

Broomfield Xeriscape Demonstration Garden

Whimsical Garden

Xeric Level: 

Irrigation: Water is provided to the plants via microjets.

Mulch: Both gravel and organic mulch are used in this garden.

Featured Plants:

Berberis (formerly *Mahonia*) *reptens* – Oregon Grape Holly: This tough evergreen shrub has holly-shaped leaves. In the spring it is covered with clusters of yellow flowers. In the late summer blue fruit are formed.

Buddleia alternifolia 'Argentea' – Silver Fountain Butterfly Bush: The taproot on this plant makes it very drought-resistant. It produces lavender flowers in the spring. It has a natural weeping habit which is attractive whether trained as a small tree or left as a large shrub. Maintenance includes removing suckers and shaping but the plant should not be cut back to the ground in the spring as recommended for *Buddleia davidii* butterfly bushes.

Delosperma – Ice Plants: Native to South Africa, these succulents blanket large areas with colorful flowers during the summer. They can experience some dieback during harsh winters. There are many colors now available of these Plant Select® xeric staples.

Kniphofia caulescens – Hot Poker or Torch Lily: The strappy leaves of this South African native can create a large clump in the garden. In late summer flower stalks topped with bright orange and yellow “torches” of flowers shoot up above the foliage. After blooming remove the flower stalks. In the spring pull or cut off the dead brown leaves.