

Drought Tolerant Plants

Deer Deterrent Perennials

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| Artemisia | Edible Sage |
| Blue Sage | Fritillaria |
| Brunnera | Foxglove |
| Bugle Weed | Lily |
| Catmint | Monks Hood |
| Coreopsis | Russian Sage |
| Daffodil | |



Drought Tolerant Perennials

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Blanket Flower | Oriental Poppy |
| Blazing Star | Ornamental Onion |
| Cone Flower | Penstemon |
| Daylily | Phlox |
| Evening Primrose | Rudbeckia |
| Goldenrod | Sea Holly |
| Hens & Chicks | Sedum |
| Iris | Solomon's Seal |
| Liatriis | Stonecrop |
| Lupine | Yucca |
| Mother-of-Thyme | |



Native and Ornamental Grasses



- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Bluebunch Fescue | Junegrass |
| Blue Grama | Little Bluestem |
| Blue Oatgrass | Needle and Thread |
| Feather Reed Grass | Prairie Dropseed |
| Indian Ricegrass | Switch Grass |

Drought Tolerant Trees and Shrubs

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Amur Maple | Lilac |
| Aspen | Mock Orange |
| Bur Oak | Nanking Cherry |
| Cherry Prinsepia | Ohio Buckeye |
| Dogwood | Pine |
| Dwarf Barberry | Potentilla |
| Golden Flowering Currant | Saskatoon Berry |
| Hops | Snowberry |
| Japanese Tree Lilac | Spirea |
| Juniper | Virginia Creeper |



514 Windsor Avenue NW
 Box 330
 Turner Valley AB T0L 2A0
 t. 403.933.4944
 e. admin@turnervalley.ca

Updated June 2014



Xeriscaping



How to Xeriscape Your Yard and Garden

What is Xeriscaping?

Xeriscaping is a style of gardening that utilizes drought tolerant and native plants that thrive in dry prairie environments.

The main purpose of xeriscaping is to reduce the amount of water, and other additives, required to maintain gardens and plants creating environmentally friendly landscapes.

Xeriscaping is based on 7 principles to create easier-keeper and environmentally efficient lawns and gardens.

Why Xeriscape?

The availability of safe, fresh drinking water is increasingly under threat around the world. More than half of residential water use in the summer goes towards the upkeep of lawns and gardens.

Xeriscaping can significantly reduce the amount of water used in the home while also reducing the need for air conditioning, if done correctly, **saving you money on your utilities.**

Xeriscaping also works to protect and support native species and pollinators by providing habitat and reducing the need for harmful pesticides and fertilizers.

How to Xeriscape

Xeriscaping is easy! Follow the 7 principles and you will have an easily maintained, natural and sustainable garden and yard to enjoy throughout the year.

7 Principles of Xeriscaping

1. Plan

Sketch your yard, including decks, trees and sheds, then zone areas based on activity or purpose. Colour code zones by the amount of sunlight, precipitation and water you expect to need to maintain each area.

2. Improve the Soil

Add 2 or more inches of organic matter like compost or manure and mix to a 6 inch depth to create a nutrient rich space for planting.

3. Create Practical Lawn Areas

Limit your lawn areas to only what you need and where it will provide the most function for you and your family. Choose grass seed mixes that have low water requirements for these areas.

Where lawn is difficult to grow or maintain, consider substituting these areas with drought tolerant ground covers, perennials or shrubs, or use the area for a path, table, bench or sculpture.

4. Water Effectively

Group plants in your yard by water need.

Lawns require about 1 inch of water per week so check the weather report regularly for expected precipitation, and use a timer or gauge to ensure you are not overwatering (a tuna can works well).

Use irrigation drip systems or soaker hoses to focus water on the ground and avoid mist and oscillating sprinklers as they lose a lot to evaporation. Water in the early morning or late evening to prevent further evaporation.

Invest in a rain barrel.

5. Select Drought Tolerant and Native Plants

Choose low water-use plants and group them by water needs. If you decide you need some high water-use plants, place them in low lying areas that will drain naturally and are easy to irrigate.

Plants that are native to the prairies area a great choice because they are accustomed to the dry, cool climate and require less water and maintenance.

6. Mulch

Mulch your garden to reduce evaporation, cool plant roots, decrease weed growth and slow erosion. Mulch is also a handsome and easy ground cover that provides essential nutrients to soil.

Mulch all parts of the landscape except the lawn.

7. Maintain

Prune dead or diseased branches anytime throughout the year and remove spent flowers before they mature to seed heads. Leave other pruning for winter or early spring.

Aerate your lawn in the spring and mow regularly to a height of 3 inches. Clippings left on the lawn are an excellent source of nutrients for the grass and soil.

Fertilize sparingly according to plant needs – more is not better. Control unwanted plants by digging them out or apply herbicides to targeted weeds only when necessary. Never use products that combine fertilizer and herbicide.

Make space for pollinators and predator insects to protect endangered bumblebees and butterflies while avoiding the need for pesticides.