

What is Xeriscape?

Xeriscape (pronounced ZIR'-i-skāp) is creative, attractive landscaping that conserves water. Xeriscape is a term coined by the Denver Water Department in the early 1980's. The word is derived from the Greek "xeros" meaning dry and "scape" meaning landscape. It is a method of using native and climate adapted plants instead of traditional high water use plants.



What is the purpose of the Gardens?

The purpose of the Xeric Demonstration Gardens is to provide an opportunity for the community to learn first-hand about the exciting array of landscape options to typical yards for this semi-arid climate. The Gardens include a special section that serves as an experimental site used by University botany students and community groups for testing new species and methods to increase knowledge about low water use landscaping. The Gardens were designed with pathways that widen into gathering areas to allow teachers and guides to explain aspects of the garden to groups. All areas of the Gardens are handicap accessible. Use the map inside this brochure to guide you through the Gardens.



Why Xeriscape in Greeley?

Greeley receives about 12" of precipitation a year, classifying it as a semi arid climate. Additionally, 50-70% of the homeowners' water goes to keeping their lawns green. An established Xeriscape can survive with very little added water, reduce maintenance, lessen chemical use and be beautiful. It can save the homeowner money, increase property value and conserve precious water resources.

It Will Solve Landscape Problems.

Xeriscape provides practical solutions to various climate and landscape concerns. Features can be incorporated that cool a home in the summer or warm it in the winter. Structures and plantings can be located to block wind and provide shelter from rain and snow, as well as control surface drainage.

Xeriscaping Will Extend Water Supplies.

Because Colorado's population is growing rapidly, water resources are being depleted. People want to live here because of the great weather, but that means only 8-15 inches of precipitation a year. We all have a stake in making efficient use of our limited water supplies. Xeriscape can reduce water consumption by 60%.

How do I find out more about a community planting bed?

You can pick up an information packet and application at the Judy Farr Center at 1620 Reservoir Road (the building north of the garden).



How can I help?

You will find a donation card included in this brochure. Your tax deductible donation is greatly appreciated.

Major funding and support provided by:



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