



## Why Xeriscaping?

Xeriscaping is environmentally friendly, great for pollinators, and looks great year-round. Aim for colour and interesting looks. For example, Big Bluestern and 4 O'clocks give great fall colour. Canada Wild Ginger (drought-resistant in the shade) and Ornamental grasses add interest to a garden in the winter. If left standing, xeriscaping also supports biodiversity (birds and predator insects).

**Tip #1: Rather than amend your soil to what you want to grow, match your plants to the soil conditions you have – including clay and sand!**

A few clay tolerant plants that may surprize you!

- Roses
- Hostas
- Hydrangeas

Some sand tolerant plants include...

- Junipers
- Lavender
- Coneflowers

Scree gardens allow you to landscape right over the asphalt! In a scree garden you can try...

- Cacti
- Sedums
- Perovskia (Russian Sage)

Some perennials that are drought resistant include...

- Stonecrops
- Foamflower (drought-resistant in the shade)
- Zigzag goldenrod



## Tip #2: Some trees are also drought tolerant

- Eastern Redbud
- White Spruce
- Oaks

**Tip #3:** The great irony is that xeriscape plants require regular water for the first year, and if it's a dry spring, a couple of months into the next **growing season**. Drought-tolerant plants need to get their roots deep into the soil to achieve their drought resistance. When you water, drip irrigation is preferred so it gets right down to the roots.

## Tip #4: Adding organic matter is needed on a regular basis.

Composted Pine Mulch is the best choice.

**Tip #5: Herbs in planters?** A good fit because herbs like it dry! Don't pinch off the flower on your basil plants, pollinators love them!

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