

Low Maintenance, Low Watering. High Rewards Gardening

Planting of drought tolerant shrubs and perennials, bulbs, and native plants provide the foundation of a Low Maintenance Garden. Some water is required to help a plant get established, but otherwise this type of garden survives with natural rainfall, and a little additional water if plants show stress in severe drought conditions. Native plants adapted to the area can survive periods of drought more successfully than many exotic species.

During the year maintenance to the garden includes a minimal amount of pruning, spring plant division, fresh mulch, deadheading spent flower blossoms, weeding and minimal fertilizing.

As established plants spread, it is necessary to divide and remove the excess to keep the garden in balance and improve the growth of the plants. To keep the Demonstration Garden interesting the VCE JCC/W Master Gardeners will continue to try new ideas with the existing plants and introduce less common plants to the garden. This is a way to continue to learn the likes, dislikes and maintenance needs of all plants in the Low Maintenance Garden.

Useful web sites (all start with www.)

Virginia Cooperative Extension publications
pubs.ext.vt.edu

JCSA Be Water Smart Program
Jamescitycounty.gov

Virginia Dept. of Conservation and Recreation
dcr.virginia.gov

Virginia Native Plant Society
vnps.org

Missouri Botanical Garden
(good plant search feature)
Missouribotanicalgarden.org

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
wildflower.org

Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia
(Tried and True Plants lists for zone 7)
mgnv.org

Chesapeake Watershed Native Plants Booklet
nps.gov/plants/pubs/Chesapeake/pdf/chesapeake natives.pdf

Clemson Cooperative Extension
Clemson.edu/extension/hgic/plants/landscape/



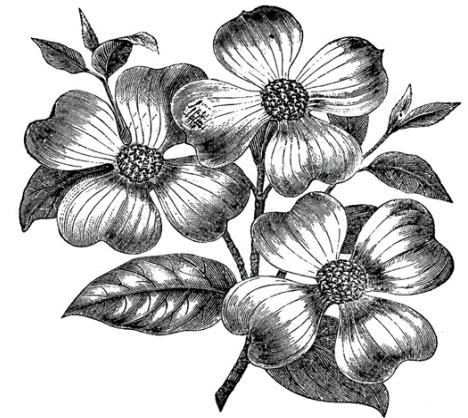
www.ext.vt.edu

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Water Wise Low Maintenance Garden

Located at the entrance to the
JCC Human Services Center
5249 Olde Towne Road



This garden contains a wide variety of plant species. When visiting the garden you can view examples of many attractive, low maintenance flowering plants and shrubs that provide year-around interest.

**James City County Williamsburg
Master Gardeners
www.jccwmg.org**

Water Wise, Low Maintenance Gardening

PROLONGED PERIODS OF DROUGHT do have an impact on native plants, but they tend to be better adapted to this climate and can tolerate its extremes. Planted in appropriate habitats, many natives will thrive in our gardens without much supplemental watering. However, even the most drought tolerant plants need to get their roots established before they can stand on their own. For best results, plant in the fall when the temperatures have dropped and the ground has more moisture in it. That way plants will be well established before hot and dry conditions return.

CHOOSE PLANTS WISELY-People tend to choose plants that they like, rather than what's suited to their yard—and then try to make up for poor habitat with extra water and fertilizer. Drought only makes it tougher on such misplaced plants. Select plants to suit the conditions in *your* yard! Choose plants appropriate for the local climate, and then plant them in the proper habitat, whether it's wet, dry, sun or shade.

ONE OTHER CONSIDERATION—Often what enables a plant to withstand tough conditions is the part that we can't see—the root system. Many of the toughest plants cope with the climate by having deep or wide spreading root systems capable of drawing on remote water sources, or thick fleshy roots which can store water for use during dry periods. This fact warrants careful consideration when deciding where to plant, since such plants tend to be extremely difficult to move once they get their roots established.

Janis Miller, Virginia Living Museum

Partial List of Plants In The Water Wise, Low Maintenance Demonstration Garden

Common Name	Botanical Name	Bloom Information
Bath's Pink	<i>Dianthus gratianopolitanus</i>	Pink/April*
Blanket Flower	<i>Gaillardia 'Arizona Sun'</i>	Red and Yellow/June-September
Blue Star	<i>Amsonia hubrichtii</i>	Blue/May*
Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Purple/June-October
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Orange/July
Canna	<i>Canna</i>	Red/August, September
Chastetree	<i>Vitex negundo</i>	Lavender June –September
Chives	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	Purple/June-July
Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Evergreen*
Clematis, Sweet Autumn	<i>Clematis paniculata</i>	White/August-October
Columbine, Wild	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Red, Yellow/April
Cranesbill	<i>Geranium platypetalum</i>	Purple/April-June*
Daffodils	<i>Narcissus</i>	Yellow/March-April
Daisy, Gloriosa, Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Yellow/July-August
Daylily	<i>Hemerocallis</i>	Orange/July
Fothergilla	<i>Fothergilla</i>	White/May-June*
Hellebore	<i>Helleborus x species</i>	Multi/February-April*
Iris, German Bearded	<i>Iris germanica</i>	Lavender, Gold/April
Lamb's Ear, Woolly Betony	<i>Stachys lanтана</i>	Purple/June-July*
Meadow Saffron	<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>	Lavender/September
Oregano	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Pink/June-July
Plantain Lily	<i>Hosta</i>	
Purple Cone Flower	<i>Echinacea Rudbeckia purpurea</i>	Purple/July-October
Red-Hot Poker, Torch Flower	<i>Kniphofia uvaria 'Pfitzeri'</i>	Orange/May
Russian sage	<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>	Purple/July-October*
Sedum, Live-forever	<i>Sedum telephium 'Autumn Joy'</i>	Pink/August-September
Sedum	<i>Sedum 'Stonecrop'</i>	
Smooth witherod	<i>Viburnum nudum</i>	White/May-June*
Sundrops	<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i>	Yellow/May
Switch grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Red or pink/Fall*
Tickseed, Thread-leaved	<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	Yellow/June-August
Violets	<i>Viola odorata</i>	Purple/April-May
Wild Bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Pink/lavender - June*

* fall and/or winter interest