



Winchester Administrator Diane Bush works in the xeriscape garden with Friend Monte Fletcher.

How it began

The Friends of Winchester, a neighborhood volunteer group, set out to revitalize their community park in June of 1999. With help from local government and Southern Nevada Water Authority landscape rebates, the Friends of Winchester converted water-thirsty grass into a lush yet water-efficient landscape. In 2004 the Friends appealed to the Nevada Division of Forestry, which awarded them an Urban and Community Forest Grant. The grant provided funds for trees and woody shrubs to diversify the plant community of the park and to develop an education plan for teaching the neighborhood about Winchester Garden, tree care, successful home landscaping and related conservation issues.

Pancake Prickly Pear



PHOTO © BOB GARD, 2005



Sagebrush Checkerspot



Bridge in the peaceful desert garden



Jenny Care, Friends Chairman

Things to do in the garden/urban forest

ENJOY THE SURROUNDINGS

This is a great place to walk and commune with nature. Relax and visit—peaceful, shady benches look on the garden and its bird population. Watch for colorful butterflies and hardworking bees.

TEACH WITH THE GARDEN It is a primary resource for xeriscape information and for maintaining our urban forest.

EXPRESS YOURSELF Take photographs, sketch, paint, sculpt, and write. The Garden inspires artists of all ages and talents.

VOLUNTEER Get your hands dirty at the Friends of Winchester Gardening Days. Learn skills and help to maintain the garden at the same time. If you would like to volunteer, please call Friends Chairman Jenny Care, 456-0714 or Buffy Kilarski, 457-2422.

Seven principles of xeriscape

- 1 Sound planning and design
- 2 Limited turf islands
- 3 Low-water plants
- 4 Efficient irrigation system
- 5 Organic soil improvements
- 6 Surface mulches
- 7 Proper maintenance

Use them to gather ideas for your own landscape.

Rick Watson teaches tree planting.

Newly xeriscaped section of the park

Community volunteers pitch in.



Garden as community resource

- Regional demonstration site of the Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Nevada Division of Forestry.
- Setting for studying and enjoying the plant diversity which has redefined the community, including drought tolerant trees, shrubs and ornamentals whose showy foliage attracts birds, moths, bees and butterflies to the neighborhood.
- Outdoor classroom for conservation agencies, garden groups, scouts, school children, teachers and home-schooling parents. Stop in the office and pick up a field trip tote bag with study materials and equipment for observation and hands on activities in the garden. Classroom kits on loan include children's books on desert plants, insects and animals found in the Winchester Garden.
- Partner for community service projects. Learn more about volunteer opportunities by calling the Friends of Winchester at 455-7340.

Winchester grant book list



Butterflies and Moths by John Feltwell

Cactus Poems by Frank Asch and Ted Levin

Cactus Hotel by Brenda Bulbrson and Megan Lloyd

Dandelions by Kathleen Kudlinski and Jerome Wexler

Desert Discoveries by Ginger Wadsworth and John Carozza

The Desert is My mother (El Desierto Es Mi Madre) by Pat Mora and Daniel Lechon

The Desert is Theirs by Bird Baylor and Peter Parnall

Desert Voices by Byrd Baylor and Peter Parnall

Earthworms by Kevin Holmes and Mark Wetzel

Earthworms by Elaine Pascoe, Nicole Bowman, and Dwight Kuhn

Erosion by Charlie Winner and Cherie Winner

Fairy Dusters and Blazing Stars: Exploring Wildflowers with Children by Suzanne M. Samson and Illustrated by Preston Neel

The Gardener by Sarah Steward with Pictures by David Small

One Green Mesquite Tree by Gisela Jernigan

From Seed to Plant by Gail Gibbons

Seeds and Seedlings by Elaine Pascoe, Nicole Bowman, and Dwight Kuhn

Tree (Eyewitness Books Series) by David Burnie

Sagebrush Checkerspots

Juniper Hairstreak

Desert Marble



PHOTOS © BOB GARD, 2005

Desert gardening resources

Nevada Division of Forestry Southern Regional Headquarters, 4747 West Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89108 (702) 486-5123. NDF is charged with improving our city and community environments by increasing tree planting and improving care and maintenance of existing trees. NDF promotes public awareness about the important role trees and shrubs play in the quality of life for all Nevadans.

Desert Demonstration Gardens, Las Vegas Valley Water District, 3701 W. Alta Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89153 (702) 258-3205. More than 1,000 species of plants on display. Adult education classes offered on xeriscape design, construction and maintenance. For more information visit the Gardens' calendar of events at lvspgardens.org

Acacia Demonstration Gardens, Acacia Park, 50 Casa Del Fuego, Henderson, Nevada. A wealth of drought-tolerant landscaping examples. Offers workshops on Mojave Desert landscaping and gardening. Visit <http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/php/DemoGardens.php>

Ethel M Botanical Cactus Garden, 2 Cactus Garden Drive, Henderson, Nevada 89015, (702) 435-2655. Over 300 plant species live on the Cactus Garden's four acres of drought-tolerant ornamentals, cacti, and other succulents.

Las Vegas Arboretum, 4505 Maryland Parkway, PO Box 451013, Las Vegas, NV (702) 895-3392. The Arboretum is essentially the landscaped portion of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus. It includes 80 acres of trees, shrubs and turf as well as a two-acre xeric garden.

Regional demonstration gardens

Palo Verde High School, 333 Pavilion Center Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89144

Estes McDoniel Elementary School, 1831 Fox Ridge Drive, Henderson, NV 89014 (702) 799-7788

North Las Vegas City Hall Complex, Constitution Way and Civic Center Drive, NLV, Nevada 89030

Grant Sawyer State Office Bldg., 555 E. Washington Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89101

Community College of Southern Nevada

Henderson Campus, 700 S. College Drive, Henderson, NV 89015

West Charleston Campus, 6375 West Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV

Winchester Garden/Urban Forest, 3130 S. McLeod, Las Vegas, NV 889121

Plants of the desert garden/urban forest

Globe Mallow

TREES

Acacia, Black-brush
Acacia, Cat's Claw
Acacia, Gray Thorn
Acacia, Shoestring
Acacia, Sweet
Acacia, Twisted
Ash, Raywood
Bottle Tree
Chaste Tree
Chitalpa
Desert Willow
Eucalyptus
Flame Summac
Hackberry, Western
Locust, Sunburst
Jojoba
Joshua Tree
Lacebark Elm
Little Leaf Cordia
Little Leaf Ash
Mescal Bean
Mesquite, Chilean
Mesquite, Screwbean
Mesquite, Texas Honey
Mesquite, Velvet
Palo Verde, Blue
Palo Verde, Desert Museum
Palo Verde, Mexican
Palo Verde, Xhybrid
Pine, Aleppo
Flame Sumac
Texas Ebony
Zelkova, Japanese (Saw-leaf)

SHRUBS

Apache Plume
Arizona Rosewood
Bird of Paradise-Red
Bird of Paradise-Yellow
Blue Potato Bush
Brittle Bush
Buckwheat, Flat-Top
Calliandra, Fairy duster
Calliandra, Baja Fairy Duster
Centennial Coyote Bush
Cassia, Feathery
Cassia, Silver Leaf

Lemon Bottle Brush

Creosote Bush
Dalea, Pink Indigo Bush
Desert Fern
Desert Spoon
Dwarf Myrtle
Four-Wing Salt Bush
Green Santolina
Golden Eye
Gopher Plant
Lantana, New Gold
Lavendar
Lemon Bottlebrush
Mexican Honeysuckle
Mormon Tea
Ocotillo
Purple Mexican Sage
Quail Bush
Red Yucca
Rosemary, Tuscan Blue
Ruellia Brittoniana
Russian Sage
Salvia Chamaedryoides
Salvia Clevelandii
Salvia Dorii-Purple Desert Sage
Salvia Greggii-Autumn Sage-Red
Salvia Greggii-Autumn Sage-Salmon
Senna, Cassia-Wislinzenii
Sugar Bush
Tecoma Stans, Gold Star
Tecoma Stans, Yellow Bells
Tecoma Capensis, Cape
Honeysuckle
Texas Ranger, Green Cloud
Texas Ranger, Silver Cloud
Valentine Bush
Wooly Butterfly Bush

SUCCULENTS

African Aloe
Aloe Vera
Banana Yucca
Blue Yucca
Dark Green Agave
Mojave Yucca
Octopus Agave
Red Yucca
Tree Aloe

Dalea, Sierra Gold

CACTUS

Diamond Cholla
Pancake Prickly Pear

GRASSES

Blue Grama Grass
Blue Fescue
Bull Grass
Deer Grass
Mexican Feather Grass
Pampas Grass
Purple Threeawn
Regal Mist

PERENNIALS

African Bush Aster
Angelita Daisy, Perky Sue
Artemisia, Angel's Hair
Artemisia, Silver king
Bear Grass
Blackfoot Daisy
Coreopsis Grandiflora
Desert Milkweed
Desert Zinnia
Gaura
Gaura, Siskiyou Pink
Gazania, Yellow Trailing
Globe Mallow
Marigold, Desert
Marigold, Mount Lemon
Mexican Evening Primrose
Parry's Penstemon
Tree Bear Grass
Vinca, Dwarf Periwinkle
Wall Flower
Zephyranthes (yellow, white, pink varieties)

GROUND COVER

Dalea, Sierra Gold
Prostrate Myoporum
Prostrate Acacia
Trailing Indigo Bush

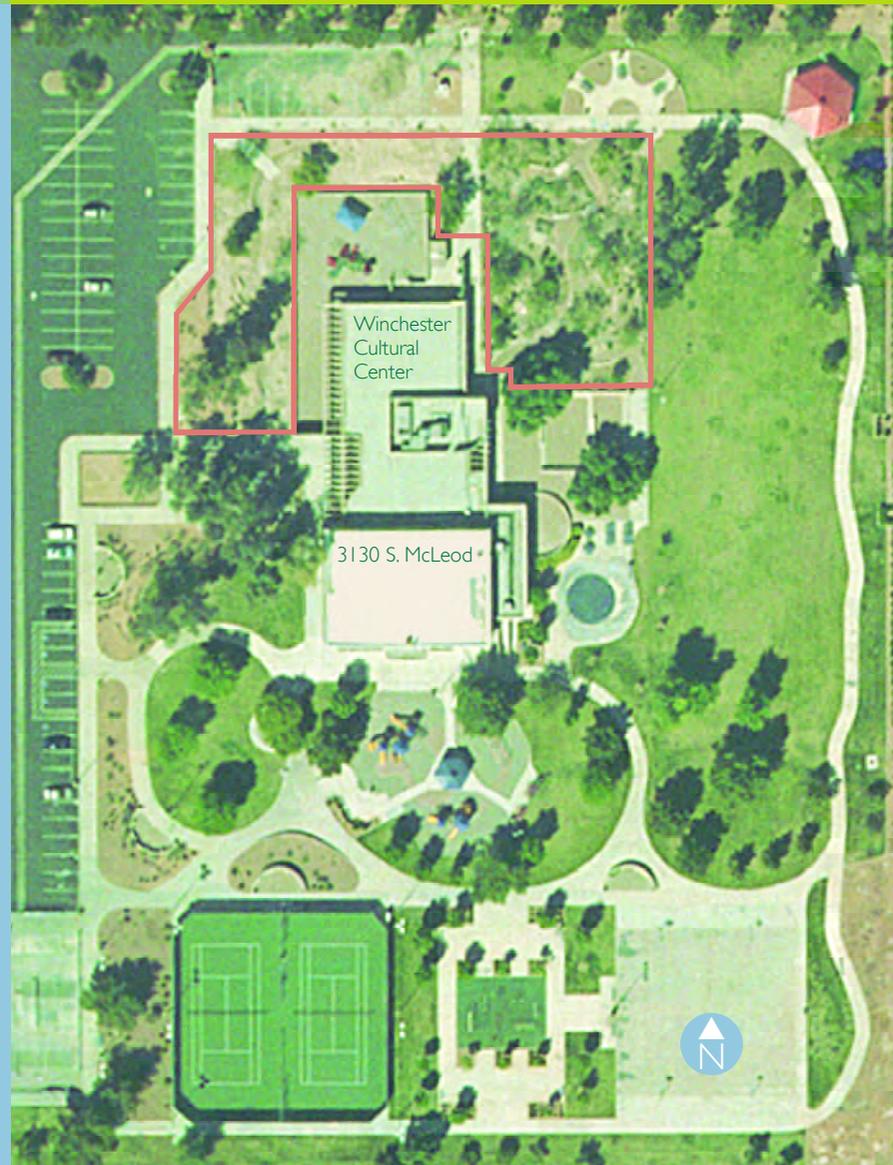
VINES

Creeping Fig
Cat Claw

Angelita Daisy



Visit the Winchester Center xeriscape



Find Your Way

The red outline on this aerial view of Winchester Cultural Center shows where more than an acre of the 10-acre park has been converted from water-greedy turf to a water-efficient and drought-resistant desert garden/urban forest. Use the brochure's plant list and the garden's labels to identify plants. If you see the garden in winter and are curious about foliage and blooms, visit the Desert Demonstration Garden web site at lvspgardens.org.

Winchester Cultural Center

Desert garden and urban forest

A cooperative venture supported and funded by the Friends of Winchester, Clark County Department of Parks and Recreation, the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF), University of Nevada, Las Vegas Cooperative Extension

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Myrna Williams, Commissioner, District E
Clark County Department of Parks and Recreation
The Southern Nevada Water Authority
The University of Nevada, Reno Cooperative Extension
Nevada Division of Forestry
Clark County Department of Neighborhood and Town Services
Barrick Goldstrike Mining
Chaparral High School Honor Society
George E. Harris Elementary School
William Beckley Elementary School
Clark County Juvenile Services
Cambridge Community Center
Clark County Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Brownies
Community Volunteers

SPECIAL THANKS

SNWA Dave Hunt, Gail Mueller, Roy Thomas, Jim White, Mark Rex, Andrea Baker, Clayton Newberry, Patrick Watson, Rick Watson
Master Gardeners Mel Hengen, Richard Leifried, Mary Laughton, Ann Edmunds, Richard Cutbirth
University of Nevada-Las Vegas Cooperative Extension
Angela O'Callaghan, Aggie Roberts
Clark County Parks Larry Oswald, Director of Grounds
Clark County Neighborhood and Town Services Russell Davis

PHOTOGRAPHY



Sagebrush Checkerspot © Bob Gard, 2005

Cover photo: Euphorbia Rigida (gopher plant). Thank you to Diane Bush and Debbie Hataburda (plant photos), Rick Watson (garden work photos) and a Harris Elementary School teacher (educational tree planting photos). The butterflies of the Mojave are printed here with the permission of photographer Bob Gard, who holds the copyright (see more at <http://members.aol.com/gardb/Mojave>).

Winchester Park and Community Center

Clark County Parks and Recreation
3130 S. McLeod Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 455-7340



Funding for this project provided by Clark County Parks and Recreation, in cooperation with The Friends of Winchester, The Nevada Division of Forestry, Urban and Community Forest Program, and The Southern Nevada Water Authority. Clark County is an equal opportunity service provider. (MARCH 2006)

xeriscape



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