

DROUGHT TOLERANCE

Tower Perennial offers a wide range of trees, shrubs and perennials that are quite drought tolerant. Some of these, once established, require little or no water. You can attain a beautiful garden that uses much less water. First and foremost, reduce or eliminate the lawn. Second, install a sprinkler system including drip irrigation for containers. Sprinkler systems are designed for your property and run on reliable timers. This saves water as well as keeps the garden alive. Hand watering is very inefficient and wasteful by comparison. Third, get the big bang of color in containers using annuals and drip irrigation. Our freeze proof pottery is perfect for giving a yard pizzazz with minimal water use—pretty in winter, too. That's the 1-2-3 punch for reducing your water needs.



“Can I just plant things that don't need water into my existing beds and then not water?”

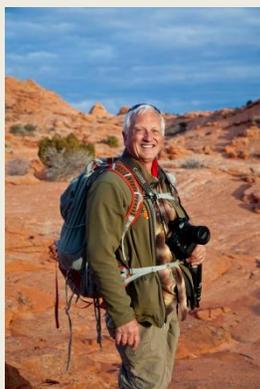
Sure, you can supplement your existing beds but you have to water enough to keep the thirstiest plants alive in that zone. In the long run, having designed beds that are fully drought tolerant is the best route to conserve resources and cash. And remember, all plants, even cacti, must be watered the first 2 or 3 seasons until well established or the amount you lose will be too great. Think about it. To have the same number of plants on earth each plant just has to produce one replacement in a lifetime. They may produce thousands of seeds and germinate hundreds of seedlings to get that one mature replacement. Mother Nature can afford that ratio. When you are buying plants, don't you prefer to have a higher percentage survive?

“Do I have to plant only Native plants to attain drought tolerance?”

For most of you, the plant that would be native for your location is the Ponderosa Pine with some scrub, or perhaps a mix of prairie of grasses that are not mowed. These solutions do not provide the outdoor living pleasure or practicality for a residential setting. However, we specialize in drought tolerant plants that are adapted to our climate. The high deserts of the Southwest and Rocky Mountains offer many gorgeous selections, as do other desert areas. By combining these with Inland Northwest native plants, you can have beauty and drought tolerance. We grow a fantastic assortment of these plants for your garden including colorful or dwarf selections of more common natives.

Take Action to Conserve

Follow the 1-2-3 Punch: Remove or Reduce the Lawn, Install Sprinklers, and Add Containers for color. Then ask your Tower sales person to show you drought tolerant selections or better yet, set an appointment for us to come and design or design and install your new drought tolerant garden. If we are going to be helping on site, call us at the very beginning before the other work starts. We can often save far more money than our service costs so long as we are involved from the beginning. If you want to set an appointment to design your garden for drought tolerance and beautiful color, just call Alan Tower at 509 710 9692 (WA residences only). We'll help you make your garden or we can take over and make it happen! Our web site, www.towerflower.com, gives all the details and a contract you can review for our landscape and design services.
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**WE EXPLORE THE WORLD TO FIND THE
FINEST ASSORTMENT OF PLANTS FOR YOU**

Alan in the Desert Southwest