A photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a large yucca plant with a tall, golden-yellow flower stalk stands prominently. The background features rolling hills and mountains covered in sparse, green and brown vegetation under a clear sky. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

We are in a
historic time
dealing with
water use

It's going to require all of us to adapt to new
ways of living...

...with lasting life-style changes if we're going to live
sustainably long into the future

We all need to realize ...



We live in the desert.

Our deserts support a higher diversity of plants & animals than most other places on earth...



...and they have lived successfully through many extremes

Our desert plants & animals
don't just survive here,
they **thrive**. How have they done it?



What's their secret?

How do *we* achieve the
goal of living
comfortably and *successfully*
in the desert?



We can learn from our
desert environment
how to thrive here



We can: *“Live Like a Desert Native”*

Save Water!



“Live Like a Desert Native”

“Living like a Desert Native”

can be a fun journey, filled with rewards that provide a better quality of life

- We can learn from ~ strategies that native plants and animals use to save water

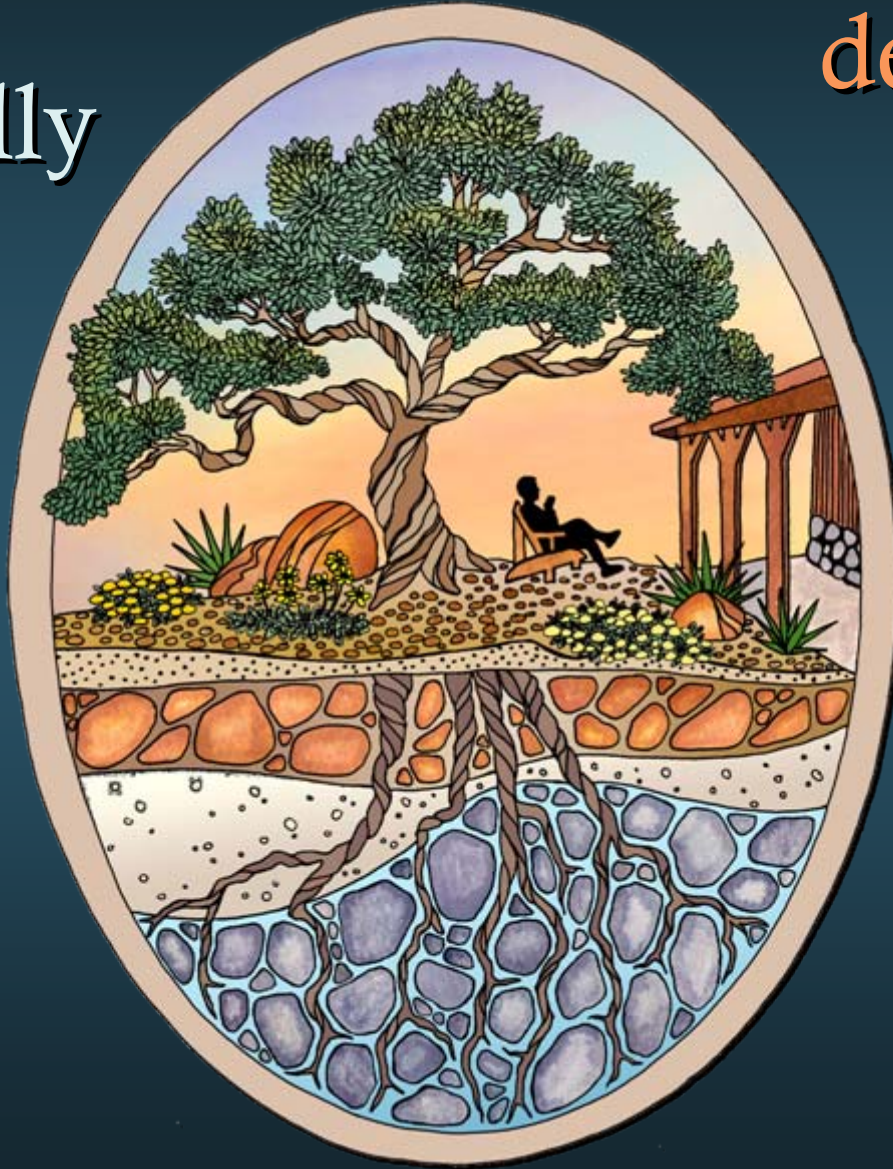
- We can embrace ~ the native way of life



- We can link these ideas ~ to our yard, our home, and our life without reducing our quality of life

- We can realize that ~ *Using less doesn't mean living less!*

Tips for living successfully in the desert:



- Put down deep roots

- Make shade

- Cover your ground

Put down deep roots

- In your yard:

- ✓ Water plants long & slow -- not often or shallow – to put down deep roots

- ✓ Deep roots need watering much less often



- In your community:

- ✓ Join in with neighbors to celebrate, solve local issues

- ✓ Engaged communities are more stable, secure & healthy

This is how we live in the desert!

Make Shade

• In your yard:

- ✓ Add shade with trees, shade cloth, umbrellas, arbors
- ✓ Shade saves moisture, cools you, your home, & the ground



• In your home:

- ✓ Add shade over outside living spaces with porches, sail cloth, latticework, pull-down shades
- ✓ Shade reduces the need for cooling/AC

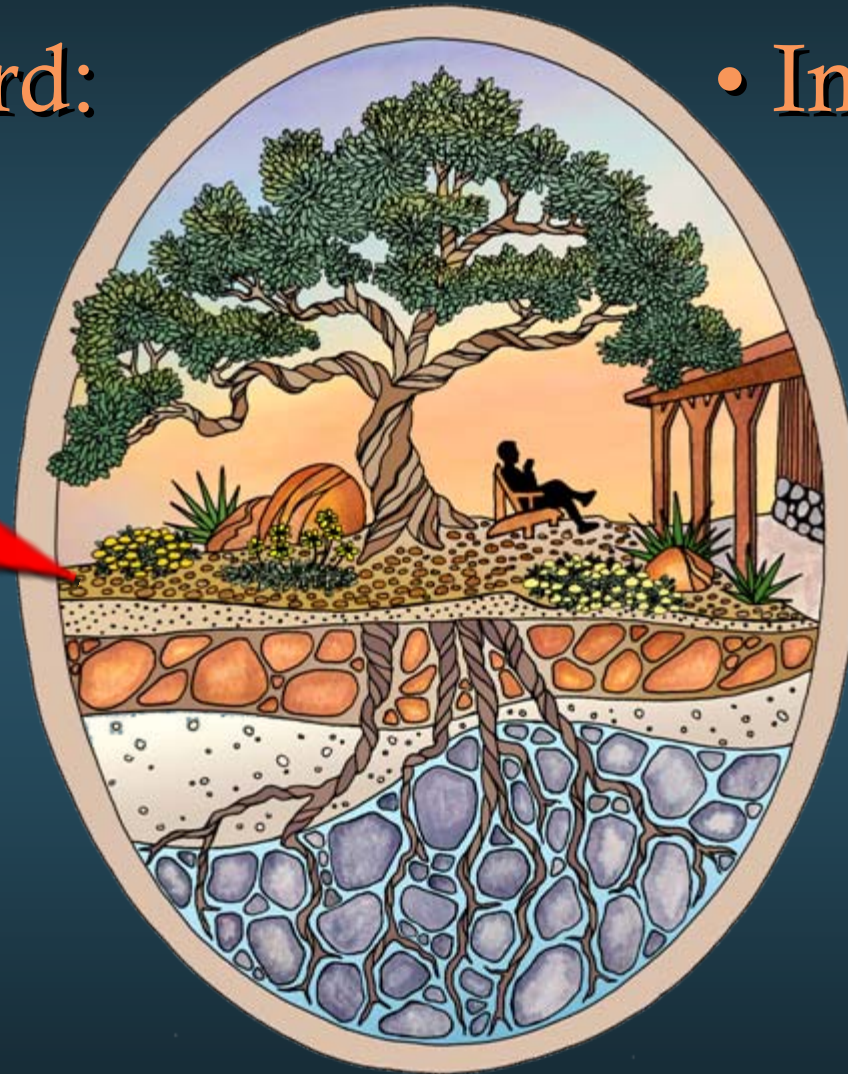
This is how we live in the desert!

Cover your ground

• In your yard:

✓ Add mulch, chips, rock, or gravel over the ground

✓ Covering the ground holds moisture, cuts watering needs, reduces weeds, cuts down soil erosion & run-off



• In your home:

✓ Cover all the bases for water efficiency inside your home

✓ Even small water savings add up

This is how we live in the desert!

- ~ Take it easy
- ~ Make it easy
- ~ Save water

You'll know you've done it right ...

when your yard starts to take care of itself!



This is how we live in the desert!

Save Water!

*Live Like a
Desert Native*



Alliance for Water
Awareness and Conservation

awac

Water-Conserve Today for Tomorrow