

# Broomfield Xeriscape Demonstration Garden

## Sensory Garden

Xeric Level: 

**Irrigation:** Popup heads provide the irrigation in this garden.

**Mulch:** The mulch used in this garden is from the City and County of Broomfield's tree recycling program. It is applied to a depth of about 2 inches to curtail weed growth and reduce moisture evaporation. No weed fabric has been used under the mulch in order to promote the spread of the plants and to allow the soil to be amended as the mulch breaks down.

### Featured Plants:

*Syringa vulgaris* – Common Lilac: A wonderful fragrance and the smooth, glossy texture of leaves are important elements in a sensory garden. The common lilac has both, and it only needs to sip water.

*Lavendula angustifolia* – English Lavender: Both flowers and foliage provide fragrance to the garden. This plant is perfect for our dry climate. Prune in spring as new leaves start to appear to remove any winter dieback and to shape the plant.

*Berlandiera lyrata* – Chocolate Flower: Yes, the yellow, daisy-like flowers do really smell like chocolate, especially in the morning as they open! Once established, this Plant Select® perennial requires minimal water.

*Salvia argentea* – Silver Sage: The large fuzzy leaves of this Plant Select® perennial almost begs to be touched. With flower stalks reaching topping out at 2-3 feet the silver sage can be quite a dramatic accent. Be sure to deadhead the flowers to prevent reseeding.

*Salvia darcyi* 'Vermilion Bluffs' – Vermilion Bluffs Mexican Sage: This selection of Mexican sage is unusually cold hardy and a showpiece in the garden. Featuring vibrant red spikes of flowers that are loved by hummingbirds, this plant can reach a height of three feet or more. It benefits from being planted in a protected site and extra mulch over the crown of the plant during winter.