

## PLANTING IDEAS FOR XERISCAPE (keyed to what seems to live in park plazas)

### FLOWERS;

Yarrow, Jupiter's Beard, Chocolate Flower, Ice Plant, Flowering Sages, Salvia, Maximilian's Sunflowers, Coreopsis, Blanket Flowers, Blue Flax, Penstemons, Evening Primrose, Lamb's Ears, Coneflower

### BUSHES and FLOWERING BUSHES;

Russian Sage, Apache Plume, Lavender, Yucca, Bluebeard, Privet

### ORNAMENTAL GRASSES;

Most kinds, particularly Maidengrass, Blue Fescue, Northern Sea Oats, Llano Indian Grass, Karl Forester

### TREES:

Ponderosa Pine, Pinon, Wild Plum, Gambel Oak, Scrub Oak, New Mexico Locust, and some fruit trees like Apple and Apricot

Plants that are shaded from the sun during the hottest part of the day need less water than those growing in full sun. For this reason water can be saved by planting gardens in spots shaded from the afternoon sun. It also pays to invest in trees that create shade for the plants. Wind dries out plants and causes them to lose more water. To make the planting area more drought tolerant, design features that block the winds or plant in pockets that are naturally protected. Grouping plants according to the amount of water they require is another practical way to fight drought. When planting trees and shrubs, dig basin shaped holes just deep enough to accommodate the root ball. Make the holes wide enough to encourage the roots to spread. Use a garden fork to loosen the soil around the edges of the hole, then fill the hole with loose dirt. While established drought tolerant plants can cope with less than usual rainfall, any new plants need extra care to get them started. It is important to mulch and to water slowly and deeply.