

WHAT IS A XERISCAPE GARDEN?

Xeriscaping is a method of gardening that requires choosing the appropriate plants for the location which can be maintained with little supplemental watering. Derived from the Greek term *xeros* which means dry, Xeriscape was coined during the 1970's in Denver, Colorado, to mean water efficient landscaping. Well-designed xeriscapes can be enchanting and beautiful.

ADVANTAGES TO XERISCAPE GARDENING

- Lower water bills
- More water available for other uses and other people
- Less time and work needed for maintenance
- Little or no lawn mowing
- Xeriscape plants, along with proper bed design, tend to take full advantage of rainfall
- When water restrictions are implemented, xeriscape plants tend to survive
- Increased habitat for native bees, butterflies and other fauna

USING THE LAWN GAUGE

1. Randomly place gauge on your lawn and run the sprinkler for 15 minutes. Record the amount of water collected.
2. Repeat and take measurements in 3-4 different locations around the lawn.
3. Calculate the average and multiply by 4.

This will tell you how many inches per hour your sprinkler applies. An hourly rate of 1/2 inch is ideal for proper soil absorption.

CONSERVATION IS KEY

During the winter, almost all household water use occurs inside the home. In the summer, lawn watering and other outdoor uses account for 50-80 percent. As much as half of this outdoor use is wasted through poor watering practices. Changing small habits can have huge results.

CONSERVE OUTDOORS

- Use a soaker hose to water flowerbeds, shrubs and trees more efficiently.
- Check sprinklers frequently for directional aim and broken heads to prevent watering sidewalks, driveways and streets.
- Place a rain gauge in an open area to measure rainfall. Only water to make up for what rain you do not receive.
- Avoid watering on a windy day and only water in the early morning or late evening to reduce evaporation.

CONSERVE WITH MULCHES

- Mulches are typically wood bark chips, wood grindings, pine needles, nut shells, small gravel, cotton seed hulls and shredded landscape clippings.
- Mulches reduce weed growth, prevent erosion and assist soils in retaining moisture when applied and maintained at appropriate depths of 4-6 inches.
- Mulches can be used where conditions are not adequate or conducive for growing quality turf or ground cover.

HOW MUCH TO WATER

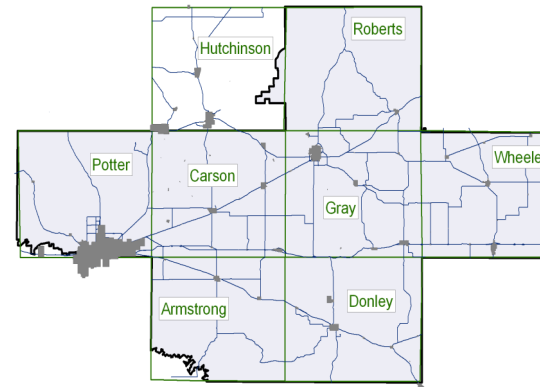
Saturate soil once to a depth of 4-6 inches determining the depth the water reaches with a soil probe or screwdriver. For maintenance, **1 inch of water per week** is usually adequate.



PROTECTING OUR WATER

Clean water is essential for life. With fresh water accounting for only 3% of the Earth's water, it is crucial that we protect and conserve our water.

Thirty percent of fresh water is groundwater and aquifers are the main source of water for both urban and rural residents of the Texas Panhandle. Groundwater recharge in this area is believed to be minimal which means the supply will continue to diminish. Growing populations and rising costs for water and wastewater facilities are already straining the abilities of some communities to meet the needs of their citizens. Communities must take action to ensure that they will have dependable water supplies.



Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District
County Map

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

txsmartscape.com • aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu
Xeriscape Plant Guide by Rob Proctor



"CONSERVING WATER FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS"



MUNICIPAL WATER USE AND XERISCAPING

Our Mission

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District will strive to develop, promote and implement water conservation, augmentation and management strategies to protect water resources for the benefit of the citizens, economy and environment of the District.

201 W. 3rd St. • P.O. Box 637
White Deer, Texas 79097
(806) 883-2501 • www.pgcd.us

PERENNIALS
AND VINES

Atlas Daisy
Anacyclus depressus
Height: 3 in. Spread: 15 in.
Drought tolerant, occasional soak.

Beardtongue
Penstemon species
Height: 4-48 in. Spread: 6-36 in.
Drought tolerant.

Blanketflower
Gaillardia aristata
Height: 2-3 ft. Spread: 2-3 ft.
Drought tolerant.

Butterfly Weed
Asclepias tuberosa
Height: 12-18 in. Spread: 1-2 ft.
Drought tolerant.

Catmint
Nepeta x faassenii
Height: 18 in. Spread: 30 in.
Drought tolerant.

Trumpet Vine
Campsis radicans
Height: 30 ft. Spread: 30 ft.
Once established, drought tolerant.

Yarrow
Achillea species
Height: 2-4 in. Spread: 6 in. - 3 ft.
Once established, drought tolerant.

Daylily
Hemerocallis species
Height: 1-6 ft. Spread: 1-3 ft.
Low water to drought tolerant.

Iris
Iris hybrids
Height: 2-3 ft. Spread: 1.5-2 ft.
Low water to drought tolerant.

Russian Sage
Perovskia atriplicifolia
Height: 3-5 ft. Spread: 3-4 ft.
Low water to drought tolerant.

Poppy Mallow
Callirhoe involucrata
Height: 6-12 in. Spread: 1-3 ft.
Low water.



PERENNIALS
AND VINES

Prairie Coneflower
Ratibida columnifera
Height: 18-24 in. Spread: 12-18 in.
Low water.

Sulphur Flower
Eriogonum umbellatum
Height: 6-12 in. Spread: 1-2 ft.
Once established, low water.

Basket of Gold
Aurinia saxatile
Height: 6-18 in. Spread: 6-12 in.
Low-moderate water.

Blue flax
Linum perenne var. *lewisii*
Height: 12-18 in. Spread: 12 in.
Low-moderate water.

Bluebell
Campanula rotundifolia
Height: 6-12 in. Spread: 8 in.
Low-moderate water.

European Pasqueflower
Pulsatilla vulgaris
Height: 9-12 in. Spread: 6-10 in.
Low-moderate water.

Garden Sage
Salvia officinalis
Height: 18-24 in. Spread: 12-18 in.
Low-moderate water.

Red Valerian
Centranthus ruber
Height: 2-3 ft. Spread: 18-24 in.
Low-moderate water.



ANNUALS

Nasturtium
Tropaeolum majus ‘Alaska’
Height: 6-12 in. Spread: 10-15 in.
Drought tolerant

Portulaca
Portulaca grandiflora
Height: 4-6 in. Spread: 10 in.
Dry



California Poppy
Eschscholzia californica
Height: 12 in. Spread: 12 in.
Once established, minimum water

Clary Sage
Salvia sclarea
Height: 3 ft. Spread: 1-2 ft.
Normally low. More in hot, dry

Cosmos, Mexican Aster
Cosmos bipinnatus
Height: 2-4 ft. Spread: 6-12 in.
Low water

Creeping Zinnia
Sanvitalia procumbens
Height: 4-6 in. Spread: 12-16 in.
Once established, low water.

Globe Amaranth
Gomphrene globosa
Height: 10-20 in. Spread: 10-20 in.
Once established, little water

Annual Mallow
Lavatera trimestris
Height: 2-4 ft. Spread: 18-24 in.
Low-moderate water

Tickseed, Golden Coreopsis
Coreopsis tinctora
Height: 18-40 in. Spread: 4-8 in.
Low-moderate water

Narrowleaf Zinnia
Zinnia angustifolia
Height: 12-18 in. Spread: 12-18 in.
Moderate to dry water.



GRASSES AND
GROUNDCOVERS

Blue Grama Grass
Bouteloua gracilis
Height: 6-24 in. Spread: 2 in./yr.
Water 10-15 in./yr. Mow to 3 in.

Buffalograss
Buchloe dactyloides
Height: 4-8 in. Spread: 12 in./yr.
Water 10-15 in./yr. Mow to 2.5-3 in.

Crested Wheatgrass
Agropyron cristatum
Height: 1-3 ft. Spread: 1-2 ft.
Water 10-15 in./yr. Mow to 3 in.



Himalayan Fleecceflower
Polygonum affine
Height: 6-10 in. Spread: 30 in. plus.
Adaptable.

Karl Foerster Feather Reed Grass
Calamagrostis acutiflora
Height: 3-6 ft. Spread: 1-2 ft.
Prefers moist soil, but adaptable.

Maiden Hair Grass
Miscanthus sinensis
Height: 4-10 ft. Spread: 3-6 ft.
Adaptable.

Lavendar Cotton
Santolina chamaecyparissus
Height: 12-18 in. Spread: 12-18 in.
Drought tolerant.

Pink Pussytoes
Antennaria rosea
Height: 4-12 in. Spread: 8-12 in.
Extremely drought tolerant.

Blue Woolly Speedwell
Veronica pectinata
Height: 3 in. Spread: 18 in.
Low water with occasional soak.

Indian Ricegrass
Oryzopsis hymenoides
Height: 1-2 ft. Spread: 2-3 ft.
Low water.

Pink Hardy Ice Plant
Delosperma cooperi
Height: 6 in. Spread: 24 in.
Once established, low water.

Fountain Grass
Pennisetum alopecuroides
Height: 2-3 ft. Spread: 2-3 ft.
Low-moderate water.

Houseleek
Sempervivum species
Height: 2-4 in. Spread: 6-8 in.
Low-moderate water.

Snow-in-Summer
Cerastium tomentosum
Height: 8-12 in. Spread: 12-18 in.
Low-moderate water.

Woolly Thyme
Thymus psendolanuginosus
Height: 1-2 in. Spread: 18 in.
Low-moderate water.

