

XERISCAPING, XEROSCAPING, SMART SCAPING



7 PRINCIPLES FOR XERISCAPING:

1. Planning for the location and what type of plants you want will take a little time. Your plant choice should be specific as to how much water and sun the plant needs. Do you want low growing or large plants?
2. Soil improvements. Most native plants don't need very rich soil, so loosening up the dirt may be enough for them. But, if you find you have a very shallow amount of top soil sitting on red clay or rock, you may need to amend your soil to allow enough for plants to produce deep roots
3. The third principle, efficient irrigation, can benefit anyone with a lawn. You can save up to 50 percent on your water bill by watering efficiently.
4. Plant zoning is the fourth principle and meshes with the first one. You should arrange your plants with similar water and sunlight needs together in an area that will accommodate them. For example, those that need a lot of water should be placed in low-lying areas where water can be collected easily. Grouping plants will save you time and money when it comes to watering.
5. Mulching has a multitude of benefits for gardens. Aside from the visual appeal of it, mulch keeps the roots cool and healthy. Mulch also reduces evaporation and weeds, which are both water wasters.
6. Another essential principle is turf alternatives and limits. With xeriscaping, turf areas should be kept to a minimum, usually just in areas that accommodate children and pets. More water-efficient plants or patios can be put in place of areas where turf is not needed. In turf areas, it is best to use drought-resistant grasses
7. Lawn maintenance, the final principle, will ensure that your landscape continues to grow and thrive with a limited amount of water. Weeding, limited pruning, fertilizing and aerating will all be beneficial to creating a beautiful landscape while saving water and money.

STORM WATER HOTLINE 254-953-5649