

# Benefits of Xeriscape

**Enhances** the value of your home with an attractive and water-conserving landscape.

**Reduces** water use by 30 – 100% depending on the design and the plants used.

**Creates** landscapes that can withstand drought and watering restrictions.

**Saves time** with less watering, trimming, weeding and mowing.

**Saves money** with less water, less maintenance, and no need for pesticides or chemical fertilizers.

**Eliminates pesticide use** because plants growing in their ideal conditions thrive.

**Protects** your family's health and that of the environment and keeps toxic chemicals out of our drinking water.

# The Principles of Xeriscape

## 1. Planning & Design

Plan your xeriscape by deciding all the activities you expect to do on your property. Assess your light, soil and moisture conditions. Create an overall plan and set your priorities.

## 2. Soil Preparation

Start with good soil containing lots of organic matter (e.g. compost or manure) to grow healthy plants. This reduces maintenance tasks, watering and the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides, saving you time and money.

## 3. Practical Turf Areas

Use at least six inches of good soil and a drought-tolerant turf grass mix. Plant only where needed for activities.

## 4. Efficient Irrigation

Group plants with similar watering needs together. Drip irrigation is the most efficient.

## 5. Appropriate Plant Selection

Match each plant's requirements for light and moisture with conditions in your garden. Where possible, choose native and/or drought-tolerant plants.

## 6. Mulching

Add organic mulch to conserve soil moisture, reduce weed growth and provide natural fertilizer for plants. Non-xeriscape landscapes also benefit from mulching. Note: rock mulches intensify heat around plants and buildings.

## 7. Garden Maintenance

Following xeriscape principles reduces maintenance. To keep plants healthy and preserve your design, timely maintenance (such as pulling weeds before they seed) is essential.



Okanagan Xeriscape Association

OXA is a non-profit organization formed in 2009 to bring xeriscape awareness to the valley by using demonstrations such as this garden, presentations, classes, and a website and plant database.

The Okanagan Basin Water Supply and Demand Study reports that 24% of the valley's water is used on the domestic outdoor landscape. Widespread adoption of xeriscape principles (see inside) could significantly reduce water use.

Xeriscapes will help the valley adapt to the increasing fluctuations in water supply that can be expected with climate change.

For a detailed xeriscape plant database and more information about xeriscape, the garden, and classes, visit

[www.okanaganxeriscape.org](http://www.okanaganxeriscape.org)

# Donors

The Okanagan Xeriscape Association wishes to thank everyone for their contributions. This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through the Department of the Environment; the City of Kelowna; the Okanagan Basin Water Board; and with the assistance of the local landscaping industry.



WELCOME TO  
**THE UNH<sub>2</sub>O GARDEN**  
A XERISCAPE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

CREATED BY



Okanagan Xeriscape Association



LOCATED IN FRONT OF:

**H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre, 4075 Gordon Drive, Kelowna**

**THANK YOU FOR STAYING ON THE PATHWAYS**

Xeriscape, from the Greek *xeros*, meaning "dry" and *scape*, meaning "scene", is gardening with the natural conditions of the environment, to create a landscape that needs little to no supplemental water.

# THE GARDEN

The goal of this public garden is to show the beauty and versatile range of garden styles that can be achieved using xeriscape principles. Xeriscape is much more than rocks and cactus. It is a garden landscape that requires little to no supplemental water from irrigation. This is an important concept to embrace in a near-desert valley.

The 4,000 square foot garden, planted in 2010, has five theme areas to illustrate some possibilities in a xeriscape.

The **MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN**, two **ROCK GARDENS**, the **NATIVE PLANT GARDEN** and the **ORNAMENTAL GRASS GARDEN** nearest the sidewalk contain very low water use plants that will only be irrigated in the first year while they become established. The **BUTTERFLY GARDEN** and the **ORNAMENTAL GRASS GARDEN** on the far side of the mulched pathway will always need a small amount of supplemental water during dry periods. The drip system under the mulch minimizes water use. The trees are on their own irrigation zone as their watering needs differ from the rest of the plants.

The garden is a research tool. Records are kept by the OXA on water use in each garden and on plant performance. The garden is also used as an outdoor classroom to teach xeriscape classes offered by the OXA. It is maintained by volunteers. As with all gardens, this one will evolve after the printing of this brochure. Any changes to the plant list will be noted on our website.

We hope you enjoy the garden and share our passion for beautiful, water-efficient and regionally-appropriate landscapes to apply in your own outdoor spaces.

**PLANT LIST KEY:** Plant type: GC = ground cover P = perennial G = ornamental grass S = shrub T = tree

Approximate water needs within the valley: ◆ needs 0 to 3" additional water/year ◆◆ needs 4 to 7" additional water/year, once established

Botanical Name	Common Name	Type	H <sub>2</sub> O	Botanical Name	Common Name	Type	H <sub>2</sub> O	Botanical Name	Common Name	Type	H <sub>2</sub> O				
<b>BUTTERFLY GARDEN</b>				<b>MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN</b>				<b>ORNAMENTAL GRASS GARDEN</b>							
<i>(Plants in the raised garden are part of the Butterfly Garden)</i>				<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> 'Golden Gain'.....			Golden Gain Threadleaf Tickseed	P....	◆	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i> 'Bison'			Bison Big Bluestem	OG..	◆
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> 'Moonshine'.....	Moonshine Yarrow	P....	◆◆	<i>Heuchera sanguinea</i> .....	Red Coral Bells	P....	◆◆	<i>Aster frikartii</i> 'Monch'	Monch Summer Aster	P....	◆◆	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Monbomb'	Cherry Bomb Barberry	S....	◆◆
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> 'Paprika'.....	Paprika Yarrow	P....	◆◆	<i>Koeleruteria paniculata</i> .....	Golden Rain Tree	T....	◆◆	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	Blue Gramma Grass	OG..	◆	<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>	Blue Oat Grass	OG..	◆
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> 'Terracotta'.....	Terracotta Yarrow	P....	◆◆	<i>Lavendula x intermedia</i> 'Grosso'.....	Lavender Grosso	P....	◆	<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>	Blue Oat Grass	OG..	◆	<i>Hemerocallis</i> 'Stella d'Oro'	Stella d'Oro Daylily	P....	◆◆
<i>Aster frikartii</i> 'Monch'	Monch Summer Aster	P....	◆◆	<i>Nepeta racemosa</i> 'Walker's Low'.....	Walker's Low Blue Catmint	P....	◆	<i>Lavendula</i> 'Silver Frost'	Silver Frost Lavender	P....	◆	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Heavy Metal'	Heavy Metal Switch Grass	OG..	◆◆
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Gentry'	Royal Burgundy Barberry	S....	◆◆	<i>Oenothera macrocarpa (missouriensis)</i>	Missouri Evening Primrose	P....	◆	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> 'Goldsturm'	Goldsturm Coneflower	P....	◆◆	<i>Sedum</i> 'Autumn Fire'	Autumn Fire Stonecrop	P....	◆
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Monbomb'	Cherry Bomb Barberry	S....	◆◆	<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> 'Little Spire'.....	Little Spire Russian Sage	P....	◆	<i>Sedum cyaneum</i> 'Rose Carpet'	Rose Carpet Sedum	P....	◆	<i>Sedum kamtschaticum</i>	Russian Stonecrop	P....	◆
<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	Blue Gramma Grass	OG..	◆	<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i> .....	Lavender Cotton	P....	◆	<i>Sedum kamtschaticum</i>	Russian Stonecrop	P....	◆	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Prairie Dropseed	OG..	◆
<i>Campanula carpatica</i> 'Deep Blue Clips'	Deep Blue Clips Carpathian Bellflower	P....	◆◆	<i>Sedum 'Matrona'</i> .....	Matrona Tall Stonecrop	P....	◆	<i>Syringa reticulata</i> 'Ivory Silk'	Ivory Silk Lilac Tree	T....	◆◆				
<i>Campanula poscharskyana</i> 'Blue Waterfall'	Blue Waterfall Serbian Bellflower	P....	◆◆	<i>Sedum 'Postman's Pride'</i> .....	Postman's Pride Stonecrop	P....	◆	<b>ROCK GARDENS</b>							
<i>Caryopteris x clandonensis</i>	Blue Mist Spirea	S....	◆◆	<i>Stachys byzantina</i> 'Helen von Stein'.....	Giant Lamb's Ears	P....	◆	<i>Armeria martitima</i> 'Dusseldorf Pride'	Dusseldorf Pride Thrift	P....	◆	<i>Festuca glauca</i>	Blue Fescue	OG..	◆
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> 'Zagreb'.....	Zagreb Threadleaf Tickseed	P....	◆◆	<i>Thymus pseudolanuginosus</i> .....	Wooly Thyme	GC..	◆	<i>Phlox douglasii</i> 'Cracker Jack'	Cracker Jack Moss Phlox	P....	◆	<i>Sedum spp.</i>	Stonecrop spp.	P....	◆
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> 'Bronzeschleier'	Bronze Veil Tufted Hair Grass	OG..	◆◆	<i>Yucca glauca</i> .....	Soapweed	S....	◆	<i>Sedum spurium</i>	Dragon's Blood Sedum	P....	◆	<i>Sedum viviparum</i> spp.	Hen and Chicks spp.	P....	◆
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> 'Magnus'	Magnus Purple Coneflower	P....	◆◆	<b>NATIVE PLANT GARDEN</b>											
<i>Gaillardia x grandiflora</i> 'Burgundy'.....	Burgundy Blanket Flower	P....	◆	<i>Allium cernuum</i> .....	Nodding Onion	P....	◆	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> .....	Saskatoon	S....	◆				
<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i> .....	Blue Oat Grass	OG..	◆	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> .....	Kinnickinnick	GC..	◆◆	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> .....	Kinnickinnick	GC..	◆◆				
<i>Heuchera sanguinea</i> 'Palace Purple'.....	Palace Purple Coral Bells	P....	◆◆	<i>Arnica fulgens</i> .....	Orange Arnica	P....	◆	<i>Arnica fulgens</i> .....	Orange Arnica	P....	◆				
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i> 'Little Gem'	Little Gem Evergreen Candytuft	P....	◆◆	<i>Artemisia tridentata</i> .....	Big Sagebrush	S....	◆	<i>Artemisia tridentata</i> .....	Big Sagebrush	S....	◆				
<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> 'Medora'	Medora Juniper	S....	◆	<i>Aster conspicuus</i> .....	Showy Aster	P....	◆	<i>Aster conspicuus</i> .....	Showy Aster	P....	◆				
<i>Limonium latifolium</i> .....	Sea Lavender	P....	◆◆	<i>Aster ericoides ssp. pansus</i> .....	Tufted White Prairie Aster	P....	◆	<i>Aster ericoides ssp. pansus</i> .....	Tufted White Prairie Aster	P....	◆				
<i>Monarda didyma</i> 'Cambridge Scarlet'...	Cambridge Scarlet Bee Balm	P....	◆◆	<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i> .....	Rabbit-brush	S....	◆	<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i> .....	Rabbit-brush	S....	◆				
<i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Heavy Metal'.....	Heavy Metal Switch Grass	OG..	◆◆	<i>Elymus cinereus</i> .....	Giant Wild Rye	OG..	◆◆	<i>Elymus cinereus</i> .....	Giant Wild Rye	OG..	◆◆				
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> 'Diabolo'.....	Diabolo Ninebark	S....	◆◆	<i>Gaillardia aristata</i> .....	Brown Eyed Susan	P....	◆	<i>Gaillardia aristata</i> .....	Brown Eyed Susan	P....	◆				
<i>Rosa rugosa</i> 'Hansa'	Hansa Rose	S....	◆◆	<i>Heterotheca villosa</i> .....	Golden Aster	P....	◆	<i>Heterotheca villosa</i> .....	Golden Aster	P....	◆				
<i>Rosa rugosa</i> 'Nearly Wild'	Nearly Wild Rose	S....	◆◆	<i>Heuchera cylindrica</i> .....	Round-leaved Alumroot	P....	◆	<i>Heuchera cylindrica</i> .....	Round-leaved Alumroot	P....	◆				
<i>Rosa x rugosa</i> 'Blanc de Coubert'.....	Blanc de Coubert Rose	S....	◆◆	<i>Holodiscus discolor</i> .....	Ocean Spray	S....	◆	<i>Holodiscus discolor</i> .....	Ocean Spray	S....	◆				
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> 'Goldsturm'	Goldsturm Coneflower	P....	◆◆	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i> .....	Mock Orange	S....	◆	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i> .....	Mock Orange	S....	◆				
<i>Salvia x sylvestris</i> 'Caradonna'	Caradonna Perennial Salvia	P....	◆◆	<i>Pseudoregneria spicatum</i> .....	Blue Bunch Wheat Grass	OG..	◆	<i>Pseudoregneria spicatum</i> .....	Blue Bunch Wheat Grass	OG..	◆				

Visit our website:

[www.okanaganxeriscape.org](http://www.okanaganxeriscape.org)  
for the plant database containing full details and photos of these plants and many more, and for more information about the garden.