

Book Review for:

Xeriscape Colorado, The Complete Guide

By Connie Ellefson and David Winger

What is Xeriscape anyway? *Xeriscape* is a fancy word for creating a beautiful, restful outdoor environment without consuming thousands of gallons of water in the process. It's all about saving effort as well! *Xeriscape* is not "zeroscape," what some envision as gravel, cactus, and rock with a few dry logs thrown in. Some people prefer the exotic Southwest look, but Xeriscape is for those that want a lush and beautiful environment suited to the foothills and mountain valleys of Colorado, with explosions of color thrown in for good measure. Authors Ellefson and Winger say "If it's not beautiful, it's not Xeriscape!"

Xeriscape is a comprehensive way of looking at your yard from planning and design down to maintenance. Describing the seven basic principles of Xeriscape, Xeriscape Colorado walks the novice and the expert through the basics of design, soils analysis, decisions on practical turf areas, informed plant choice, irrigation, mulching, and maintenance. The book "shows" rather than "tells." It is an encouraging text, loaded with pictures, detailed descriptions, sample designs, side bar stories and wonderful and humorous one-liners that keep the reader engaged.

X is for Xeriscape! X-rated for plants needing a modicum of water, 1" of water every week up to XXX-rated for those only needing ½ inch every two weeks. Sex in the garden is fun too!

Xeriscape Colorado is written by two very experienced individuals that know their stuff and their way around the desert West.

The book can be purchased from Westcliffe Publishers, 1-800-523-3692, westcliffepublishers.com or by calling your local bookstore. A copy of the book can be seen at the Utility Department of the City of Grand Junction as well at the Community Development Department, both in the City of Grand Junction City Hall.