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## **Drought-tolerant Plants (2019)**

“Drought-tolerant,” as a category, can cover a range of ideas. On one hand, there are plants that have adapted to live on less water, and these thrive in situations in which the soil dries out thoroughly between deep-soaking rains (or hand-waterings, as the case may be). On the other hand, there are plants that, though they really only thrive and show their best with regular moisture, will *survive* periods of dryness, provided such periods are not of too great a duration. Choosing to grow more plants that truly have low water requirements is a proactive act of water conservation, as well as a reduction in the maintenance needed to have a pretty garden. Increasing the number of plants that can survive periods of drought, even though they might not flourish, can decrease the need (and expense) of replacing plants.

Even though a plant may be considered “drought-tolerant,” this really only applies if the plant is established (i.e., settled in its new home and sending out roots into the surrounding soil). Until then, watering is necessary unless there are regular rains and the ground stays moist. Usually, 4 to 6 weeks of hand-watering is enough to get most “drought-tolerant” plants set and going.

Achillea (Yarrow)  
Agastache (Anise Hyssop)  
Agave  
Allium (Ornamental Onion)  
Andropogon gerardii (Big Bluestem)  
Armeria (Thrift)  
Artemisia  
Asarum (Wild Ginger) – dry shade  
Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly Weed)  
Asparagus  
Baptisia (False Indigo)  
Bay Laurel  
Bignonia (Crossvine)  
Blackberry (Rubus)  
Bougainvillea  
Buddleja (Butterfly Bush)  
Calamagrostis (Feather Reed Grass)  
Calendula  
Campsis (Trumpet Creeper)  
Caryopteris (Bluebeard)  
Celosia (Cock's Comb)  
Centranthus (Jupiter's Beard)  
Clematis (some varieties)  
Coreopsis (some varieties)  
Cortaderia (Pampas Grass)  
Crape Myrtle (Lagerstroemia)  
Delosperma (Hardy Ice Plant)  
Dianthus (some varieties)  
Dusty Miller  
Echeveria

Echibeckia  
Echinacea (Coneflower)  
Eragrostis spectabilis (Purple Love Grass)  
Euonymus  
Euphorbia (Spurge)  
Festuca (Blue Fescue)  
Gaillardia (Blanket Flower)  
Gazania  
Gaura  
Gelsemium (Swamp Jasmine)  
Geranium (Pelargonium)  
Germander (Teucrium)  
Gomphrena  
Gypsophila (Baby's Breath)  
Hedera (English Ivy) – dry shade  
Heliopsis (False Sunflower)  
Helleborus – dry shade  
Hemerocallis (Daylily)  
Hosta – dry shade  
Hypericum calycinum  
Iris (Bearded)  
Jasminum (Winter Jasmine)  
Kniphofia (Red Hot Poker)  
Lagerstroemia (Crape Myrtle)  
Lantana  
Lavender  
Leonotis (Lion's Ear)  
Leucanthemum (Shasta Daisy)  
Liatris (Gayfeather)  
Liriope (Monkey Grass)  
Lonicera (Honeysuckle)

Loropetalum  
Mandevilla  
Mangave  
Marigold  
Marjoram, Sweet (Origanum maj. Compactum)  
Melampodium  
Mint (Mentha)  
Miscanthus  
Monardella macrantha  
Muhlenbergia (Pink Muhly Grass)  
Nandina  
Nasella (Mexican Feather Grass)  
Nepeta faassenii (Catmint)  
Oenothera (Evening Primrose)  
Ophiopogon (Mondo Grass)  
Opuntia (Spineless Prickly Pear)  
Oregano  
Orostachys (Chinese Dunce Cap)  
Othonna capensis  
Pachysandra – dry shade  
Panicum (Switch Grass)  
Parthenocissus (Boston Ivy)  
Passiflora (Passion Flower)  
Pennisetum (Fountain Grass)  
Penstemon (Beardtongue)  
Peonies (Paeonia)  
Perovskia (Russian Sage)  
Phlox (*Intensia Series*, an annual)  
Phlox subulata (Creeping Phlox)  
Platycodon (Balloon Flower)  
Polygonum (Silver Lace Vine)  
Polystichum (Christmas Fern)  
Portulaca (Purslane)  
Prunella grandiflora (Self-Heal)  
Raspberry (Rubus)  
Rosemary  
Roses  
Rubus (Creeping Raspberry)  
Rudbeckia  
Salvia (most kinds)  
Santolina  
Schizachyrium (Little Blue Stem)  
Sedum  
Sempervivum (Hen and Chicks)  
Solanum (Variegated Potato Vine)  
Solidago (Goldenrod)  
Sporobulus (Prairie Dropseed)  
Stachys (Lamb's Ear)  
Stokesia (Stokes' Aster)  
Strawberries (Fragaria)  
Thyme  
Tiarella (Foamflower)

Verbena  
Vinca (both annual & perennial)  
Weigela  
Wisteria  
Yucca  
Zinnia