# Xeriscaping Implementation Guide

This playbook provides step-by-step instructions for setting up a xeriscape, a type of landscaping designed to minimize water use. It is intended for landscapers and homeowners looking to create sustainable, low-water-use gardens.

### Step 1: Planning

Research local climate, soil types, and native plants. Determine the landscape area and design a layout with zones based on water needs, considering factors such as sunlight exposure, terrain, and existing vegetation.

### Step 2: Soil Preparation

Amend the soil to improve water retention and drainage. This typically involves adding organic material, such as compost, to the existing soil.

### Step 3: Plant Selection

Choose plants that are native or adapted to the local climate and can thrive with minimal watering. Prioritize species with similar water requirements when grouping them together.

### Step 4: Irrigation

Install a drip irrigation system or use soaker hoses to target water directly to the plant roots, minimizing waste. Only provide supplemental water as necessary.

### Step 5: Mulching

Apply a layer of mulch around plants to reduce water evaporation, keep the soil cool, and prevent weed growth.

### Step 6: Maintenance

Regularly check and maintain the landscape. This includes pruning, weeding, and monitoring the irrigation system to ensure it is functioning efficiently.

## General Notes

### Water Regulations

Check local water use regulations and restrictions that may influence xeriscaping plans and plant selection.

### Wildlife Attraction

Consider how the xeriscape can provide habitat and food for local wildlife, promoting biodiversity.