



### Maintenance Plan for 3904 Beach Avenue Peachland:

#### 1. Irrigation

- a. The site has been provided with a zone of drip irrigation on an electric clock. Run time has been set to 30min, 2x per week while the plants are establishing in the remainder of fall.
- b. Spring 2017: 30 min, 2x per week. Summer 2017: 40 min, 3x per week. Fall 2017: 30 min, 2x per week.
- c. By 2018 plants will be established and can have run times reduced by 50%.
- d. These run times are guidelines and may vary depending on the weather. Monitor plants regularly to ensure they are receiving proper irrigation and make adjustments accordingly. Soil should be nearly dry to a 1-cm depth just prior to irrigation running.

#### 2. Rock Mulch Maintenance

- a. Pea gravel and crusher chip areas to be blown out with a leaf blower in the fall **before snow**. Doing so keeps the pea gravel areas tidy. On the crusher chip fabric areas, blowing off plant debris prevents the dropped plant matter from turning into soil, thereby preventing weed growth by avoiding accumulation of a growing substrate.

#### 3. Meadow Maintenance

- a. Allowing the seed heads of flowers and grasses to remain over the winter will promote the spread and filling in of the meadow. The seeds overwinter on the plant, and drop naturally to form new plants. The plant material in the meadow should be weed-whacked to a height of 3” in early spring once new growth begins to show.
- b. The cut debris needn’t be fully removed: it will break down and become part of the mulch cover thereby increasing the health and drought tolerance of the meadow.
- c. Alternatively, by year 3, once the meadow has filled in, it can be weed-whacked to 3” height *before* snow fall for a tidier winter habit.
- d. Optional: In fall 2017, spring bulbs can be planted in drifts of 5, 7, and 9 throughout the meadow. Crocus, Daffodil and Grape Hyacinth are good species that will naturalize (spread) over time.

#### 4. Plant Notes/Maintenance – Shrubs and Trees

- a. The Double Flowering Plum allee is spaced to provide an overlapping canopy. No pruning is required; allow the trees to take natural rounded form.
- b. All shrubs have been given room to grow to mature size. No pruning is required for any shrubs except for the Black Lace Elderberry, which can be cut back in the early spring to promote growth of desired shape and a wider (rather than leggy) growth pattern; it is forgiving to being cut back hard and will readily grow back.
- c. Snowbelle Mock Orange can have branches gently shaken to clear spent browning blooms. Allow bloom debris to become part of the organic mulch cover.

#### 5. Plant Notes/Maintenance – Ornamental Grasses

- a. The ornamental grasses can be cut back to 4” in early spring before new growth begins. They provide winter interest. After a wet heavy snowfall, shake the stems of the taller grasses to relieve the weight of the snow. This will help to maintain upright structure until spring.

#### 6. Plant Notes/Maintenance – Perennials

- a. After first frost, Sedum Matrona, Geranium Rozanne, Red Bee Balm, Japanese Anemone and Serbian Bellflower can be cut to ground and debris removed to yard waste bin. Avoid dropping of plant material in pea gravel areas to maintain the tidiness of the pea gravel.
- b. Coneflower and Black Eyed Susan can be left over winter for structural interest and food for small birds. They can be cut to ground in early spring before new growth begins to emerge. Some plant material dropping is ok and easily camouflaged in the organic mulch areas.
- c. Russian Sage should be cut back to ground in late fall to prevent spread by seeds.
- d. Allow Windflower to naturalize (spread). It requires no maintenance and provides early spring bloom color.

#### 7. Organic and Pea Gravel Mulch Maintenance

- a. Every 2 years, add 1” coarse black organic mulch like Glengro regular, which can be purchased at the landfill. This will amount to about 1.5 yards of material required.
- b. In year 3, the pea gravel may need to be topped up (about 1 yard) if it has sunk into the soil.