



# Xeriscaping

**Xeriscaping is a water-efficient landscaping method that involves selecting drought-tolerant and native plant species in order to use less water in a landscaped environment. Native plants are already adapted to the local environment thus requiring little to no supplemental watering once they are established.**

During the summer, Coeur d'Alene municipal water systems must pump 5-6 times more water than in the winter. This increase is mostly for irrigation. When compared to a traditional turf lawn, implementing xeriscape techniques can reduce outdoor water use by 50-75%.

Intelligent choices concerning water-use today will ensure an adequate supply for the future.

## Xeric & Native Plant Resources:

**Desert Jewels Nursery**  
www.desertjewelsnursery.com  
9809 E. Upriver Drive  
Spokane, WA 99206  
(509)-893-3771

**Northland Nursery**  
8093 W. Prairie Ave.  
Post Falls, ID 83854  
(208)-773-3247

**Plants of the Wild**  
www.plantsofthewild.com  
123 Line Street  
Tekoa, WA 99033  
(509)-284-2848

## List of Idaho Natives:

<http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/idahogardens/seasonal>

**For More Information on Water Conservation:**  
Visit



Kootenai  
Environmental  
Alliance



## Principles of Xeriscaping

- 1 ) Design:** Create a landscape plan that maximizes water conservation. Group plants according to their water and light needs.
- 2 ) Irrigation:** Divide landscape into full, moderate, and low irrigation areas. Incorporate efficient irrigation systems e.g. drip irrigation or soaker hoses that put water where the plant needs it – the root. Runoff from roofs & patios can be directed to moderate irrigation areas.
- 3 ) Reduced turf areas:** Eliminate an excess of turf grass. Keep in mind that drought-resistant grass species are available.
- 4 ) Appropriate plant selection:** Use native plants. Natives are already adapted to the conditions of our environment thus requiring less maintenance and supplemental watering while providing habitat for wildlife. Drought-tolerant non-natives are also appropriate.
- 5 ) Soil amendments:** Amend clay or sandy soils with compost to create a rich, water-holding soil. Aerate soil to resist pooling.
- 6 ) Mulch:** Apply an organic mulch like coarse compost, leaves, or bark to reduce evaporation, soil temperature, and erosion. Mulch will also block out weeds and eventually decompose to provide additional nutrients for plants.

