



City of Aurora
Parks and Open Space Department

Recommended Xeriscape Plant List

April 2003

Attached are lists of xeriscape plants recommended for planting in Aurora. These lists were developed by compiling information from the following sources:

- X-Rated Plant List from the **Garden Centers of Colorado**
- Xeric Plant List from **watersaver.org**
- Xeriscape Plant Guide by **Denver Water**
- Plant Select Program at **Colorado State University**
- Fact Sheets #7.229, 7.230, 7.231, 7.234 from **CSU Cooperative Extension**
- Xeriscape Garden Brochures from **City of Aurora Utilities Department**

Indications of water usage for various plants were determined by utilizing the recommendation from the Garden Centers of Colorado, as follows:

X-rated= Plants need 1" of water per week

XX-rated= Plants need ½ " of water per week

XXX-rated= Plants need ½" of water every two weeks

These watering recommendations are for plants that have been established for at least one growing season. Newly installed plants will require more water than indicated on the following lists.

2003 XERISCAPE PLANT LIST

Trees and Evergreens

		Garden Centers of Colorado Rating		
Botanic Name	Common Name	X	XX	XXX
Acer ginnala (all cultivars)	Amur Maple			
Acer grandidentatum	Bigtooth Maple			
Acer tataricum	Tatarian Maple			
Aesculus glabra	Ohio Buckeye			
Aesculus pavia	Red Buckeye			
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horsechestnut			
Amelanchier sp.	Serviceberry			
Examples: <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	<i>Saskatoon Serviceberry</i>			
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> 'Regent'	<i>Regent Serviceberry</i>			
<i>Amelanchier</i> 'Autumn Brilliance'	<i>Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry</i>			
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	<i>Shadblow Serviceberry</i>			
Catalpa speciosa	Western Catalpa			
Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry			
Cercis sp.	Redbud			
Crataegus sp.	Hawthorn			
Examples: <i>Crataegus ambigua</i>	<i>Russian Hawthorn</i>			
<i>Crataegus arnoldiana</i>	<i>Arnold's Hawthorn</i>			
<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	<i>Cockspur Hawthorn</i>			
<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i> var. <i>inermis</i>	<i>Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn</i>			
<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	<i>River Hawthorn</i>			
<i>Crataegus mollis</i>	<i>Downy Hawthorn</i>			
<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	<i>Washington Hawthorn</i>			
<i>Crataegus succulenta</i>	<i>Fleshy Hawthorn</i>			
<i>Crataegus viridia</i> 'Winter King'	<i>Winter King Hawthorn</i>			
Fraxinus sp.	Ash			
Examples: <i>Fraxinus americana</i> 'Empire'	<i>Empire Ash</i>			
<i>Fraxinus mandschurica</i> 'Mancana'	<i>Mancana Ash</i>			
<i>Fraxinus nigra</i> 'Fall Gold'	<i>Fall Gold Ash</i>			
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	<i>Green Ash (all cultivars)</i>			
Gleditsia sp.	Honeylocust			
Examples: <i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i> 'Imperial'	<i>Imperial Honeylocust</i>			
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i> 'Shademaster'	<i>Shademaster Honeylocust</i>			
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i> 'Skyline'	<i>Skyline Honeylocust</i>			
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> 'Sunburst'	<i>Sunburst Honeylocust</i>			
Gymnocladus dioica	Kentucky Coffeetree			
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut			
Juniperus sp.	Juniper (all types)			
Koelreuteria paniculata	Goldenrain Tree			
Malus sp.	Apple and Crabapple (all types)			
Phellodendron amurense	Amur Corktree			
Pinus sp.	Pine			
Examples: <i>Pinus aristata</i>	<i>Bristlecone pine</i>			
<i>Pinus cembroides edulis</i>	<i>Pinyon Pine</i>			
<i>Pinus flexilis</i>	<i>Limber Pine</i>			
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	<i>Austrian Pine</i>			
<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	<i>Ponderosa Pine</i>			
<i>Pinus strobiformis</i>	<i>Southwestern White Pine</i>			
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	<i>Scotch Pine</i>			

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Shrubs

Botanic Name	Common Name	Garden Centers of Colorado Rating		
		X	XX	XXX
Acer ginnala	Amur Maple			
Examples: <i>Acer ginnala</i> 'Bailey Compact'	<i>Bailey Compacy Amur Maple</i>			
<i>Acer ginnala</i> 'Compactum'	<i>Compact Amur Maple</i>			
<i>Acer ginnala</i> 'Emerald Elf'	<i>Emerald Elf Amur Maple</i>			
<i>Acer ginnala</i> 'Flame'	<i>Flame Amur Maple</i>			
Acer tataricum	Tatarian Maple			
Amorpha canescens	Leadplant			
Amelanchier sp.	Serviceberry			
Examples: <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	<i>Saskatoon Serviceberry</i>			
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> 'Regent'	<i>Regent Serviceberry</i>			
<i>Amelanchieralnifloia</i> 'Autumn Brilliance'	<i>Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry</i>			
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	<i>Shadblow Serviceberry</i>			
Aronia sp.	Chokeberry			
Artemisia sp.	Sage			
Examples: <i>Artemisia cana</i>	<i>Silver Sagebrush</i>			
<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>	<i>Tall Western Sagebrush</i>			
Atriplex canescens	Four-wing Saltbrush			
Berberis sp.	Barberry			
Examples: <i>Berberis mentorensis</i>	<i>Mentor Barberry</i>			
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Atropurpurea'	<i>Red Leaf Barberry</i>			
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Bagatelle'	<i>Bagatelle Barberry</i>			
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Crimson Pygmy'	<i>Crimson Pygmy Barberry</i>			
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Rose Glow'	<i>Rose Glow Barberry</i>			
Buddleia davidii	Butterfly Bush			
Caragana sp.	Peashrub			
Examples: <i>Caragana arborescens</i>	<i>Siberian Peashrub</i>			
<i>Caragana arborescens</i> 'Lobergii'	<i>Fern-leaf Siberian Peashrub</i>			
<i>Caragana frutex</i> 'Globosa'	<i>Globe Peashrub</i>			
<i>Caragana maximowicziana</i>	<i>Maximowicz Peashrub</i>			
Caryopteris x clandonensis	Blue Mist Spirea			
Ceanothus fendleri	Mountain-Lilac			
Ceratoides lanata	Winterfat			
Cercocarpus sp.	Mountain Mahogany			
Examples: <i>Cercocarpus brevifolius</i>	<i>Little-flowered Mountain Mahogany</i>			
<i>Cercocarpus intricatus</i>	<i>Littleleaf Mountain Mahogany</i>			
<i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>	<i>Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany</i>			
<i>Cercocarpus montanus</i>	<i>Common Mountain Mahogany</i>			
Chamaebatiaria millefolium	Fernbush			
Chrysothamnus sp.	Rabbitbrush			
Cotoneaster sp.	Cotoneaster			
Examples: <i>Cotoneaster acutifloia</i>	<i>Peking Cotoneaster</i>			
<i>Cotoneaster apiculatus</i>	<i>Cranberry Cotoneaster</i>			
<i>Cotoneaster apiculatus</i> 'Tom Thumb'	<i>Tom Thumb Cotoneaster</i>			
<i>Cotoneaster dammeri</i> 'Coral Beauty'	<i>Coral Beauty Cotoneaster</i>			
<i>Cotoneaster divaricatus</i>	<i>Spreading Cotoneaster</i>			
<i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>	<i>Rock Cotoneaster</i>			
<i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i> <i>perpusillus</i>	<i>Ground Cotoneaster</i>			
<i>Cotoneaster lucidus</i>	<i>Hedge Cotoneaster</i>			
Cowania neomexicana	Cliffrose			

Botanic Name	Common Name	Garden Centers of Colorado Rating		
		X	XX	XXX
Ribes sp.	Gooseberry/Currant			
Examples: <i>Ribes alpinum</i>	<i>Alpine Currant</i>			
<i>Ribes alpinum</i> 'Green Mound'	<i>Green Mound Currant</i>			
<i>Ribes aureum</i>	<i>Golden Currant</i>			
<i>Ribes cereum</i>	<i>Wax Currant</i>			
<i>Ribes</i> 'Red Lake'	<i>Red Lake Currant</i>			
<i>Ribes</i> 'Pixwell'	<i>Pixwell Currant</i>			
Rosa sp.	Shrub Roses			
Robinia pseudoacacia	New Mexico Locust			
Rubus x tridel 'Beneden'	Beneden Thimbleberry			
Shepherdia sp.	Buffaloberry			
Spiraea sp.	Spirea			
Symphoricarpus sp.	Snowberry			
Examples: <i>Symphoricarpus albus</i>	<i>White Snowberry</i>			
<i>Symphoricarpus chenaultii</i> 'Hancock'	<i>Hancock Coralberry</i>			
<i>Symphoricarpus doorenbosii</i> 'Magic Berry'	<i>Magic Berry Coralberry</i>			
<i>Symphoricarpus doorenbosii</i> 'White Hedge'	<i>White Hedge Snowberry</i>			
<i>Symphoricarpus occidentalis</i>	<i>Western Snowberry</i>			
<i>Symphoricarpus orbiculatus</i>	<i>Red Coralberry</i>			
<i>Symphoricarpus oreophilus</i>	<i>Mountain Snowberry</i>			
Syringa sp.	Lilac			
Examples: <i>Syringa hyacinthiflora</i> (all cultivars)	<i>Early Lilac</i>			
<i>Syringa prestoniae</i> (all cultivars)	<i>Late Lilac</i>			
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i> (all cultivars)	<i>Common & French Lilac</i>			
Viburnum sp.	Viburnum			
Examples: <i>Viburnum lantana</i>	<i>Wayfaringtree</i>			
<i>Viburnum lantana</i> 'Mohican'	<i>Mohican Viburnum</i>			
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	<i>Nannyberry</i>			
<i>Viburnum rhytidophylloides</i> 'Alleghany'	<i>Alleghany Leatherleaf Viburnum</i>			
Yucca sp.	Yucca			

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Perennials

Botanic Name	Common Name	Garden Centers of Colorado Rating		
		X	XX	XXX
Achillea sp.	Yarrow			
Agastache sp.	Hyssop			
Ajuga reptans	Bugleweed			
Alcea sp.	Hollyhock			
Alchemilla mollis	Lady's Mantle			
Allium sp.	Ornamental Onion			
Alyssoides utriculata	Bladderpod			
Alyssum montanum	Mountain Gold			
Alchemilla mollis	Lady's Mantle			
Amsonia hubrichtii	Blue Star			
Anacyclus depressus	Mt. Atlas Daisy			
Anchusa sp.	Bogloss			
Anemone sp.	Windflower			
Antennaria sp.	Pussytoes			
Anthemis tinctoria	Chamomile			
Aquilegia sp.	Columbine			
Arabis caucasica	Rock Cress			
Arctostaphylos santii	Emerald Queen Manzanita			
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	Kinnikinnick			
Arenaria sp.	Sandwort			
Armeria maritima	Sea Pinks			
Artemisia frigida	Fringed Sage			
Artemisia sp.	Sage			
Asclepis tuberosa	Butterfly Weed			
Aster sp.	Aster			
Aurinia saxatilis	Basket-of-gold			
Baptisia australis	False Indigo			
Belamcanda chinensis	Blackberry Lily			
Bergenia cordifolia	Pigsqueak			
Berlandiera lyrata	Chocolate Flower			
Boltonia asteroides	Starflower			
Brunnera macrophylla	Siberian Forget-Me-Not			
Callirhoe involucrata	Poppy Mallow			
Calylophus serrulatus	Sundrops			
Calamintha grandiflora	Beautiful Mint			
Campanula sp.	Bellflower			
Centaurea montana	Hardy Bachelor Button			
Centranthus ruber	Jupiter's Beard			
Cerastium tomentosum	Snow-In-Summer			
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides	Leadwort/Plumbago			
Chrysanthemum x morifolium	Garden Mum			
Coreopsis sp.	Tickseed			
Cytisus x 'Lena'	Lena Broom			
Delosperma sp.	Ice Plant			
Delphinium sp.	Delphinium			
Dianthus sp.	Pinks			
Diascia intergerrima 'Coral Canyon'	Twinspur 'Coral Canyon'			
Digitalis sp.	Foxglove			
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower			

Botanic Name	Common Name	Garden Centers of Colorado Rating		
		X	XX	XXX
Echinops ritrp	Globe Thistle			
Epilobium sp.	Fireweed			
Erigeron sp.	Daisy Fleabane			
Eriogonum umbellatum	Sulphur Flower			
Eryngium amethystinum	Sea Holly			
Euonymus fortunei 'Coloratus'	Purple-leaved Wintercreeper			
Eupatorium greggii	West Texas Mist Flower			
Euphorbia epithymoides	Cushion Spurge			
Gaillardia aristata/grandiflora	Blanketflower			
Galium odoratum	Sweet Wodruff			
Gaura lindheimeri	Whirling Butterflies			
Gazania sp.	Hardy Gazania			
Geranium sp.	Hardy Granium			
Geum sp.	Geum			
Goniolimon/limonium sp.	Statice			
Gutierrezia sarothrae	Snakeweed			
Gypsophila sp.	Hardy Baby's Breath			
Hedera helix	English Ivy			
Helenium autumnale	Sneezeweed/Helen's flower			
Helianthemum nummularium	Sun Rose			
Heliopsis helianthoides	False Sunflower			
Helleborus sp.	Lenten Rose			
Hemerocallis sp.	Daylily			
Heuchera sanguinea	Coral Bells			
Hosta sp.	Plantain Lily			
Hypericum calycinum	St. John's Wort			
Iberis sempervirens	Candytuft			
Iris germanica (hybrid)	Bearded Iris			
Knautia macedonica	Red Pincushion			
Kniphofia uvaria	Red Hot Poker			
Lamiaeum galeobdolon	Yellow Archangel			
Lamium maculatum	Dead Nettle			
Lavandula sp.	Lavender			
Lavatera thuringiaca	Tree Mallow			
Leontopodium alpinum	Edelweiss			
Leucanthemum x superbum	Shasta Daisy			
Liatis sp.	Gayfeather			
Linum perenne	Blue Flax			
Lychnis chalcedonica	Maltese Cross			
Lychnis coronaria	Rose Campion			
Mahonia repens	Creeping Grape Holly			
Malva alcea	Rose Mallow			
Mirabilis multiflora	Hardy Four-O-Clock			
Mondard fistulosa menthaefolia	Native Lavender Bee Balm			
Nepeta x faassenii	Catmint			
Oenothera sp.	Evening Primrose			
Origanum sp.	Oregano/Marjoram			
Osteospermum sp.	Sun Daisy			
Paeonia lactiflora	Peony			
Papavar sp.	Poppies			
Penstemon sp.	Beardtongue/Penstemon			
Perovskia atriplicifolia	Russin Sage			
Persicaria affinis	Himalayan Border Jewel			
Phlomis cashmeriana	Jerusalem Sage			
Phlox subulata	Creeping Phlox			

Botanic Name	Common Name	Garden Centers of Colorado Rating		
		X	XX	XXX
Platycodon grandiflorus	Ballon Flower		XX	
Polemonium caeruleum	Jacob's Ladder		XX	
Potentilla sp.	Cinquefoil/Potentilla		XX	
Prunella laciniata	Self Heal	X		
Pulmonaria sp.	Lungwort	X		
Pulsatilla vulgaris	Pasque Flower		XX	
Ratibida columnifera	Prairie Coneflower			XXX
Rosmarinus officianalis 'Arp'	Lemon Rosemary			
Rudbeckia sp.	Black-eyed Susan		XX	
Salvia sp.	Silver Sage		XX	
Salvia officinalis	Garden Sage		XX	
Santolina sp.	Lavender Cotton		XX	
Saponaria sp.	Soapwort	X		
Scabiosa sp.	Pincushion		XX	
Sedum sp.	Sedum/Stonecrop		XX	
Sempervivum sp.	Hen and Chicks		XX	
Solidago sp.	Goldenrod		XX	
Stachys lanata (S. byzantina)	Lamb's Ear		XX	
Stanleya pinnata	Prince's Plume		XX	
Tanacetum coccineum	Painted Daisy	X		
Tanacetum densum amani	Partridge Feather			XXX
Tanacetum niveum	Snow Daisy		XX	
Thymus sp.	Creeping Thyme		XX	
Tradescantia sp.	Spiderwort	X		
Verbena canadensis	Verbena	X		
Veronica sp.	Speedwell/Veronica		XX	
Vinca sp.	Myrtle/Periwinkle/Vinca	X		
Viola corsica	Corsican Violet	X		
Waldsteinia ternata	Barren Strawberry	X		
Zauschneria arizonica	Hummingbird Trumpet			XXX
Zauschneria garrettii	California Fuschia			XXX
Zinnia grandiflora	Golden Paper Flower			XXX

Draft

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Vines

Botanic Name	Common Name	Garden Centers of Colorado Rating		
		X	XX	XXX
Campsis radicans	Trumpet Vine	X		
Celastrus scandens	Bittersweet	X		
Clematis sp.	Clematis	X		
Lonicera japonica	Honeysuckle Vine	X		
Fallopia (Polygonum) aubertii	Silver Lace Vine	X		
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper	X		

