



Drought-tolerant & Deer-resistant Plant Recommendations

This list of plants are great for xeriscapes or any drought-tolerant garden space. Many are also deer resistant. Drought-tolerant plants are an excellent way to conserve water on your property. These perennials use 40-60% less water than a traditional lawn or standard garden space. Use this list to help you plan your yard and shop at your local greenhouse or garden centre.

Note: these ARE NOT included as part of the Water Conservation Rebate Program.

Perennials



Allium spp.
Botanical Name: Allium
Average Height: Varies up to 100 cm
Average Spread: Varies
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Color: Pinks/Purples
Blooming time: June/July
Foliage color: Green
Zone: Varies from 1 to 3



Blanket Flower
Botanical Name: Gaillardia
Average Height: 30 cm
Average Spread: 35 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to full shade
Flower Colour: Varies
Flowering time: Mid summer until early fall
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Alpine Asters
Botanical Name: Aster alpinus
Average Height: 30 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: White, purple & pink varieties
Flowering time: Spring/Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Blue Bird Clematis
Botanical Name: Clematis macropetala 'Blue Bird'
Average Height: 3 Meters
Average Spread: 1 Meter
Sun Exposure: Full sun to full shade
Flower Colour: Blue
Flowering time: Mid summer until early fall
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Alpine Sea Holly
Botanical Name: Eryngium alpinum
Average Height: 75 cm
Average Spread: 45 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Light blue
Flowering time: Late summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 2



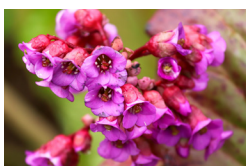
Blue Fescue
Botanical name: Festuca ovina glauca
Average Height: 30 cm
Average Spread: 30 cm
Sun Exposure: Full to part sun
Flower Color: Tan
Blooming time: June/July
Foliage color: Silver-green
Zone: 2



Anemones
Anemone Canadensis; Anemone sylvestris
Average Height: 40 cm
Average Spread: 50 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Flower Colour: White
Flowering time: Spring
Foliage Colour: Deep green
Zone: 3



Blue Oat Grass
Botanical Name: Helictotrichon sempervirens
Average Height: 90 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Creamy yellow
Flowering time: Late spring to early summer
Foliage Colour: Blueish-green
Zone: 3



Bergenia
Botanical name: Bergenia cordifolia
Average Height: 30-50 cm
Average Spread: 30-60 cm
Sun Exposure: Part sun to shade
Flower Color: Pinks
Blooming time: Spring
Foliage color: Glossy green
Zone: 3

Zone Information:
 Zone 1 - Can survive below -45.6° Celsius
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 requires a sheltered location



Drought-tolerant & Deer-resistant Plant Recommendations

Perennials



Bulbous Oat Grass

Botanical name: *Arrhenatherum bulbosum*
Average Height: 35 cm
Average Spread: 45 cm
Sun Exposure: Full to part sun
Flower Color: White
Blooming time: July
Foliage color: Green/White
Zone: 3



Feather Reed Grasses

Botanical Name: *Calamagrostis x acutiflora*
Average Height: 150 cm
Average Spread: 80 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Flower Colour: Green changing to stiff wheat-colored
Flowering time: Late summer – Provides winter interest
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Catmint

Botanical Name: *Nepeta*
Average Height: 50-75 cm
Average Spread: 50-60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Blue/Mauve
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Grey-green
Zone: 3-4



Fleabane

Botanical name: *Erigeron*
Average Height: 60 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Part sun to part shade
Flower Color: Pink/Purple
Blooming time: Late summer
Foliage color: Green
Zone: 2-3



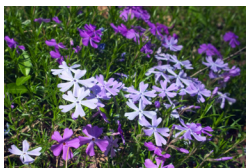
Cranesbill Geranium

Botanical Name: *Geranium sanguineum spp.*
Average Height: 60 cm
Average Spread: 75 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Varies
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Globe Thistle

Botanical name: *Echinops spp*
Average Height: 100 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Color: Blue
Blooming time: Summer
Foliage color: Light green
Zone: 3



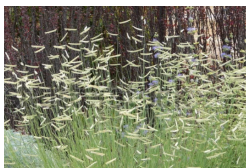
Creeping Phlox

Botanical Name: *Phlox subulata spp.*
Average Height: 15 cm
Average Spread: 50 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Colour: Varies
Flowering time: Spring to Summer
Foliage Colour: Dark green
Zone: 3



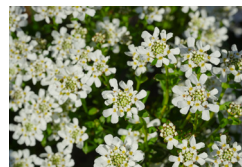
Goldenrod

Botanical Name: *Solidago*
Average Height: 38 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Colour: Yellow
Flowering time: Late summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Eyelash Grass

Botanical name: *Bouteloua gracilis*
Average Height: 70-100 cm
Average Spread: 70-100 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Color: N/A
Blooming time: N/A
Foliage color: Green
Zone: 3



Iberis

Botanical Name: *Iberis sempervirens*
Average Height: 25 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: White
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3

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Drought-tolerant & Deer-resistant Plant Recommendations

Perennials



Joe Pye Weed

Botanical Name: Eupatorium
Average Height: 180-240 cm
Average Spread: 100 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Shades of pink, white & purple
Flowering time: Late Summer
Foliage Colour: Deep green
Zone: 3



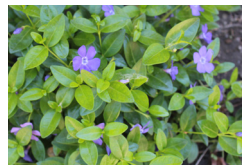
Peony

Botanical Name: Paeonia spp
Average Height: 100cm
Average Spread: 100cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Flower Color: Various
Flowering Time: Late spring
Foliage Colour: Dark green
Zone: 2



Lamb's Ear

Botanical Name: Stachys byzantina
Average Height: 40 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Colour: Pink/Purple
Flowering time: Spring
Foliage Colour: Fuzzy Silver
Zone: 3



Periwinkle

Botanical Name: Vinca spp.
Average Height: 10 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Part sun to full shade
Flower Colour: Lavender
Flowering time: Late spring
Foliage Colour: Green or variegated
Zone: 3



Liatris

Botanical Name: Liatris spicata
Average Height: 90 cm
Average Spread: 50 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Purple
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Deep green
Zone: 3



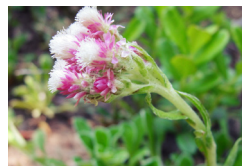
Pincushion Flower

Botanical Name: Scabiosa columbaria
Average Height: 45 cm
Average Spread: 45 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Colour: Varies
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Light green
Zone: 3



Monarda / Bee Balm

Botanical Name: Mondara
Average Height: 20-100 cm
Average Spread: 20-90 cm
Sun Exposure: Part sun to full shade
Flower Color: Pink/Purple/Red
Blooming time: Summer
Foliage color: Green
Zone: 3



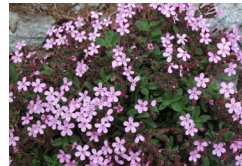
Pussytoes

Botanical Name: Antennaria spp.
Average Height: 15 cm
Average Spread: 30 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: White or pink
Flowering time: Late Spring to Early Summer
Foliage Colour: Silver
Zone: 3



Oriental Poppy

Botanical Name: Papaver orientale (spp)
Average Height: 75 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Red
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Forest green
Zone: 2



Rock Soapwort

Botanical Name: Saponaria ocymoides
Average Height: 15 cm
Average Spread: 45 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Pink
Flowering time: Late Spring
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 2



Pasqueflower

Botanical Name: Pulsatilla spp.
Average Height: 30 cm
Average Spread: 50 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Colour: Varies
Flowering time: Spring
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3

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Drought-tolerant & Deer-resistant Plant Recommendations

Perennials



Russian Sage

Botanical name: *Perovskia spp.*
Average Height: 40-100 cm
Average Spread: 50-120 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Blue
Blooming time: Summer
Foliage color: Silver/Green
Zone: 3



Spurge

Botanical Name: *Euphorbia polychroma*
Average Height: 40 cm
Average Spread: 60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Yellow
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Silver green
Zone: 3



Sages/ Artemesia

Botanical Name: *Artemisia spp.*
Average Height: 15-60 cm
Average Spread: 6-20 cm (aggressive spreader)
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Yellow or N/A
Flowering time: Summer-Fall
Foliage Colour: Silver-green
Zone: 1-3



Thyme

Botanical Name: *Thymus*
Average Height: 5 cm
Average Spread: 50-60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Varies
Flowering time: Varies
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 2/3
NOTE: Excludes Lemon Thyme



Salvia

Botanical Name: *Salvia spp.*
Average Height: 60 cm
Average Spread: 45 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Purple
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3/4



Tickseed (native variety)

Botanical Name: *Coreopsis tenctoria*
Average Height: 60-100 cm
Average Spread: 30-45 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Yellow/Orange
Flowering time: Spring-Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Sea Thrift

Botanical Name: *Armeria maritima spp.*
Average Height: 10-20 cm
Average Spread: 15-30 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Varies
Flowering time: Spring-Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3/4



Tufted Hair Grass

Botanical name: *Deschampsia*
Average Height: 20-45 cm
Average Spread: 30 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to Part Shade
Flower Color: Bronze
Blooming time: Late summer
Foliage color: Green
Zone: 3



Snow-in-Summer

Botanical Name: *Cerastium*
Average Height: 15 cm
Average Spread: 75 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: White
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Silver
Zone: 3



Yucca*

Botanical Name: *Yucca glauca*
Average Height: 60 cm-120cm
Average Spread: 90 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Creamy white
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3

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*Photo credit:
Helen Schuler Nature Centre



Drought-tolerant & Deer-resistant Plant Recommendations

Shrubs



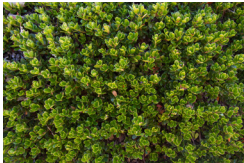
Barberry

Botanical Name: *Berberis thunbergii* spp.
Average Height: 45-80 cm
Average Spread: 30-36 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Flower Colour: Yellow
Flowering time: Spring
Foliage Colour: Red to Yellow
Zone: 4



Elderberry

Botanical name: *Sambucus* spp.
Average Height: 1.5 – 2.5 meters
Average Spread: 1.5 – 2 meters
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Color: White
Blooming time: Mid-spring
Foliage color: Green
Zone: 2



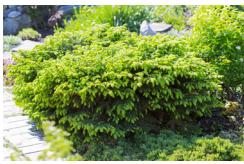
Bearberry

Botanical Name: *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*
Average Height: 10-15 cm
Average Spread: 30-60 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to full shade
Flower Colour: Pink/white
Flowering time: Spring
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 2



Forsythia

Botanical name: *Forsythia*
Average Height: 1.5 – 2 meters
Average Spread: 1.5 – 2 meters
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part sun
Flower Color: Yellow
Blooming time: Spring
Foliage color: Green
Zone: 3-4



Birds Nest Spruce

Botanical Name: *Picea abies 'Nidiformis'*
Average Height: 1 m
Average Spread: 1 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Giant/Anise Hyssop

Botanical name: *Agastache foeniculum*
Average Height: 90 cm
Average Spread: 80 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Color: Purple
Blooming time: Mid-summer to mid-fall
Foliage color: Green
Zone: 3



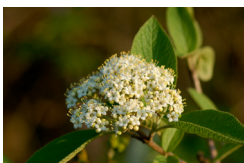
Calgary Boxwood

Botanical Name: *Buxus 'Calgary'*
Average Height: 50-70 cm
Average Spread: 50-70 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Color: N/A
Blooming time: N/A
Foliage color: Glossy green
Zone: 3



Globe Spruce

Botanical Name: *Picea pungens*
Average Height: 150 cm
Average Spread: 150 cm
Sun Exposure: Full sun – partial shade
Foliage Colour: Silvery blue
Zone: 2



Cranberry (Nannyberry, Wayfaring Tree, Cranberry)

Botanical name: *Viburnum* spp.
Average Height: 90cm – 4.5 meters
Average Spread: 60 cm – 3 meters
Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade
Flower Color: Varies – usually white
Blooming time: Late Spring
Foliage color: Green
Zone: 3



Golden Flowering Currant

Botanical Name: *Ribes aureum*
Average Height: 1.5 m
Average Spread: 1.5 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Flower Colour: Yellow
Flowering time: Spring
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 2

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Shrubs



Honeysuckle

Botanical Name: *Lonicera spp.*
Average Height: 3-4 m
Average Spread: 1-2 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Flower Colour: Varies
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 2/3



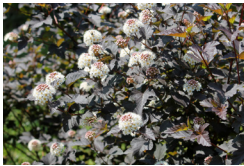
Hops

Botanical Name: *Humulus lupulus*
Average Height: 2-3 m
Average Spread: 2-3 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Flower Colour: Green
Flowering time: Summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Lilac

Botanical Name: *Syringa vulgaris*
Average Height: 3.5 m
Average Spread: 3 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Light purple
Flowering time: Mid spring
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 2



Ninebark

Botanical Name: *Physocarpus opulifolius*
Average Height: 1 - 2 m
Average Spread: 1 - 2 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: White
Flowering time: Early summer
Foliage Colour: Varies
Zone: 3



Potentilla

Botanical Name: *Potentilla spp.*
Average Height: 30 cm – 1 m
Average Spread: 30 cm – 1 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Yellow, pink, red
Flowering time: Spring to fall (variety dependant)
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 2-3

NOTE: Be aware of the variety purchased due to different growing requirements.



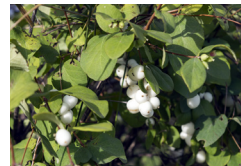
Rhubarb

Botanical Name: *Rheum spp*
Average Height: 1-1.5 m
Average Spread: 1 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Foliage Colour: Green with red stems
Zone: 3



Russian Almond

Botanical Name: *Prunus tenella*
Average Height: 1.5 m
Average Spread: 1 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun
Flower Colour: Pink
Flowering time: Early spring
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Snowberry

Botanical Name: *Symphoricarpos albus*
Average Height: 1.5 m
Average Spread: 1.9 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun to full shade
Flower Colour: Pink
Flowering time: Early summer
Foliage Colour: Bluish-green
Zone: 2



Spirea

Botanical Name: *Spirea spp.*
Average Height: 80-120 cm
Average Spread: 1 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Flower Colour: Pink or white
Flowering time: Early summer
Foliage Colour: Green
Zone: 3



Virginia Creeper

Botanical Name: *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*
Average Height: 6 m
Average Spread: 1 m
Sun Exposure: Full sun to full shade
Foliage Colour: Dark Green
Zone: 2

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