

# Low Water Planting



Bearberry, kinnikinnick

Lower your water bill with  
beautiful low water plants!

**Environmental Services**  
403 887 2800



**Sylvan Lake**  
[sylvanlake.ca/lowwater](http://sylvanlake.ca/lowwater)

## Why save water?

Alberta is experiencing prolonged drought. We are in water shortage management stage 4 (out of 5), where multiple water management areas are impacted by water shortage. Alberta's government is monitoring conditions and working closely with water users and local governments to help manage and conserve water where possible ([www.alberta.ca/drought-what-government-is-doing](http://www.alberta.ca/drought-what-government-is-doing)).

### Wasting water increases costs for everyone's utility bill, not just the person wasting water

- » It costs a lot of money to obtain, treat, and deliver our water.
- » The more water we must treat each year, the more it costs to treat
- » Saving water means lower costs. Since the cost of everything is increasing, every little bit helps to keep bills down
- » It's also a good idea to conserve water because we don't know how full our wells will be
- » Our water comes from wells fed by mountain runoff from snow, rain, sleet and hail
- » Since we don't control precipitation, we have no control over how much water ends up in our wells



## Low-water Groundcovers

- ☐ Bearberry, kinnikinnick
- ☐ Creeping phlox      ☐ Potentilla
- ☐ Hens and chicks
- ☐ Pussytoes
- ☐ Lamb's Ear      ☐ Snow in summer
- ☐ Maiden Pinks      ☐ Yarrow
- ☐ Mother of thyme

## Lawn Alternatives

- ☐ Blue grama grass
- ☐ Blue fescue
- ☐ Phlox
- ☐ Woolly thyme
- ☐ Sheep fescue
- ☐ Clover



Phlox

## Perennials

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bergenia                           | artemisia                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blue Flax                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Stonecrop          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golden Margeurite                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tall Blue Lungwort |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Globe Thistle                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Woolly Speedwell   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Johnny-jump-up                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Alpine Aster       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lilac                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Bearded Iris       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poppies                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Black-eyed Susan   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purple Cone Flower: Echinacea spp. | <input type="checkbox"/> Bluebird Clematis  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salvia                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Hens and Chicks    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Showy Fleabane                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Iceland Poppy      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silver brocade                     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peony                              |   |

## Deciduous Trees

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amur maple: Acer ginnala           | <input type="checkbox"/> Manitoba maple: Acer negundo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aspen poplar: Populus tremuloides  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mayday: Prunus padus         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Balsam poplar: Populus balsamifera |   |

## Vines

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bittersweet: Celastrus scandens | <input type="checkbox"/> x brownii                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clematis: Clematis alpina       | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning glory: Ipomoea spp.      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honeysuckle vine: Lonicera      | <input type="checkbox"/> Purple peavine: Lathyrus venosus |

## Shrubs

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canadian Buffaloberry | <input type="checkbox"/> Pincherry          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cinquefoil            | <input type="checkbox"/> Saskatoon berry    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chokecherry           | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowberry          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golden Current        | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Sandcherry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honeysuckle           | <input type="checkbox"/> Prunus besseyi     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juniper               | <input type="checkbox"/> Wild rose          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lilac                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wolf willows       |

## Native Grasses

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awned Wheatgrass | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Reed Grass |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Big Bluestem     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blue Grama       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canada Wild Rye  |  |

# YOU are the U in Utility and Sustainability

Since the town can't grow more water,  
it is up to you to use water carefully.



Echinacea

## Water is a limited resource

- » Water is limited, even though it seems unlimited because our taps never stop flowing
- » Many communities in Alberta are facing real water shortages
- » We can't make more water, but our population is growing quickly

## How do we make sure that we have enough water for years to come? By not wasting water!

- » Find and fix water leaks
- » Conserve water. Get tips here: [sylvanlake.ca/conservewater](http://sylvanlake.ca/conservewater)
- » Follow water conservation April 1 - Oct 31

## Sustainable water supply

Sustainability is often defined as: "development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs" (The Brundtland Report, 1987).

Together, let's make sure future Lakers have the same opportunity to enjoy this great community as we do today. That means working to protect and conserve our water supply for future generations.