

Drought Tolerant Plants

- I. Introduction to Xeriscaping
- II. Defining our goals: To create a landscape setting incorporating...
- III. Recognizing Drought Tolerant Plants

Tap Roots

Plant Name	Size	Bloom	Color	Remarks
Asclepias tuberosa Butterfly Weed	2'	July	O,R,Y	Monarch larvae, butterflies, good cut flower; Taproot. Slightly alkaline soil.
Baptisia australis False indigo	4'x4'	May	B	Stake if in partial shade; Long lived Taproot.
Echinops ritro Blue Globe thistle	2'-3'	June-Sept	B	Steel-blue globe blooms; Dried flower; Combine with Coronation Gold Achillea.
Eryngium spp. Sea Holly,	1'x3'	July	B, W	Native prairie plant; Clump forming evergreen.
Platycodon grandiflorous Balloon Flower	18-36"	July – August	B, Pink, W, Lavender	Long –lived, tap rooted plant, balloon shaped flowers open to 3" stars.

Silver Foliage

Anaphalis spp. Pearly Everlasting	2'x2'	August	W	American Painted Lady butterfly larvae; Gray-green leaves.
Artemisia spp	1'-4'			Silver foliage, unique fragrance.
Artemisia vulgaris 'Jamlin' Oriental Limelight'	3 ½'	August	W	Very aggressive, easy to pull out originally, but then very difficult.
Buddleia davidii Butterfly Bush	To 6'x6'	July-Aug	W,P,R,Pr,Y ,L	Fragrant, fast growing die back shrub.
Stachys lanata Lamb's ear	18"x18"	June	Pink	Soft silver foliage, 'Silver Carpet' is non flowering

Small Leaved Plants

Achillea millefolium Yarrow	18"	June-July	W, P, Y	Aromatic gray-green leaves, many varieties. Combine with Caryopteris
Agastache rupestris Sunset Hyssop	36"x18"	July-Sept	P,O, Rose	Fragrant foliage, Lean, well-drained soil, Hummingbirds. Combine with Perovskia
Dianthus spp. Pinks	6"-12"	May-June	P,W, R	Blue-green, evergreen foliage, Fragrant 'Firewitch' more xeric than others
Iberis sempervirens Candytuft	8"x2'	April-May	W	Evergreen; FS-PS; ground cover; Cut back hard every other year after flowering to rejuvenate.
Lavandula angustifolia Lavender	12"-18"	June	W,L	Fragrant, gray evergreen
Nepeta spp. Catmint	2'x2'	May-June	Violet	Fragrant gray-green foliage; reblooms when sheared
Perovskia spp. Russian Sage	3'-4'	July-Aug	Violet	Fragrant, white stems, semi-evergreen. Cut back for shorter plant. Sub shrub. Deep rooted. 1995 Perennial Plant of Yr

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Thymus serpyllum Creeping Red Thyme	6"	Summer fall	Pink, Purple	FS, excellent drainage, Cut back at least once a year to rejuvenate.
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Succulent Plants

Kalanchoe thyrisiflora Paddle Plant	1'-2' x 2'-3'	summer	Y	Zone 10,. Allow soil to dry out between watering.
Delosperma John Proffitt Ice Plant	3" x 6"- 8"	May- Sept	P, L	Hardy one 4-9. Has succulent green leaves. Evergreen.
Portulaca x grandiflora, Moss Rose	3" – 6"	May – Sept.	Many	They need sun to open blooms.

Native Plants

Aster spp.	3'	Aug-Spt	W,P,L	Butterflies; Bright colors for fall
Coreopsis verticillata Threadleaf Coreopsis	18"x18"	July- Aug	Y,P	Shear spent flowers; tolerates heat, salt. 1992 Perennial plant of year – "Moonbeam" Combine with Perovskia
Gaura lindheimeri	36"x30'	July- Sept	W,P	Texas native; Pinch back in late spring, fuller plant. Combine with Salvia
Liatris – Gayfeather	18"-3'	July-Aug	Pr,W	Cut flower; Attracts butterflies
Echinacea purpurea Purple Coneflower	3'	Summer Fall	PR	Pow Wow Wild Berry fade proof, also has very compact form.
Penstemon spp. Beard tongue	18"x18"	June- July	W,R,P,L	Tubular flowers attract hummingbirds. Avoid wet clay; rich soil shortens life span. Don't deadhead – some only 2-3 years Gravel or no mulch. Lt. Fert in fall

Tuberous Roots or Bulb Roots

Alium 'Globemaster	3-4'	Spring	Pr	Excellent plant for adding round form.
Hemerocallis Daylily	2'-4'	June- Aug.	Many, except blue	Long lived; Very dependable; Likes full sun best, flowers later in PS.
Iris pallida	24"-30"	Mid-May	Violet	Striking foliage
Eremerus spp. Foxytail Lily	4'-8'	May	Y,O,P	Plant in fall. Very impressive in bloom, then disappears.

Ornamental Grasses

Helictotrichon sempervirens Blue Oat Grass	2'x2'	May- June	Tan	Blue-gray evergreen foliage; dependable
Panicum virgatum 'Rostrahlbusch' Switch Grass	4'	July – Fall	Red	Very nice red foliage in fall. Much better than 'Shenandoah'.
Pennisetum Fountain Grass	4-5'	Lt. Sum	P	Nice shape, but re-seeds.

Dry Shade

Epimedium Red Barrenwort	12"	Spring	R	Heart shaped leaves, Red/yellow flower. Excellent ground cover
Lamium 'Pink Chablis	8"	Spring	P	Off-white leaves with green edges, pink flowers, very nice in the spring.

Lamiastrum 'Herman's Pride'	12"	Spring	Y	Nice green and silver foliage, May become leggy in summer.
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Polygonatum virgatum Solomon's Seal	2'	Spring	W	Variegated leaves, horizontal branching. Decent fall color
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Well Drained Soil

Gallardia x grandiflora 'Arizona Sun'	3'	Summer	Y, R	Need well drained soil, dead heading, wet winters may kill it.
Euphorbia polychrome 'Bonfire'	8"-36"	May	Y	Sap can irritate skin;
Centranthus ruber 'Coccineus' Jupiter's Beard	2'-3'x2'	May-June	Rose red	Butterflies, cut flower; no heavy clay, gravel mulch helps through winter.
Perovskia spp. Russian Sage	3'-4'	July-Aug	Violet	Fragrant, white stems, semi-evergreen. Cut back for shorter plant. Sub shrub. Deep rooted. 1995 Perennial Plant of Yr
Sedum spp.	Varies	June-Sept	W,P,Y,R	Prefer well-drained soil, Full sun, but some tolerate Partial Shade.
Veronica prostrata 'Waterperry'	4"-5"	May-June	B	Low groundcover, glossy green leaves, red-bronze in Spring & fall.
Veronica prostrate 'Aztec Gold'	6"	May-Jun	B	Gold foliage, blue flowers, great contrast!

Bonus Plants

Antennaria Pussy toes	12" x 8"	Jne-July	W,P	American Painted Lady butterfly
Bouteloua gracilis Blue grama grass	6"-24"			Clump; Unique seed heads like horizontal flags. Native American grass
Buchloe dactyloides Buffalo Grass	5"			Zones 3-9; Warm season grass, Stolons Dormant in winter, Light foot traffic. Native to prairie states.
Festuca ovina Blue Fescue	18"x18"	June	Tan	Tolerates heat, salt; evergreen
Opuntia humifusa Prickly pear cactus	2'x1'	July	Yellow	Very well drained soil. Nasty barbs
Santolina chamaecyparissus Lavender cotton	1'x2'	June	Yellow	Fragrant leaves, evergreen. Zone 6. Shear spent flowers. Gravel mulch
Sempervivum spp. Hens & chicks	6"x6"	June-July		Evergreen

Colors: B-Blue; L-Lavender; O-Orange; P-Pink; Pr-Purple; R-Red; W-White; Y-Yellow

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