

Tidbits from the Garden

PURPOSE OF THE GARDEN

- ⇒ Provides a living example of fire-safe landscaping with common plants available locally
- ⇒ Blooms from early May to fall
- ⇒ A database with information on each plant is maintained on our website
- ⇒ Plants are "fire wise" rated based on:
 - ◆ Drought-resistance
 - ◆ High moisture content
 - ◆ Latex or soap content—more is better
 - ◆ Low or no volatile oil
 - ◆ Height is important—shorter is better.
 - ◆ Deer resistance—many really are!



GARDEN COMPONENTS MAP



Please visit our website for more information!

WWW.TCFSWG.ORG.projects/firewise-demonstration-garden/

Consider becoming a **FRIEND OF THE FIRE WISE GARDEN**. We're looking for volunteers to help maintain the garden! If you are interested or would like a tour, email us at exdir@tcfswg.org

GARDEN COMPONENTS

Irrigated Trees and Shrubs

The garden hosts a variety of trees and shrubs.

- ⇒ Irrigate 1.5 hours weekly on slow drip system.
- ⇒ Some shrubs are fenced to protect them from deer as they aren't deer resistant
- ⇒ Trees were provided by a grant from the Mt Dept of Natural Resources.

Irrigated Bed with Landscape Fabric

- ⇒ Over 125 plants in this bed
- ⇒ Soaker hose under fabric-covered with gravel.
- ⇒ Irrigated 10 minutes twice a week.
- ⇒ Benefits of fabric and gravel:
 - ◆ control of where plants expand to;
 - ◆ moisture retention;
 - ◆ ease of weeding;
 - ◆ hoses are out of sight.

Irrigated Beds with No Fabric

- ⇒ Irrigated with a soaker hose once 10 minutes twice a week.
- ⇒ Mulched with gravel. Weeding is still easy in these beds,
- ⇒ Plants can spread as there is no fabric to limit their growth.
 - ◆ If the desire is to have plants closely spaced and growing together, this is a benefit
 - ◆ If that is not the desired outcome, plants that don't spread much should be used, or the bed will require maintenance to keep them where they are wanted
 - ◆ Hoses are visible in these beds.

Pavilion

- ⇒ Ignition Resistant Construction (IRC)
- ⇒ Made of steel beams and Trex siding
- ⇒ Metal roof

Lawn

- ⇒ Short fescue grass, low water low maintenance
- ⇒ Irrigated for 10 minutes twice a week.
- ⇒ White clover has volunteered and is happily growing throughout the lawn. An unintended outcome but could be good...
- ⇒ Mowed about every two weeks to create a manicured lawn look

Non-Irrigated Beds

- ⇒ Plants require no irrigation surviving solely on natural moisture
- ⇒ Deer like to eat the sedum (stonecrop) plants and pull the hen and chicks out
- ⇒ Ice plants they may not be hardy in our zone BUT plants that we left in the ground have survived our 30-below winter so maybe...so drought-resistant and attractive we plant them every year if necessary!

Crevice Gardens

- ⇒ Growing medium: 1/3 pea gravel; 1/3 sand; 1/3 compost or soil
- ⇒ Plant roots can grow deep between the rocks.
- ⇒ Middle bed has all native plants collected locally.
 - ◆ Native flowering plants tend to be small
 - ◆ Flowering season is short, allowing them to conserve energy
 - ◆ Half-shrubs in this bed happy- sage plants (Artemisia) are huge.
- ⇒ The beds on either side of this area feature a mix of native and cultivated succulent plants. Jury is still out on these beds; this year we will find the species that can live in this arid habitat.