Drought Tolerant Plant Care

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Tips before you start:

-Plan for the plants to grow to their natural size (don't overcrowd). Drought tolerant plants are best without a lot of pruning.

-Combine same water use plants in the same areas. Don't mix high water use plants in among your drought tolerants.

-Fall is a great time to plant your drought tolerants, unless they are frost tender.

-For drought tolerant plants, your planting hole should be 3 times the width of the rootball. Depth should be the same as the rootball, or slightly shallower. Be sure to make a ridge of soil to hold water around the plant.

-Good drainage is very important. You may need to add gypsum if clay is present, and use 25% amendment, 75% your native soil around the plant. We recommend our Bumper Crop Soil Builder to amend around drought tolerant plants.

-Remember that the plants are only drought tolerant once they get established, which can take several months. At the beginning you will need to water them regularly, 2-3 times per week depending on weather and soil type. Even if you have a drip system set up, it's a good idea to water by hand at first at least once per week, so the plants are getting water all the way around the base.

-Once your plants are established you can soak them once or twice per week in the warmer seasons, and much less during winter. Many drought tolerant plants will thrive on drip systems, which should be run for 30-40 minutes at a time.