

Resources

- Fort Collins Utilities
970-221-6700
fcgov.com/xeriscape
- Gardens on Spring Creek
970-416-2486
fcgov.com/gardens
- Colorado State University Extension
970-498-6000
www.ext.colostate.edu
- Landscape architects and designers
- Local nurseries

Other Demonstration Gardens

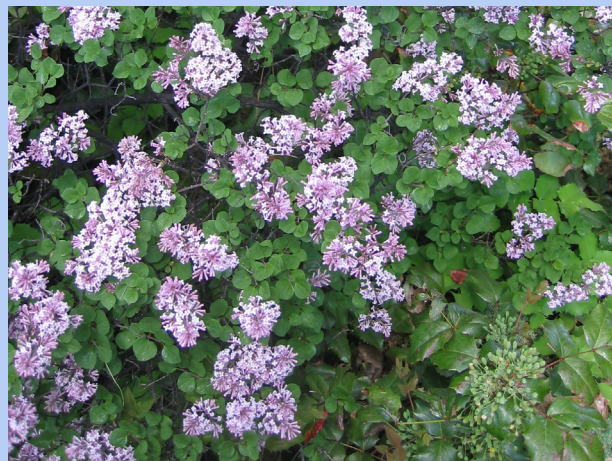
- Gardens on Spring Creek
2145 Centre Ave.
- Loveland Civic Center
First Street and Washington Avenue
- Denver Botanic Gardens
1005 York St.
- Denver Water
1600 W. 12th Ave.
- Colorado Springs Utilities
2855 Mesa Road



False Sunflower – Very low water use



Rocket City Daylily – Low water use



Dwarf Korean Lilac – Moderate water use



fcgov.com/xeriscape | utilities@fcgov.com
970-212-2900 | V/TDD 711

Auxiliary aids and services are available for persons with disabilities.
6/17

Fort Collins Xeriscape Demonstration Garden

City Hall
300 Laporte Ave.
Fort Collins, CO

What is Xeriscape?

Xeriscape (ZEER-i-scape) is not one particular style or look. It is an attractive, sustainable landscape that conserves water, is based on sound horticulture practices and shows evidence of care.

What is the Xeriscape Demonstration Garden?

The City of Fort Collins developed the Xeriscape Demonstration Garden in 1986 to demonstrate how a landscape can be attractive and also save water. It features more than 150 species of plants, including trees, shrubs, perennials, groundcovers and turf.

Plants are grouped according to water requirements:

- Very Low:** need water when first planted, but very little once established
- Low:** need more water than is available from natural precipitation, typically only small amounts during hot, dry periods
- Moderate:** use the most water in the garden yet still less than most traditional landscapes

Why Xeriscape for Fort Collins?

Fort Collins is located in a semi-arid region, with only 15 inches of precipitation per year. That is not enough to support most landscape plants without additional watering. Xeriscape adds curb appeal and value to homes, and can cut outdoor water use by 30 to 60 percent.

The Seven Principles of Xeriscape

1. Plan and Design

Whether you are starting from scratch or renovating an existing landscape, begin with a good design. Take into account what you personally like, how you will use your landscape, how much time you want to spend on maintenance and any existing vegetation. Do your own design or get help from a landscape architect or designer.

2. Create Practical Turf Areas

Consider using turf only in high-use areas. Locate turf away from other plantings so that it may be watered separately. You may want to replace some turf with a patio, deck, mulch or low-water use plantings.

3. Select Appropriate Plants

Nurseries carry numerous types of trees, shrubs, flowers and groundcovers that require little or no supplemental water. Look for plants that provide seasonal interest. Some plants have fall color, berries, seed heads or interesting bark that will add to the beauty of your garden.

4. Improve the Soil

Collect soil samples and send them to a laboratory for analysis. Most soil in Fort Collins will benefit from added organic matter, such as compost or well-aged manure. Add 3 to 5 cubic yards of organic matter per 1,000 square feet of landscape area. Soil amendments enhance the health and growth of plants by improving water penetration and retention.

5. Water Efficiently

Well-planned and maintained sprinkler systems can save water. Water turf areas with sprinklers. Trees, shrubs, flowers and groundcovers do better with low-volume drip or microspray irrigation. Water according to the needs of your plants and frequently adjust the irrigation schedule to match weather conditions.

6. Mulch Plants

Mulched planting beds are an ideal replacement for turf. Mulch applied at least 3 inches deep reduces water need, weed growth and soil erosion. Organic mulches, such as bark chips, shredded wood chips or pine needles also improve the soil by slowly decomposing. Place mulch directly on the soil, not over plastic.

7. Maintain Your Xeriscape

Proper mowing, weeding, fertilizing, watering and pruning all help preserve the beauty of the landscape. A well-maintained yard is hardier and better able to withstand drought, freezing and pests. Xeriscape landscapes require less maintenance and water than traditional landscapes when they are well established.

Plant Checklist

Plants are listed according to the water zone in which they appear. As you tour the garden, check the species you would like for your landscape. Most are readily available from local nurseries.

Very Low Water Use

- Alan's Apricot Ice Plant (G)
Delosperma 'Alan's Apricot'
- Alleghany Viburnum (S)
Viburnum x rhytidophylloides 'Alleghany'
- Apache Plume (S)
Fallugia paradoxa
- Bearded Iris (P) *Iris germanica*
- Blonde Ambition Grass (OG)
Bouteloua gracilis 'Blonde Ambition'
- Blood Red Geranium (P)
Geranium sanguineum
- Bur Oak (T)
Quercus macrocarpa
- Bur Oak x Chinkapin Oak hybrid (T)
Quercus macrocarpa x muehlenbergii
- Chinkapin Oak (T)
Quercus muehlenbergii
- Coronado Red Hyssop (P)
Agastache 'Pstessne'
- Creeping Speedwell (G)
Veronica x 'Crystal River'
- Crocus (P) *Crocus sp.*
- Curly Leaf Sea Kale (P)
Crambe maritima
- Desert Holly (S)
Mahonia haematocarpa
- Dwarf Blue Rabbitbrush (S)
Chrysothamnus nauseosus var. nauseosus
- Dwarf Leadplant (S)
Amorpha nana
- Engelmann's Daisy (P)
Coreopsis grandiflora
- Evening Primrose (P)
Oenothera macrocarpa
- Evergreen Candytuft (G)
Iberis sempervirens
- False Sunflower (P)
Heliopsis helianthoides
- Giant Sacaton (OG)
Sporobolus wrightii
- Golden Creeping Jenny (G)
Lysimachia nummularia 'Aurea'
- Goldenrain Tree (T)
Koeleruteria paniculata
- Hardy Purple Ice Plant (G)
Delosperma cooperi
- Hardy Yellow Ice Plant (G)
Delosperma nubigenum
- Kannah Creek Buckwheat
Eriogonum umbellatum var. aureum
- Little Trudy Catmint (P)
Nepeta 'Psfike'
- Mongolian Bells Clematis (P)
Clematis integrifolia
- New Mexican Privet (S)
Forestiera neomexicana
- One-seed Juniper
Juniperus monosperma
- Orange Carpet Hummingbird Trumpet (P)
Zauschneria garrettii
- Oregon Grape Holly (S)
Mahonia aquifolium
- Panchito Manzanita (S)
Arctostaphylos x coloradoensis
- Partridge Feather (P)
Tanacetum densum ssp. amani
- Pineleaf Penstemon (P)
Penstemon pinifolius
- Platinum Sage (P)
Salvia daghestanica
- Purple Coneflower (P)
Echinacea purpurea
- Rabbitbrush (S)
Chrysothamnus nauseosus
- Red-Hot Poker (P)
Kniphofia uvaria 'Red Hot Poker'
- Red Rocks Penstemon (P)
Penstemon x mexicali 'Red Rocks'
- Rock Spirea (S)
Holodiscus dumosus
- Rocky Mountain Juniper
Juniperus scopulorum
- Rocky Mountain Penstemon (P)
Penstemon strictus
- Rozanna Geranium (P)
Geranium 'Rozanne'
- Russian Sage (S)
Perovskia atriplicifolia
- Saskatoon Serviceberry (S)
Amelanchier alnifolia
- Sea Foam Artemisia (P)
Artemisia versicolor 'Sea Foam'
- Shasta Daisy (P)
Leucanthemum x superbum
- Showy Sedum (P)
Sedum telephium 'Indian Chief'
- Silver Blade Evening Primrose (P)
Oenothera macrocarpa subsp. *incana*
- Smoky Hill Skullcap (P)
Scutellaria resinosa 'Smoky Hills'
- Snow-in-Summer (G)
Cerastium tomentosum
- Sunset Hyssop (P)
Agastache rupestris
- Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn (T)
Crataegus crus-galli inermis
- Turquoise Tails Blue Sedum (P)
Sedum sediforme
- Variegated Iris (P)
Iris variegata
- Wasatch Maple (T)
Acer grandidentatum
- Whirling Butterflies (P)
Gaura lindheimeri

Low Water Use

- Arnold's Red Honeysuckle (S)
Lonicera tatarica 'Arnold Red'
- Bachelor Button (P)
Centaurea montana
- Balloon Flower (P)
Platycodon grandiflorus
- Boulder Raspberry (S)
Rubus deliciosus
- Coral Canyon Twinspur (P)
Diascia integerrima
- Creeping Potentilla (G)
Potentilla verna nana
- Creeping Speedwell (G)
Veronica x 'Crystal River'
- Crocus (P) *Crocus sp.*
- Daylily (P) *Hemerocallis* 'Buttered Popcorn', 'Rocket City', 'South Seas'
- Dwarf Oregon Grape Holly (S)
Mahonia aquifolium
- Emerald Gaiety Euonymus (S)
Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald Gaiety'
- Evergreen Candytuft (G)
Iberis sempervirens
- Fleabane (P)
Erigeron speciosus
- Gambel Oak (S)
Quercus gambelii
- Grape Hyacinth (P)
Muscari armeniacum
- Missouri Evening Primrose (P)
Oenothera macrocarpa
- Mountain Snowberry (S)
Symphoricarpos oreophilus
- Oregon Grape Holly (S)
Mahonia aquifolium
- Oriental poppy (P)
Papaver orientale 'Beauty of Livermore', 'Prince of Orange'
- Pecan (T)
Carya illinoensis
- Peking Cotoneaster (S)
Cotoneaster acutifolius
- Peony (P)
Paeonia rubra plena
- Pinyon Pine (T)
Pinus edulis
- Ponderosa Pine (T)
Pinus ponderosa
- Red-leafed Rose (S)
Rosa glauca
- Redtwig Dogwood (S)
Cornus sericea
- Royal Purple Smokebush (S)
Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple'
- Russian Hawthorn (T)
Crataegus ambigua
- Siberian Spirea (S)
Sibiraea laevigata
- Sweet Woodruff (G)
Galium odoratum
- Turkish Veronica (G)
Veronica liwanensis
- Vermilion Bluffs Mexican Sage (P)
Salvia darcyi 'Pscarl'
- Walkers Low Catmint (P)
Nepeta racemosa 'Walkers Low'
- Winnipeg Parks Shrub Rose (S)
Rosa x 'Winnipeg Parks'
- Yellow Flax (P)
Linum flavum 'Compactum'

Moderate Water Use

- Alpine Currant (S)
Ribes alpinum
- Annabelle Hydrangea (S)
Hydrangea arborescens
- Austrian Pine (T)
Pinus nigra
- Avalanche White Sun Daisy (P)
Osteospermum 'Avalanche'
- Bluestem Joint Fir (G)
Ephedra equisetina
- Colorado Blue Columbine (P)
Aquilegia caerulea
- Colorado Blue Spruce (T)
Picea pungens 'Glauca'
- Coral Canyon Twinspur (P)
Diascia integerrima
- Creeping Oregon Grape Holly (G)
Mahonia repens
- Creeping Potentilla (G)
Potentilla verna nana
- Daylily (P)
Hemerocallis 'Stella D'Oro'
- Double-flowering Plum (S)
Prunus triloba
- Dwarf Korean Lilac (S)
Syringa meyeri
- Dwarf Winged Euonymus (S)
Euonymus alatus 'Compacta'
- Eastern Redbud (T)
Cercis canadensis
- Evergreen Candytuft (G)
Iberis sempervirens
- Grape Hyacinth (P)
Muscari armeniacum
- Green Mound Juniper (S)
Juniperus chinensis procumbens
- Heart-leaved Bergenia (P)
Bergenia cordifolia
- Honeysuckle (P)
Lonicera tatarica 'Arnolds Red'
- Hopflower Oregano (P)
Origanum libanoticum
- Kentucky Coffee Tree (T)
Gymnocladus dioicus
- Lady's Mantle (P)
Alchemilla vulgaris
- Nannyberry (S)
Viburnum lentago
- Nanking Cherry (S)
Prunus tomentosa
- Oxslip Primrose (P)
Primula elatior
- Periwinkle (P)
Vinca minor
- Prince of Wales Juniper (S)
Juniper horizontalis 'Prince of Wales'
- Silver Spreader Juniper (S)
Juniperus virginiana 'Silver Spreader'
- Speedwell (P)
Veronica spicata
- Sweet Woodruff (G)
Galium odoratum
- Switchgrass (OG)
Panicum virgatum
- Variegated Yellow Archangel (P)
Lamiastrum 'Yellow Archangel'

Plant Select® Garden

Plant Select plants have been tested to perform well in our region.

- Avalanche White Sun Daisy (P)
Osteospermum 'Avalanche'
- Blonde Ambition Grass (OG)
Bouteloua gracilis 'Blonde Ambition'
- Bluestem Joint Fir (S)
Ephedra equisetina
- Carol Mackie Daphne (S)
Daphne x burkwoodii 'Carol Mackie'
- Dalmation Pink Cranesbill (P)
Geranium dalmaticum
- Golden Storksbill (P)
Erodium chrysanthum
- Orange Carpet Hummingbird Trumpet (P) *Zauschneria garrettii*
- Oxlip Primrose (P)
Primula elatior
- Pawnee Butte Sand Cherry (S)
Prunus besseyi 'Pawnee Butte'
- Plumbago (P)
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides
- Purple Mountain Sun Daisy (P)
Osteospermum barberiae v. compactum
- Sunset Foxglove
Digitalis purpurea 'Sunset'
- Sunset Hyssop (P)
Agastache rupestris
- Tatarian Maple (T)
Acer tataricum
- Table Mountain Ice Plant (G)
Delosperma 'John Proffitt'
- Turkish Veronica (G)
Veronica liwanensis
- White Nancy Nettle (G)
Lamium maculatum
- Aspen Fleabane (P)
Erigeron speciosus
- Big Bluestem (OG)
Andropogon gerardii
- Blue Fescue (OG)
Festuca ovina glauca
- Blue Flax (P)
Linum perenne
- Blonde Ambition Grass (OG)
Bouteloua gracilis 'Blonde Ambition'
- Dog Tuff Grass (OG)
Cynodon hybrida
- Dwarf Blue Rabbitbrush (S)
Chrysothamnus nauseosus
- Little Bluestem (OG)
Schizachyrium scoparium
- Moonshine Yarrow (P)
Achillea 'Moonshine'
- Partridge Feather (G)
Tanacetum densum ssp. amani
- Pasque Flower (P)
Pulsatilla hirsutissima
- Sea Foam Artemisia (P)
Artemisia versicolor 'Sea Foam'
- Turquoise Tails Blue Sedum (G)
Sedum sediforme
- Western Pearly Everlasting (P)
Anaphalis margaritacea

Fountain Garden