

Walking Away from Natives and Crevices

Unirrigated, native, and crevice gardens all promise incredibly low care, but there are specific methods to keep this true and avoid backfire. Learn how to leverage special techniques to fool the landscape and plants into letting you walk away with great results.

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Why is this useful?

-Impossible to maintain distant (APEX crevice garden in Arvada, CO) or many gardens

-Conserving water/labor -Growing cool plants

Inspirations: local nature, rentals & frat houses, empty lots.

Learning from failures in trying this new style, But so worth it.

How to do it: Planning side

Goal: success, efficiency, minimum long term input. (KAFM 88.1 Native Garden, Grand Junct.)

-Analyze existing well, recognize resources, defaults. Balance resources/plants

-Obliterate weeds if you love yourself.

-Cling to the goal, not the plants. Irrigation, plant, rock, hardscape choices.

-Design for lazy maintenance (Knowingly use forbs/grasses...) Structure plants

-Heavy planting, temporary planting, -Sand/soil layer -Mulch thick. Which?

-Gravel around opuntia

How to do it: Planting:

The Gospel of Bareroot planting method: -Active roots, bare-root, soak in, shade.

Watering -By hand or temporary system, Weekly/Fortnightly for 1 year

-Nearby trees suck -Seasonal timing considerations

How to do it: Guiding/ Maintenance (The most neglected thing)

Outta be low if you did it right, eh? -Cleanup, leaves, re-mulching

-Note weeds before killing them, replace them w/mulch, more plants

-Editing- good/bad plant choices -Surprises: grass allelopathy, newsprint v. bindweed

-Repeat what worked on site -Train woodies

-Enjoy as it fades off. -The paradox of success- easy to miss tiny problems and pleasures