



Pinon Ranch HOA

Xeriscaping Guidelines

The goal of these guidelines is to preserve and enhance the character of the neighborhood while allowing property owners the freedom and flexibility to install creative, beautiful xeriscape gardens. Xeriscapes reduce water usage, tolerate drought conditions, and support pollinators and other wildlife. These guidelines were developed to allow for a range of budgets and personal tastes. All landscape changes must be submitted to the Board for prior approval before hiring contractors and beginning construction. As with all applications that require architectural review, the Board will evaluate the proposal according to the spirit and intent of the Covenants and Bylaws.

- Visual interest in the xeriscaped yard is a high priority. Some combination (not necessarily all) of the following design techniques should be utilized to create visual interest: color, texture, variety of plants and materials, elevation differentials, line movement, and statement pieces or focal points.
- 100% rockscapes and 100% mulchscapes are not permitted.
- Gravel is best used as a contrasting accent feature such as walkways, simulated river beds, and dividing lines. We suggest a maximum width of 6 feet for any gravel feature. When using rock in a widespread manner, consider dividing the area into sections, each with a different size/color/texture.
- Consider one or more boulders or larger rock accent features.
- Rock and gravel must be installed on top of a weed barrier or landscape cloth.
- We encourage the use of high-quality mulch, such as gorilla hair. Mulch should be installed properly so as to be an effective weed barrier.
- Mulch beds must contain plantings. Plantings are optional in gravel beds.
- A typical xeriscaped front yard in this neighborhood should have a minimum of 6 smaller plants AND 3 medium or larger plants. Ornamental and other small to medium size trees are strongly encouraged.