

Experts predict more droughts and heatwaves will hit the Canadian prairies. How can we prepare and utilize *ecoscaping* to curb water use for these critical times?

## WHAT IS ECOSCAPING?

Ecoscaping is a sustainable option for garden landscaping - utilizing drought-resistant native plants, healthy soils and strategic architecture to reduce water waste.

## BENEFITS OF ECOSCAPING

*Being mindful of the way you garden can save you time, money and effort in the future. You can look forward to:*

- Easier maintenance with less watering, weeding, mowing, and fertilizing
- Savings on your water bill
- Avoiding yellow grass and dead garden plants during droughts and heat waves

## WATER-WISE PLANTS

Lawn maintenance can be water-intensive and certain plants aren't ideal for our climate. Avoid water waste with these options:

### Lawn options:

- Native grasses - Blue grama grass, Phlox, Sheep fescue, Woolly thyme, Creeping red fescue
- Rock gardens
- Microclover lawn

### Drought tolerant shrubs:

- Honeysuckle
- Lilac
- Saskatoon berry
- Wolf willow
- Canadian buffaloberry

### Perennials:

- Tall blue lungwort
- Salvia
- Poppies
- Blue flax

### SHOP LOCAL

To learn more about planting in your local environment, visit:

[Strathcona County's Website](#)

[Greenland Garden Centre](#)

[City of Edmonton](#)

## DID YOU KNOW?



More than **50%** of residential summer water use goes to lawn watering or landscape irrigation.



## PLAN YOUR GARDEN

Create a landscape plan, and be strategic in the placement of your plants. Identify shaded areas and high-sun zones, and plant accordingly.



## CHOOSE YOUR PLANTS WISELY

Choose plants that will thrive in the your region's climate. Use drought-resistant plants in sunny spots, to minimize watering requirements.



## MAKE HEALTHY SOIL

Healthy soil is a mix of air, water, organic matter and plenty of minerals. You can make your own organic layer using a composting bin. A standard soil mix includes:

**1/3 top soil**

**1/3 sand**

**1/3 compost**



## TRY A NON-TRADITIONAL LAWN

Explore lawn alternatives, mix your sod with drought tolerant grasses, or replace the lawn altogether, with a vegetable or rock garden.