

# Xeriscaping



**Xeriscaping is a type of landscaping that aims to reduce or completely eliminate the need for watering. A properly xeriscaped yard can be lush and beautiful while saving you time and water.**

## Benefits of Xeriscaping

- Xeriscaped gardens are beautiful and can be designed in so many different ways!
- By planting drought tolerant and/or native plants, you'll be conserving a significant amount of water. Supporters of xeriscaping say it can reduce water use by 50 or 75% once plants are established.
- Native species do not require excessive chemical fertilizers or pesticides in order to thrive. Pesticides are harmful for the environment and can be quite costly.
- Xeriscaped yards are low-maintenance. Losing the lawn means less time mowing, watering and weeding.

## Drought Tolerant Plant Examples

Alyssum, Asclepias, Bird's Eyes Gilia, Bunny Tails Grass, Calendula, California Bluebell, California Poppy, Celosia, Centaurea, Chamomile, Chives, Cloud Grass, Coreopsis, Cosmos, Delphinium, Dianthus, Digitalis, Eriophyllum, Eryngium, Gaillardia, Gypsophila, Hollyhocks, Iberis, Ipomoea, Lavender, Linum, Marigold, Nasturtium, Oenothera, Orchard Grass, Poppies, Quaking Grass, Ratibida, Rocky Mountain Bee Plant, Rudbeckia, Saponaria, Scabiosa, Sesame, Sheep Fescue, Stocks, Sunflower, Thyme and Yarrow



# The 7 Principles of Xeriscaping

1. Plan and Design... for water conservation and beauty from the start.
2. Create Practical Turf Areas... of manageable sizes, shapes, and appropriate grasses
3. Use Appropriate Plants... native plants and those with low water needs will allow maximum water conservation.
4. Soil Improvement... your landscape will benefit from the addition of compost, aged manure, or other decomposed organic materials. Organic materials help loosen, aerate and improve water retention of soil while also providing microorganisms, beneficial fungi and worms, all of which improve the health of your vegetation.
5. Use of Mulches... these cool soil, minimize evaporation, reduce weed growth, slow erosion, and provide landscape interest.
6. Water Wisely... consider the efficiency of your system, when you water, and how frequently.
7. Good Maintenance... keeping your watering system free of leaks, mowing, weeding, pruning, and fertilizing on a regular basis.



## Xeriscaping Resources

**West Coast Seeds** <https://www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/garden-wisdom/xeriscaping>

**NALT Natural Abundance Native Plant Nursery** <http://www.nalt.bc.ca/>

**Land Stewardship Centre of Canada** <http://www.landstewardship.org/xeriscaping/>

**Kootenai Environmental Alliance** <http://kealliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Xeriscaping-101-brochure.pdf>



is proudly brought to you by:



Town of  
Qualicum



Check for upcoming Team WaterSmart workshops and events at [www.teamwatersmart.ca/](http://www.teamwatersmart.ca/)