

# Drought Tolerant Gardens

Every year concern regarding our water resources mounts. Many cities and municipalities have had to limit water use during the summer for watering gardens and lawns. As a result, gardeners are increasingly looking for plants that can withstand these periods of drought and still look appealing.

Many plants are tolerant of periods of drought, however, they generally need to be fairly well established with healthy root systems. It is important to remember that newly planted drought-tolerant plants, as with any plant, will still need watering for the first year. Long, deep watering that soaks down to the roots of the plant will help develop deep roots which will help the plant through periods of drought once established.

Xeriscaping is a style of gardening that is based around water conservation. Principles involved include: improving the water-holding capacity of soil by adding organic matter, using mulches, irrigating efficiently (not during the heat of the day), using appropriate plants for soil type and exposure, pruning and weeding regularly, and capturing rain and snow run-off. Listed below are plants that are suitable to hot, dry conditions.

## Annuals

|             |         |           |                  |
|-------------|---------|-----------|------------------|
| Castor Bean | Cosmos  | Lavatera  | Salvia farinacea |
| Celosia     | Gazania | Poppy     | Scaevola         |
| Clarkia     | Lantana | Portulaca | Verbena          |

## Perennials

|                       |                |              |               |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Achillea              | Deschampsia    | Lamium       | Rudbeckia     |
| Aegopodium            | Dianthus       | Lavandula    | Salvia        |
| Agastache             | Echinacea      | Leucanthemum | Saponaria     |
| Allium                | Echinops       | Lewisia      | Scabiosa      |
| Armeria               | Epimedium      | Liatris      | Schizachyrium |
| Artemesia             | Erianthus      | Macleaya     | Sedum         |
| Asclepias<br>tuberosa | Eryngium       | Malva        | Sempervivum   |
| Aster                 | Festuca        | Miscanthus   | Silene        |
| Baptisia              | Gaillardia     | Nepeta       | Solidago      |
| Briza                 | Gaura          | Oenothera    | Stachys       |
| Buddleia              | Gypsophila     | Origanum     | Teucrium      |
| Calamagrostis         | Heleanthemum   | Papaver      | Thermopsis    |
| Caryopteris           | Helianthus     | Panicum      | Thymus        |
| Cerastium             | Heliopsis      | Penstemon    | Verbascum     |
| Coreopsis             | Helictotrichon | Pennisetum   | Veronica      |
| Crocosmia             | Iris germanica | Perovskia    |               |
| Delosperma            | Knautia        | Phalaris     |               |
|                       | Kniphofia      | Potentilla   |               |

## Trees, Shrubs, & Vines

|                               |                |                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Berberis                      | Juniperus      | Ribes alpinum    |
| Buddleia                      | Lonicera       | Rosa rugosa      |
| Caryopteris                   | Myrica         | Viburnum lentago |
| Celtis occidentalis           | Parthenocissus | Yucca            |
| Cornus racemosa               | Pinus strobus  |                  |
| Elaeagnus                     | Potentilla     |                  |
| Gleditsia triacanthos inermis | Rhus           |                  |