

Welcome to the Xeric Demonstration Gardens

1. Tall grass & prairie wildflower bed. This is the only area planted with seed; this mixture of perennial grasses with annual and perennial wildflowers, includes; Blue Flax, Coreopsis, Indian Paintbrush, Penstemon, Asters, and Coneflowers. Kentucky Bluegrass (C)* beds inside loop.

These three pie-shaped beds (2, 3, and 4) are planted with a variety of bluegrass for different applications.

2. Kentucky bluegrass with soil amendment: 8 cubic yards of compost per 1,000 square feet.

3. Kentucky bluegrass with polymer crystal treatment.

4. Kentucky bluegrass with wetting agent.

5. Crested Wheat grass (C)* requires 3/4" of water during hot, dry spells.

6. Sideoats Gramma (W)* requires irrigation to establish if intended as lawn.

7. Blue grama (W)* requires 1/2 - 3/4" every 2 weeks during hot, dry spells.

8. Indian rice grass (C)* Native bunch grass thrives on coarse, well-drained soils. Very drought tolerant.

9. Switch grass (W)* Patchy sod grass. Tolerates clay soils, but requires more moisture than other native warm season grasses.

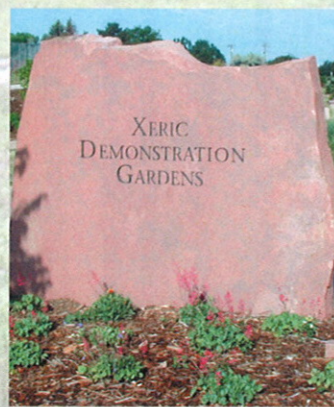
10. Native trees and shrubs for low water area.

11. Buffalo grass (W)* requires 1/2-3/4" of water every 2 weeks during hot, dry spells.

12. Ornamental grasses demonstrate the variety of colors, textures, and heights available. Varieties include: Silky Thread Grass, Dropseed, Miscanthus, Fountain Grass, Blue Avena Grass, Sand Love Grass, Purple Fountain Grass and Dwarf Fountain Grass.

13. This bed serves as a holding area for water run-off from Reservoir Road. The plantings take advantage of the damp-to-wet soil conditions. Water loving plants are: Baltic Rush, Yellow Flag, Spiderwort, and Cattails.

14. Plants were selected to provide an enclosure to the Amphitheater, screening out the view of the parking lot and providing color at the east entrance and along the walkway into the Gardens. Plants include: Bee Balm, Fire Cracker Penstemon, Barren Strawberry, Coreopsis, Fernbush, Sand Cherry, Wild Plum and Shrub Roses.



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15. These beds were originally intended as community planting beds. The area is currently under review. A demonstration garden of Plant Select plants is being planned, and also a composting demonstration site.

16. Research beds enable faculty and students at UNC to have field plots to study plants and their growth in northern Colorado climate and for purposes of their scientific research programs.

17. Kentucky Bluegrass maintained for higher traffic & higher water use. This area will be used for concerts and other outdoor festivals.

18. Trees and shrubs screen out the busy street.

19. Smooth Brome (C)* lawn needs only 1/2" of water per week during hot dry spells.

20. Secondary entry beds feature Golden Rain Tree, Kentucky Coffee Tree, Missouri Primrose, Blue Woolly Speedwell and Himalayan Fleecflower for all season color.

21. Rye grass (C)* lawn.

22. Entry off 17th Ave features Shadblow Serviceberry, Lavender Cotton and Blue Woolly Speedwell.

23. Turf Type Tall Fescue (C)* lawn needs only 3/4" of water per week during hot, dry spells.

24. Slopes along Colorado Front Range are dry and well drained. Natives like Gambel oak, Sumacs, Mountain mahogany are also good for bank stabilization while providing beautiful fall color.

25. The main entry area from the UNC parking lot is the new home of the native prairie plants that were moved from Ross Hall during its renovation.

26. This is the main entry plaza, where a map of the garden is displayed, brochure box, guest registration and benches to sit and rest. The circular bed is the future home of a bird and butterfly garden, designed for all season interest and beauty.

*(C) denotes a cool season grass that greens up in early spring and (W) is a warm season grass is slower to green in spring, but looks its best during the heat of the season when cool season grasses are struggling.

Xeric Demonstration Gardens
Key Garden Statistics

Total Site Area: approximately 3 1/2 acres
Turf Area: approximately 69,450 sq. ft.

Estimated Water Savings per Year as Compared to Traditional Bluegrass Landscape: 60% Savings or 7.2 gallons per square foot.

The Garden Contains:

- 20 species of trees**
- 20 species of shrubs**
- 50 species of perennials, ground covers**
- 12 species of ornamental grasses**
- 10 types of turf**