

Home and Garden Show 2009



The Oldman Watershed Council's Urban Team once again participated in the Lethbridge Home and Garden Show March 25 – 28, 2009. The Prairie Urban Garden (PUG) sub-committee of the Urban Team set up a booth this year with the theme being 'Good Gardening Practices', focusing primarily on Xeriscaping™. Xeriscaping refers to reducing the

amount of water and maintenance your yard or garden requires by planting drought-resistant species and following certain principles in designing your yard that are practical and environmentally friendly. A garden designed to be drought resistant can, once plants are established, do very well and even thrive in periods of drought. As we live in a semi-arid environment in Lethbridge, xeriscaping just makes sense both environmentally and economically!

This year's display featured information on:

- The Prairie Urban Garden (PUG) project
- Xeriscaping
- Vermicomposting & regular composting
- Alternatives to pesticides & herbicides
- And, a chance to win many prizes, including:
 - * 1 of 2 rain barrels
 - * A Vermicomposting kit
 - * A regular outdoor composter
 - * Autographed copy of "Native Plants for Prairie Gardens" by June Flanagan
 - * And for the kids, a giant jar of gummy worms!!!



We spoke with a steady stream of people interested in the practice of xeriscaping and who wanted information on how to transform their yard using xeriscaping. We also had lots of interest in composting!

Over 20 volunteers manned the booth this year, many from the Southern Alberta Group for the Environment (SAGE), as well as the OWC's Urban Team. A big thank you for all your hard work - we couldn't have done it without you!!

Photos by: Cheryl Bradley

