

Discover the Water-Wise Garden

Water-wise gardening offers an attractive, sustainable landscape that conserves water. In our Water-wise Garden, we conserve water by using mostly drought-tolerant plants, by grouping plants together with similar needs, and by mulching.

Look for:

- Plants with very low water needs are in the front section: yucca, succulents and Euphorbias.
- To drastically reduce the amount of water supplied to the front section of the garden, we installed adjustable stream sprinklers. During the summer, we turn them on once every one to two weeks, depending on the temperature and rainfall. We use drip irrigation on a timer for other sections of the garden.
- The tree with the heart-shaped leaves is a Redbud (*Cercis Canadensis*). This tree has wonderful pink/purple flowers in the spring, followed by small bean-like pods in the summer.

Garden Tips:

- For drought-tolerant plants such as sedum, use soil that has more gravel and sand for faster drainage. We also use deco sand mulch, which is compatible with drought-tolerant plants.
- Bark mulch is effective in retaining moisture, moderating soil temperature, and discouraging weeds.
- Use constraint when fertilizer as fertilizer encourages plant growth, which requires more watering. In the spring before new growth emerges, we apply slow-release commercial fertilizer to our front section of the garden, and compost to the other sections.

