



# *Choosing the “Right” Perennials*

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## PERENNIAL FAVORITES





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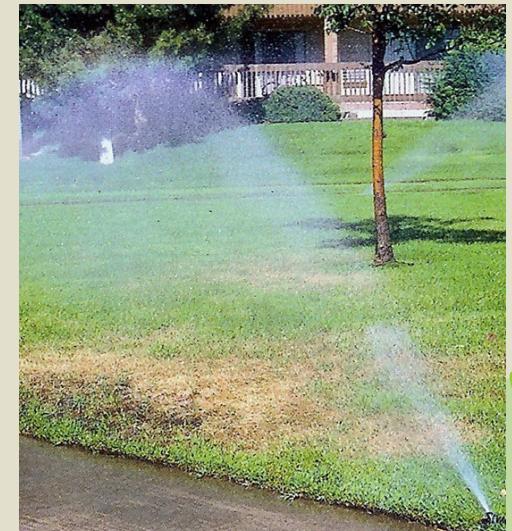
# *Celebrating 30 Years*





# Why Conserve Water?

- Utah is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest water user in the Nation
- Utah has the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest amount of annual precipitation
- Water is a Limited Resource
- Current demand is outpacing supply
- Population growth will increase water demands
- Utahns use 293 gallons per person per day
- National average is 179 gallons



# *What Should We do?*

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ZeroScape?

XeriScape?

LocalScape?

Water Wise Landscape?



# *Definition: ZeroScape*

ZEROSCAPE = no scape

- Zero (none, nothing, empty...)
- Scape (Vista)
- Pronounced (Zeroscape)

A hot, dry landscape with a few prickly plants, lots of rocks and a few cow skulls...



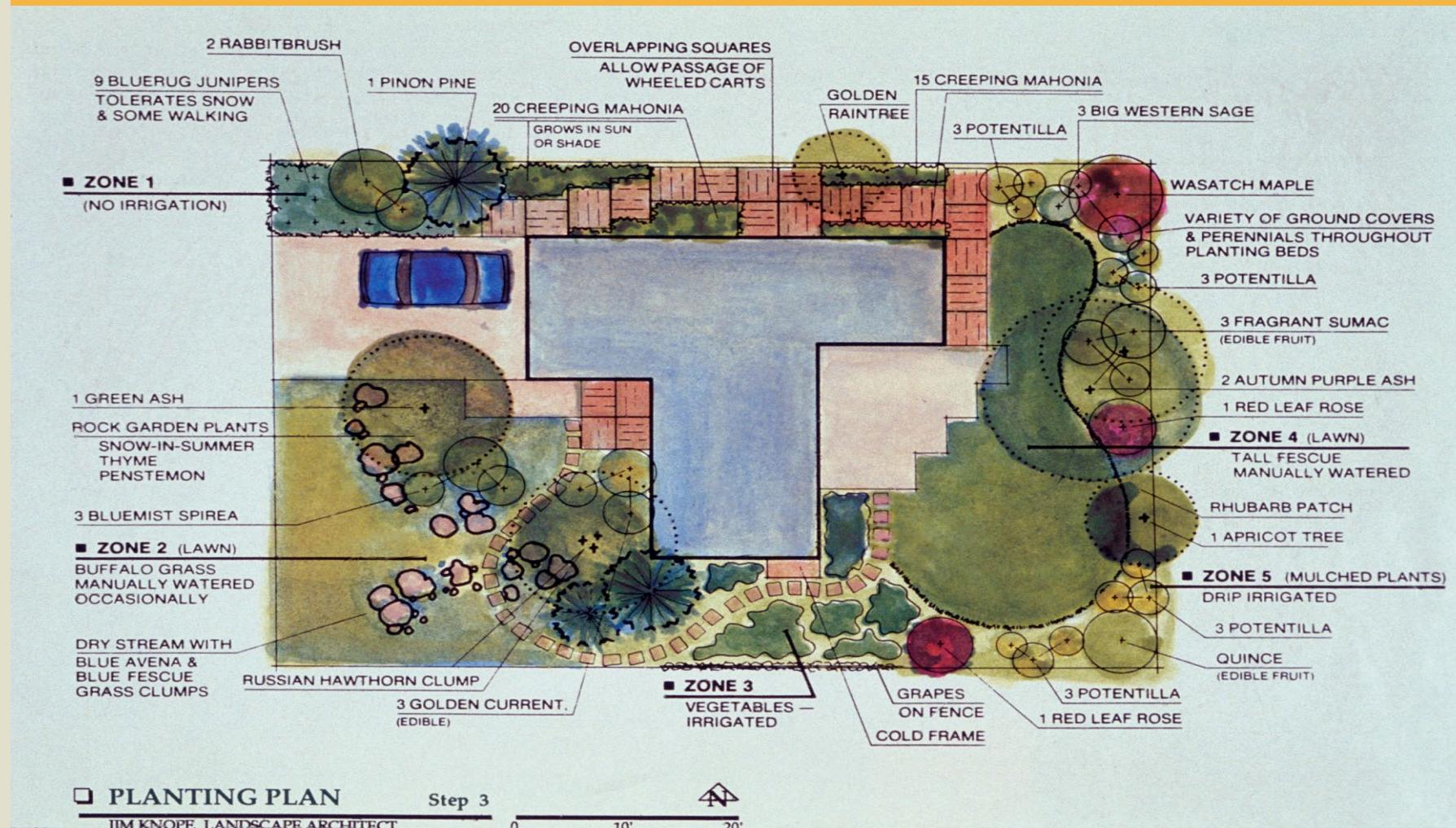
# *Definition: XeriScape, LocalScape, Waterwise*

**XERISCAPE = Water  
wise Landscaping =  
LocalScape**

- Xeric (Dry) Scape  
(Vista) Pronounced  
(Zeriscape)
- LocalScape - Selection  
of plants suited for your  
local environment

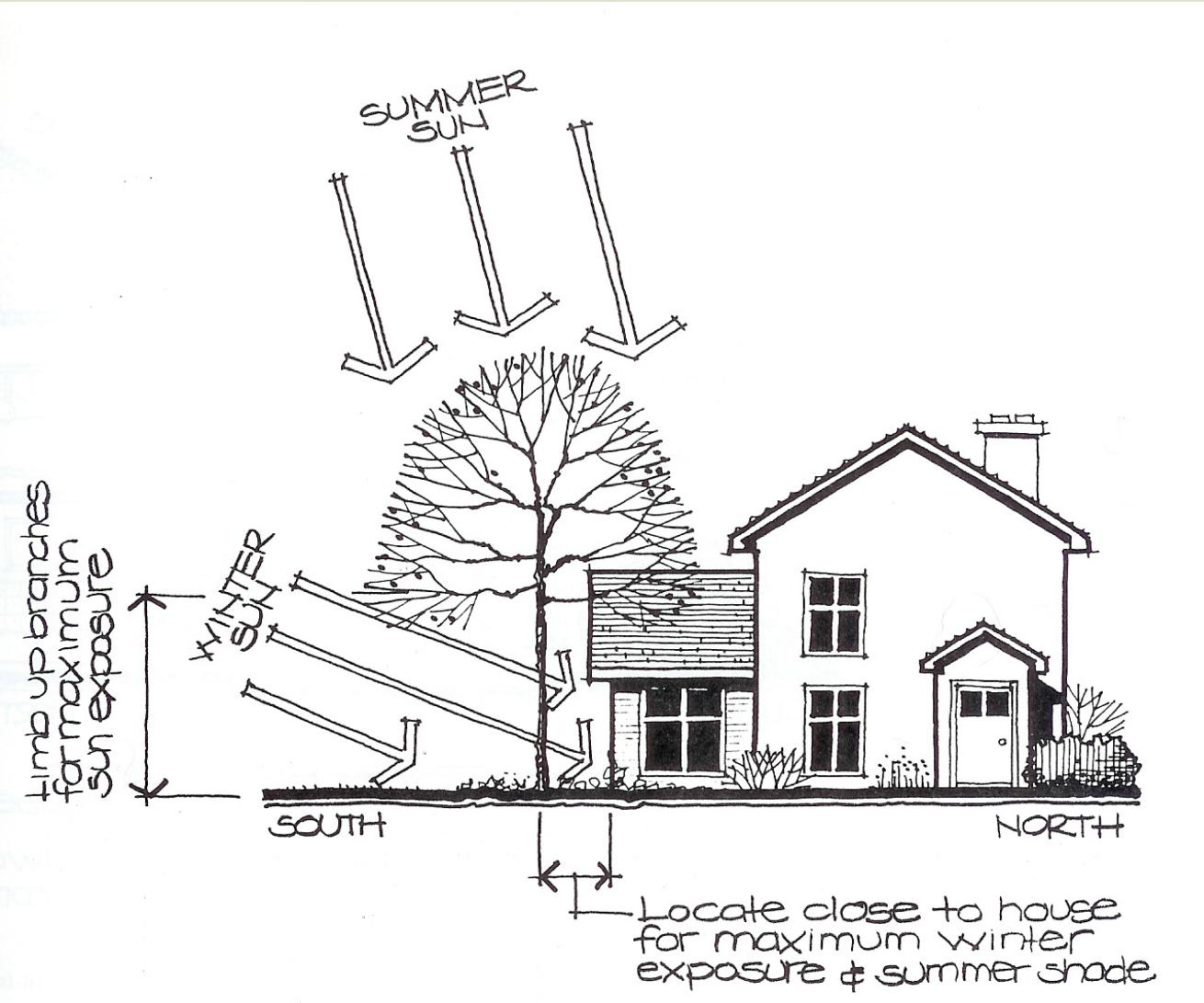


# Seven (7) Xeriscape Principles



## 1. Plan & Design

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Site Analysis

## 2. Analyze Soil

Use a Shovel or a  
Soil Probe

Soil Type

Drainage  
Capability



### 3. Practical Lawn Areas



## 4. Hydrozone



Low water use & drought tolerant plants

## 5. Use Mulch



- Conserve Moisture
- Reduce Weeds
- Inorganic Mulch - Pea Gravel
- Organic Mulch – Bark/Woodchips
- Very Low & Low Water-use Zones

# 6. Water Wisely

Even water wise plants need water until Establishment

- Before 10 am and after 6 pm
- Use properly designed systems
- Don't waste water!
- Don't over water!!



## 7. Appropriate Maintenance



- Different Maintenance than Lawn
- Spring Weed Control
- Summer Deadheading
- Fall Pruning & Cleanup

# *What is Hydrozone?*

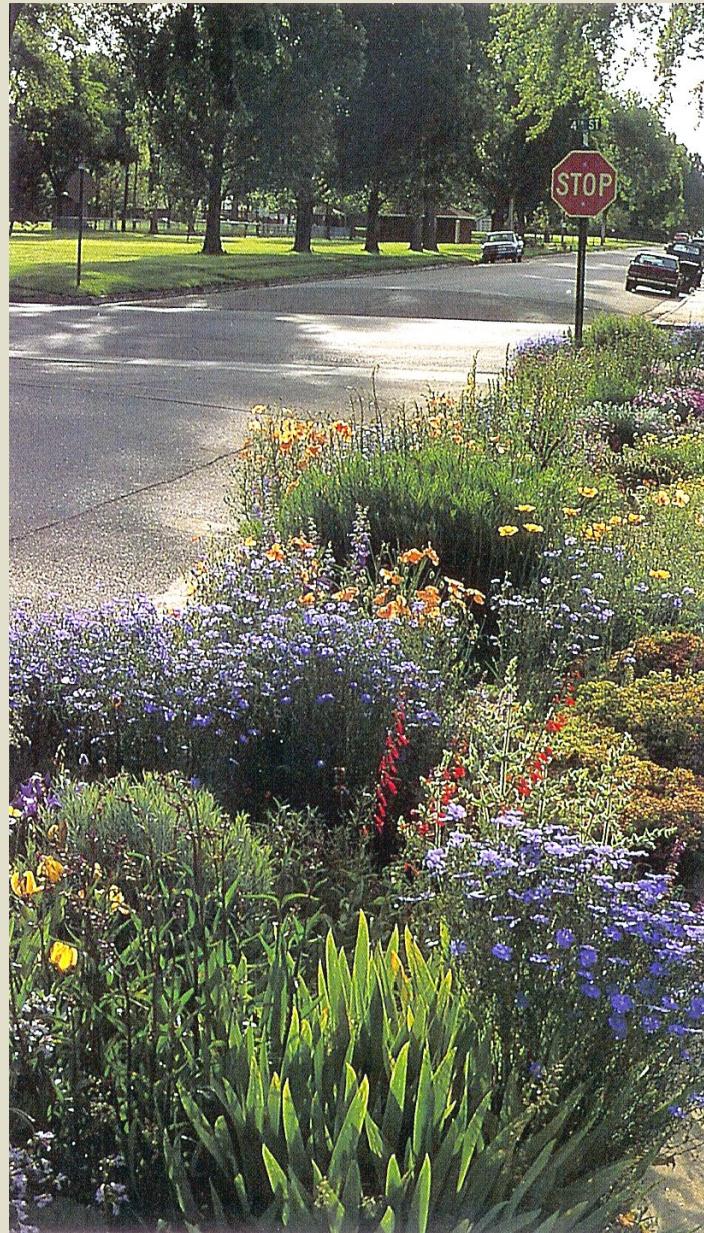
Hydrozoning is the practice of clustering together plants with similar water requirements in effort to conserve water.

## Group plants together according to water use

- VERY LOW - water use zone
- LOW - water use zone
- MODERATE - water use zone
- HIGH - water use zone



# Hydrozone/Water Wise Park Strips



# Water Wise Park Strip



Photo by Lauren Springer

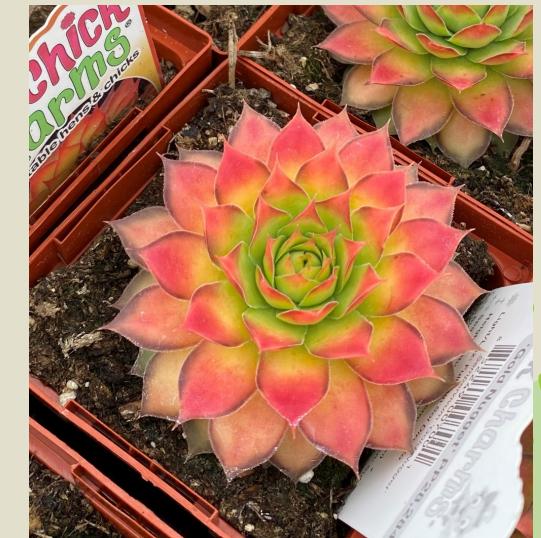
## Be Bold!

- Some plants will work, others will not. Don't be afraid to try.
- Road Salt
- Type of irrigation
- City Ordinances
- Height restrictions
- Mulch?
- Poisonous plants

# Landscaping Tips

Make it fun with different color schemes

- Soft, quiet and soothing
- Bright, warm and energetic
- Plant for all seasons
- Plant for foliage color only
- Whatever **YOU** like!



# Experiment



## Plants will Surprise You

- Most perennials are low water users compared to sod
- This park strip gets watered once a week from drips
- Photo taken first of August

**Hibiscus** hybrid 'Mars Madness'  
**Rudbeckia** fulgida 'Goldsturm'  
**Calamagrostis** acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'  
**Iris** sibirica 'Blue King'  
**Geranium** cantabrigiense 'Karmina'  
**Lavandula** angustifolia 'Hidcote Blue'

# Water Wise Park Strip



**Bouteloua gracilis 'Blonde Ambition'**  
**Calamagrostis acutiflora 'Eldorado'**  
**Euphorbia martinii 'Ascot Rainbow'**  
**Hemerocallis hybrid 'Pardon Me'**  
**Achillea millefolium New Vintage Series 'Rose'**  
**Salvia pachyphylla 'Mojave'**

# *Favorite Perennials*

**Artemisia hybrid 'Powis Castle'**



**Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Rocketman'**  
**Callirhoe involucrata 'Prairie Winecups'**



## **Rhus aromatica 'Gro Low' Sumac**



# *Allium hybrid 'Millenium' Ornamental Onion*



- Deer resistant / Pollinator
- Blooms July - late Sept.
- Can handle full sun to 70% shade
- Zone 4a
- Blooms last very long / slight smell of sweet onion

# *Allium senescens 'Blue Eddy' Ornamental Onion*

- 
- Deer resistant / Pollinator
  - Blooms July - late Sept.
  - Pink Shades with attractive seed heads
  - Zone 4a
  - Silver-Blue foliage
  - Foliage Height 4-6 In.
  - Flower Height 8-12 In.



**Sedum** hybrid 'Mr. Goodbud'



**Sedum** telephium Touchdown Series 'Teak'



# *Marrubium rotundifolium 'Silverheels'*

## Horehound

- 
- Water-friendly variety / Drought tolerant
  - Deer resistant
  - Zone 4a
  - Can handle moist soil, dry soil & clay-soil
  - Does need full-sun for vigorous growth





### **Phlox subulata 'Violet Pinwheels'**

- Early Spring bloomer
- Zone 4
- Full sun to part shade
- Little water needed once established



### **Pulsatilla vulgaris *Pasque Flower***

- Very early Spring bloomer
- Attractive seeds heads through summer
- Zone 3
- Full sun to part shade
- Little water needed once established

# *Geum triflorum* 'Prairie Smoke' *Prairie Smoke Old Man's Whiskers*

Bloom



Seed





### **Agastache hybrid Kudos Series 'Coral'**

- Summer bloomer
- Great pollinator
- Zone 5
- Full sun to part shade
- Little water needed once established



### **Agastache hybrid Kudos Series 'Mandarin'**

- Summer bloomer
- Great pollinator
- Zone 5
- Full sun to part shade
- Little water needed once established

# *Salvia dorrii 'Desert' Desert Sage*

- 
- Bright silver foliage
  - Bright purple flowers
  - Seed heads stay golden brown after bloom
  - Height 18-24 in.
  - Low water
  - Pollinator
  - Highly Aromatic/Deer resistant
  - Zone 5





### **Sedum rupestre 'Prima Angelina'**

- Winter foliage
- Late-Summer bloomer
- Grown for its foliage color
- Great pollinator
- Zone 4



### **Sedum rupestre 'Prima Angelina'**

- Summer foliage
- Full sun
- Little to no water needed once established

# *Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna' Meadow Sage

- Rigid & upright habit
- Dark purple stems w/violet-blue blooms
- Still attractive when past-bloom!
- Not prone to wind-damage (unlike Mainacht)
- Re-blooms very well



# *Dianthus* *hybrid* *'Kahori'*

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- Very long bloom time
- With trimming will bloom entire growing season
- Without trimming blooms will be intermittent but still have color.
- Zone 3
- Height 6-8 In.



# *Under Used Ground Covers*

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Sedum hybrid Sunsparkler Series 'Blue Elf'

Sedum hybrid Sunsparkler Series 'Lime Zinger'

Sedum hybrid Sunsparkler Series 'Wildfire'

Ceratostigma plumbaginoides 'Plumbago'

Aethionema schistosum 'Persian Stonecress'





### **Ceratostigma plumbaginoides 'Plumbago'**

- Summer bloomer
- Bright red fall foliage
- Zone 5
- Full sun or shade
- Very little water needed



### **Echinacea hybrid 'Cheyenne Spirit'**

- Summer bloomer
- Blooms can be  
orange/red/yellow/purple/cream
- Zone 4
- Full sun
- Very little water needed once  
established



*Zauschneria latifolia*  
*'PF Exclusive Woody's Peach Surprise'*  
*Epilobium*

*Zauschneria canum*  
*'Wright Lake Road'*  
*Epilobium*



### **Zauschneria canum 'Summer Snow'**

- Summer bloomer
- Bright red fall foliage
- Zone 5
- Full sun
- Very little water needed



### **Pterocephalus depressus** *Moroccan Pincushion Flower*

- Spring bloomer
- Summer seed heads
- Zone 5
- Full sun
- Little to no water needed once established



## Carex oshimensis 'Ice Cream' Sedge

- Full Sun – Full Shade
- Deer Resistant
- Handles all soil well
- Can handle lots of water – or not much at all
- Zone 5a – Evergreen!



### **Artemisia schmidtiana 'Nana'**

*Silver Mound*

- Foliage perennial (no blooms)
- Zone 4
- Full sun
- Very little water needed



### **Campanula carpatica 'Rapido Blue'**

- Spring bloomer
- Summer seed heads
- Zone 3
- Full sun
- Low water needed once established



**Tetraneuris (Hymenoxys) acaulis var.  
arizonica 'Sol Dancer'**

- Discovered on the Wasatch Front
- Late Spring through Fall bloomer
- Zone 3
- Full sun
- Little to no water needed once established



**Linum perenne 'Sapphire'**

- Spring bloomer
- Minor reseeding
- Zone 3
- Full sun
- Little to no water needed once established

## *Zinnia grandiflora* *Prairie Zinnia*

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- Bright yellow blooms  
(June through October)
- Loves hot dry  
conditions
- Only plant with good  
drainage
- Height 3-4 in.
- Spread 12-15 in.
- Great Pollinator
- Deer and Rabbit  
Resistant



# *Panicum virgatum 'Shenandoah'*

## *Switch Grass*

*Summer*



*Fall*



## *Andropogon gerardii* *'Rain Dance' Big Bluestem*

Green foliage with red tips  
in the summer

Maroon flowers

Fall color turns to deep  
shades of red and purple

Tight upright habit

Height 60-72 in.

Zone 3





### **Monarda didyma Balmy Series 'Rose'**

- Summer bloomer
- Great pollinator
- Zone 6
- Full sun
- Little water needed once established



### **Achillea ageratifolia *Greek Yarrow***

- Early Summer bloomer
- Great groundcover
- Great pollinator
- Zone 4
- Full sun to part shade
- Little to no water needed once established



### **Buddleia** hybrid Buzz Series 'Purple' *Butterfly Bush*

- Very long bloom time (Spring-summer)
- Great pollinator
- Zone 4
- Full sun
- 36-60" tall
- Very little water needed once established



### **Iliamna** rivularis *Maple Mallow*

- Early Summer bloomer
- Summer seed heads
- Zone 3
- Full sun to part shade
- Little to no water needed once established



### **Lavandula hybrid intermedia 'Phenomenal'**

- Ver long bloom time (Spring-summer)
- Great pollinator
- Zone 5
- Full sun
- Very little water needed once established

### **Lilium hybrid Asiatic Matrixline Series**

#### **'Matrixline Mix'**

- Summer bloomer
- Summer seed heads
- Zone 3
- Full sun to part shade
- Little to no water needed once established



### **Sedum spathulifolium 'Cape Blanco'**

- Great groundcover
- Zone 3
- Full sun
- Very little water needed once established



### **Sedum globosum 'Old Man Bones'**

- Great groundcover
- Zone 3
- Full sun
- Little to no water needed once established



### **Leymus cinereus 'Great Basin' Wildrye**

- Zone 2
- Full sun
- 48-72" tall
- No water needed once established



### **Leymus salinus 'Basin Junior'**

- Zone 3
- Full Sun
- 24-36" tall
- No water needed once established



### **Sporobolus wrightii 'Windbreaker'**

- Spring
- Zone 4
- Full sun



### **Sporobolus wrightii 'Windbreaker'**

- Fall Color
- Little to no water needed once established

# *Sorghastrum nutans 'Thin Man'*

## *Indian Grass*

- Plant Select
- Blue Foliage
- Bright golden yellow "Wheat Like" Flowers/Seed Heads
- Narrow upright habit
- Height 60-72 in.
- Zone 4
- Rival any **Calamagrostis** acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'





## ***SAGE* *Salvia officinalis 'Berggarten'* Gray Leaf Garden Sage**

- Drought tolerant
- Easy to grow
- Edible/Deer resistant
- Height 16-24 in.
- Blooms purple in summer
- Foliage has a purple cast in fall
- Great landscape or container plant
- Zone 5b

# *In Conclusion*

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Have fun!

Save water!

Love Plants!

Enjoy Your Yard!

