BRIDGELAND, HOUSTON



DESIGNED CHAOS

## TRADITIONAL ALTERNATIVES



**POCKET PRAIRIE**

## TRADITIONAL ALTERNATIVES



**APRIL 2020**



**POCKET PRAIRIE**

## TRADITIONAL ALTERNATIVES



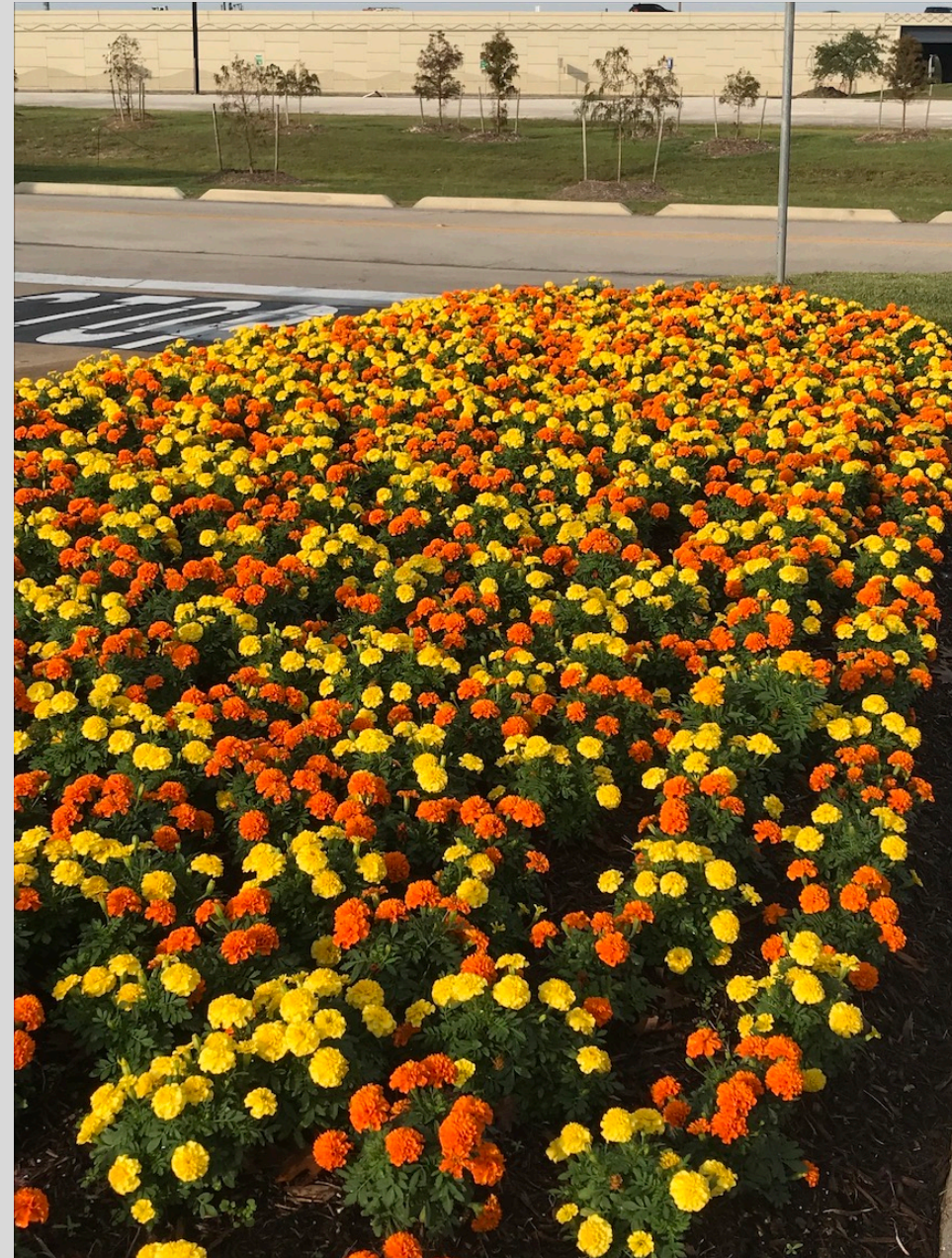
**NO WATER ZONES**

## TRADITIONAL ALTERNATIVES



**NO WATER ZONES**

## TRADITIONAL ALTERNATIVES



## SEASONAL COLOR TRANSFORMATIONS

## TRADITIONAL ALTERNATIVES



## SEASONAL COLOR TRANSFORMATIONS

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