

## **Spring Gardening...For Beauty and Water Conservation**

*By Liz Fikejs from the Saving Water Partnership*

### ***Choose the best plants for your garden***

When you visit nurseries this spring, plan ahead for water conservation and make your plant budget go further. When you select plants based on how they match the sun or shade in your garden, they'll flourish naturally without excessive water or chemicals. This spring, the Saving Water Partnership will have signs at Molbak's, Swansons Nursery and Sky Nursery encouraging you to look at plant labels and match the right plant with the right place. Pick up our factsheets in the displays and ask for nursery staff's expert advice.

### ***Prepare now for summer's dry weather***

Whether new plants are part of your plan or not, layer 2-3" of compost, leaves or arborist woodchips on your soil before summer arrives. Your soil will stay moist longer, which means you'll spend less time and money on watering. Plus, you'll likely have fewer weeds and they'll be easier to pull out.

### ***Attend free classes and sign up for Savvy Gardener***

Learn more by attending our free April class. No pre-registration is necessary.

#### **Native Plants: Combining Beauty with Water Conservation** *by Peggy Campbell*

- **Saturday, April 3 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**  
Molbak's at 13625 NE 175th St, Woodinville (425) 483-5000
- **Saturday, April 10 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**  
Swansons Nursery at 9701 15th Ave NW, Seattle (206) 782-2543
- **Saturday, April 17 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**  
Sky Nursery at 18528 Aurora Ave N, Shoreline (206) 546-4851

Peggy will share her favorite native plants that add color and texture, thrive in NW gardens and attract wildlife. Discover how proper soil preparation, mulching, and watering will help your plants grow, save water, and reduce summer maintenance.

Sign up for our free *Savvy Gardener* newsletter at: [www.savingwater.org/outside.htm](http://www.savingwater.org/outside.htm). You'll enjoy seasonal tips, expert advice, advance notice of classes and much more every spring, summer and fall.