

How to: Measure the Square Footage of your River Friendly Landscape Project Area.

While completing your River Friendly Landscape application, you will need to know the size of your yard. This packet will instruct you on how to take the correct measurements, and how to calculate the area of your yard.

In order to calculate the area of your lawn, you will need to collect the tools listed below and follow the steps listed on pages 2-4.

For help in measuring the shapes of your lawn see page five for a description on how to calculate area of rectangles and triangles, and for helpful resources on how to calculate the area of less common shapes.

You will not need to submit these measurements but you will need to know the total square footage for your River Friendly Landscape application. We suggest that you keep the measurements of these areas in mind while planning your landscape to ensure that you reach the 50 percent plant coverage requirement for each area.

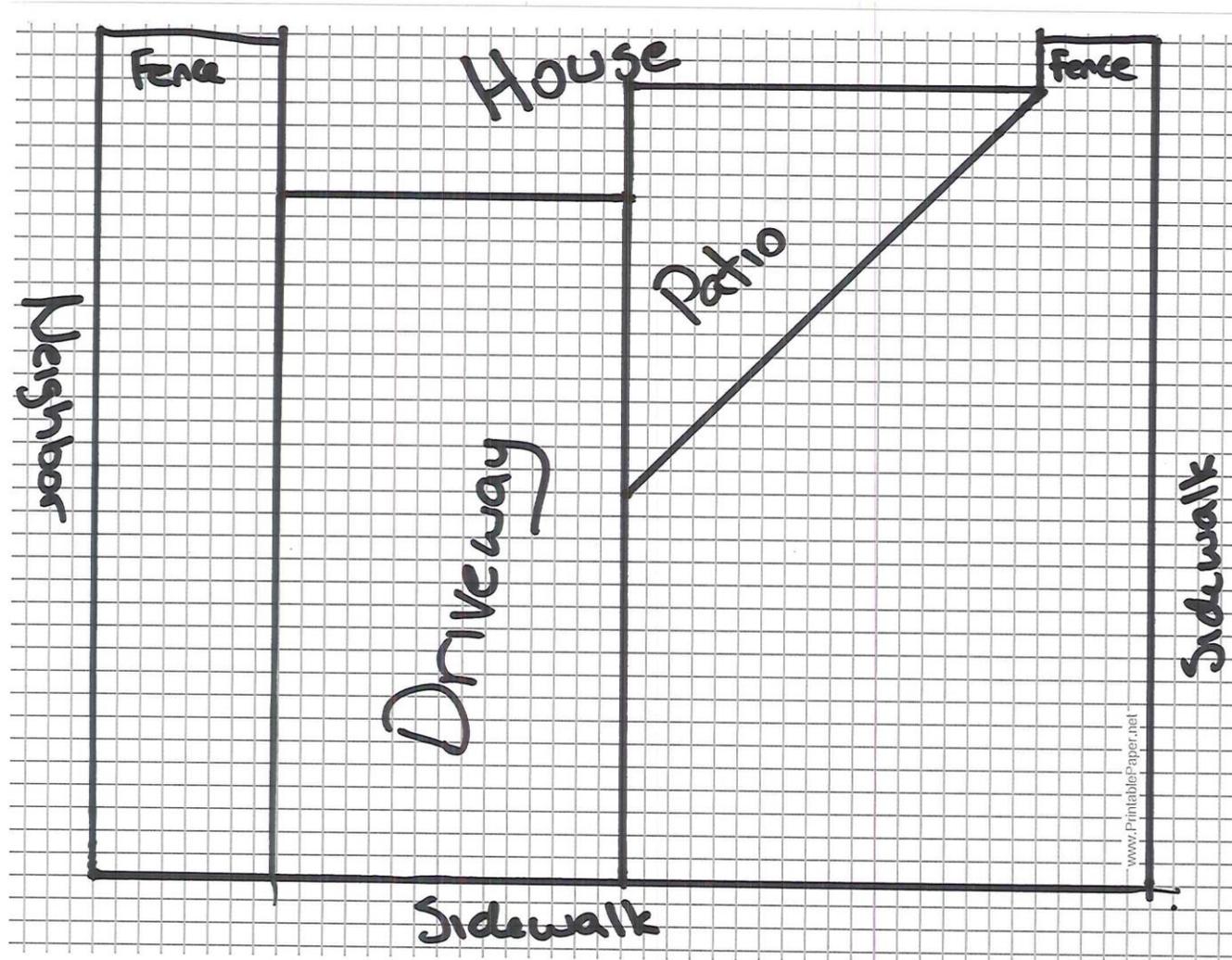
If you have any questions while calculating the area of your River Friendly Landscape Project, please contact us anytime at 916-808-1337 or email us at riverfriendly@cityofsacramento.org.

Tools you will need:

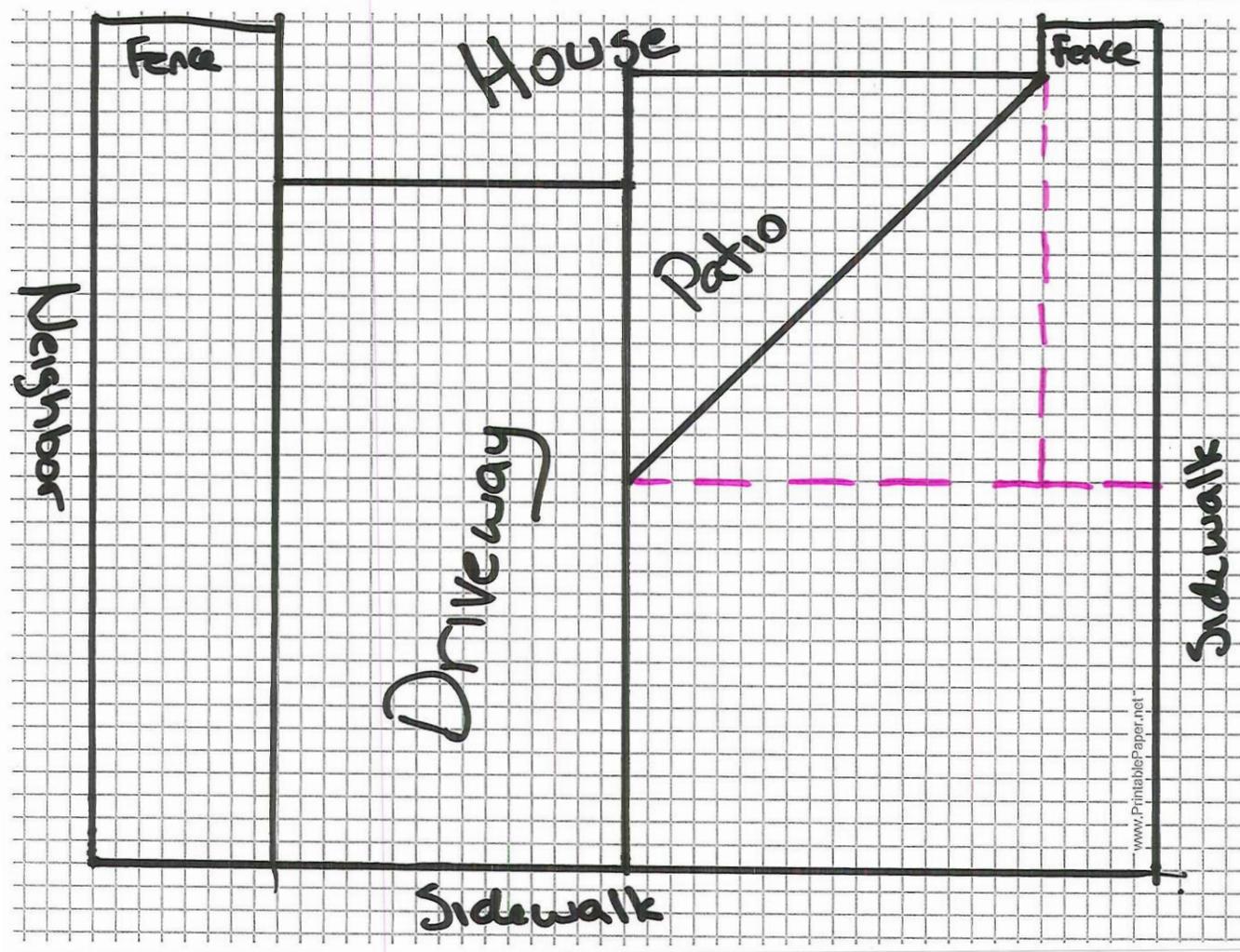
- Measuring tape or measuring wheel
- Graph paper ([free templates available online](#))
- A calculator

Steps for measuring your lawn:

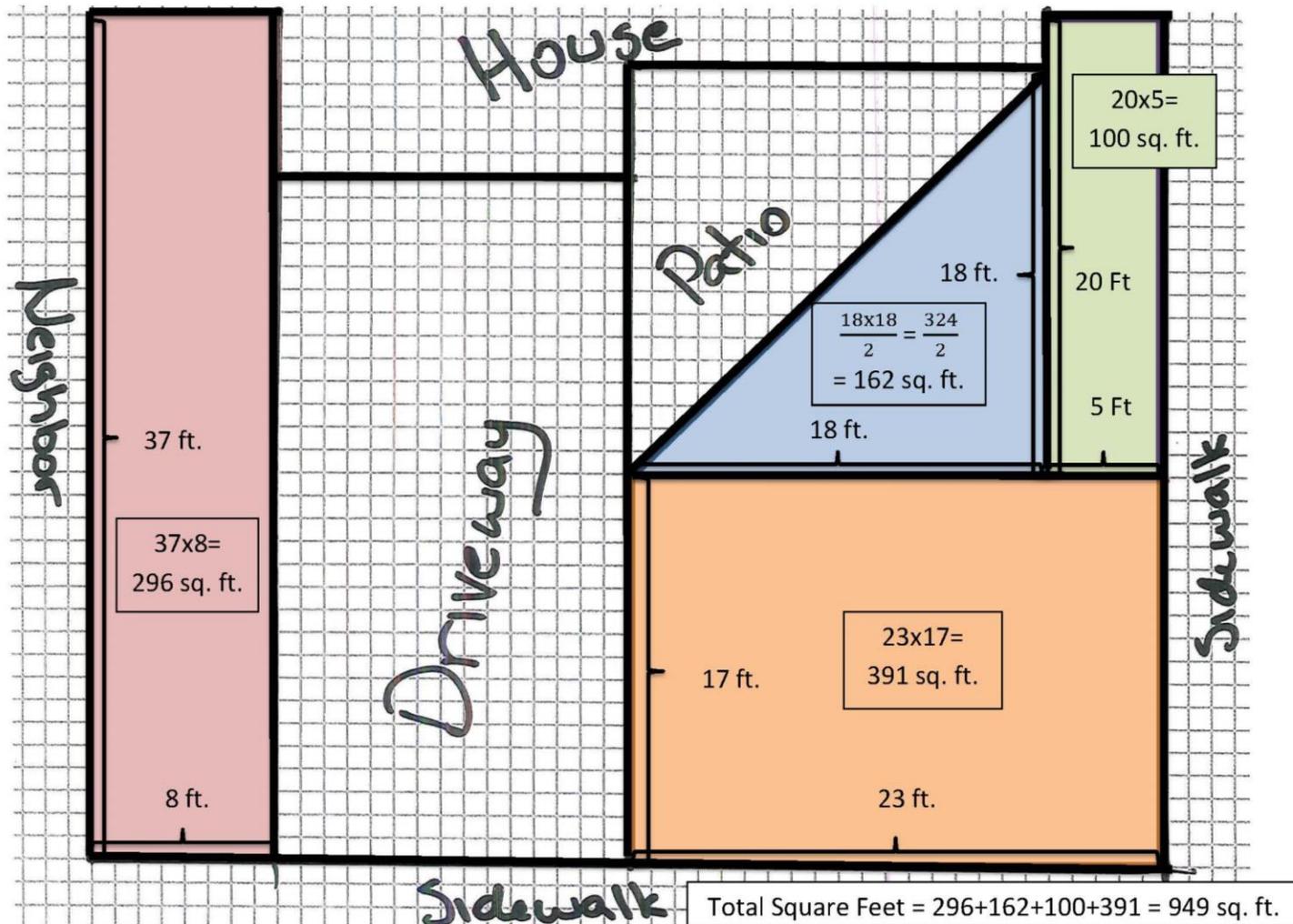
1. Utilize your graph paper to make a drawing of your home and the borders of your yard. Write in any descriptions of nearby items such as driveways, patios, fences, neighbor's properties, or sidewalks. This will help you orient yourself.



2. Divide the project area into easily measured shapes such as rectangles, squares, and triangles. When completing this, try to make as few shapes as possible to reduce the number of calculations you will need to complete.



- Take measurements along the lines that you defined in Step 2. Once you have your measurements, plug them into your drawing as seen below. You will need to use the formulas on Page 5 to calculate each square, rectangle, and triangle in your landscape as seen below. After you have calculated the area for all of your shapes, add them all together, and you will have your Total Square Feet. This total square footage will be used when you fill out your River Friendly Landscape application.



Helpful

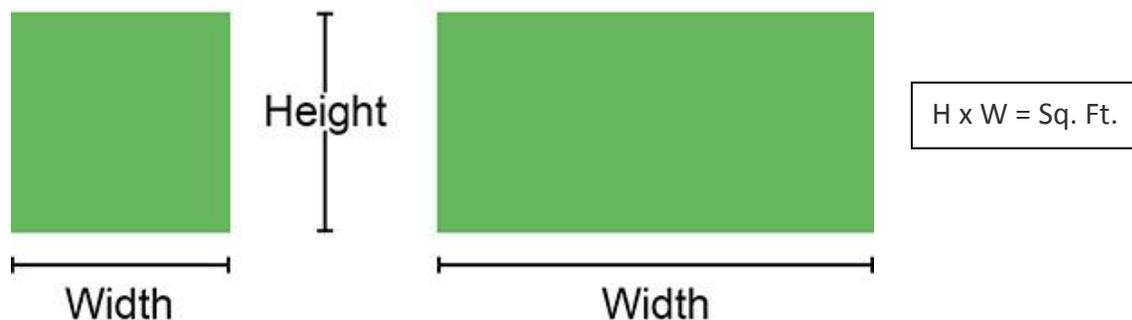
formulas to find square footage

There are many online “area calculator tools” that will calculate the square footage of common shapes after you enter in the required measurements. [Click here for one example.](#)

Squares, rectangles, and triangles will be the most common shapes in your yard. The formulas for finding their square footage are below. If you have more unusual shapes, you can find out how to calculate their square footage on many websites such as [this one.](#)

Square or Rectangle

Height (H) multiplied by Width (W) = Square Footage (Sq. Ft.)



Triangle

Height (H) multiplied by Width (W) and divided by 2 = Square Footage (Sq.Ft.)

