moisture to infiltrate, and also to keep seed warm to facilitate germination. In time, the blankets break down to seed warm to facilitate germination.

Synthetic geotextiles come in a number of materials though they generally serve the same purpose as natural. American Enka’s Enkamat, actually considered a geomatrix rather than a geotextile, is constructed of nylon monofilaments fused into a three dimensional form which leaves 90 percent of its area open. This area can be filled in with soil, gravel, etc. This stabilizes the soil, allowing seed to germinate. When the turf is established, the material continues to stabilize the soil substrate.

Geotextiles like the polyesters from Warren's and polypropylene Typar from Du Pont control erosion and also prevent weeds from growing. They can be used on flat areas as well as slopes such as river and lake banks, road and rail cuts, etc.

In the end, though, there is only one way to stop erosion, and that is to treat different parcels of land according to the individual needs and capabilities.

—Jeff Sobul

Local xeriscaping councils

A number of councils exist as part of the National Xeriscape Program Network. The following is a list by state and city with a contact included.

*indicates the program has a xeriscape demonstration garden.

National Xeriscape Council, Inc., c/o Highlends True Value Hardware & Nursery, 8800 S. Holly, Littleton, CO 80122, (303) 777-9822. Contact: Jim Grabow, president. NXCI.

ARIZONA


CALIFORNIA

Contra Costa, Contra Costa Water District, Concord, (415) 674-8000. Contact: Debora Maxon.

Fresno, Water Division, (209) 486-1408. Contact: Dave Todd.


San Diego*, San Diego County Water Authority, Cuyamaca College Office of Public Information, (619) 297-3218. Contact: Pete Rios.

COLORADO
Arvada*, Parks Department/Utilities Division, (303) 441-3270. Contact: Peter Pollock, Ron Donahue or Stan Zemler.

Boulder, Planning Department, (303) 441-3270. Contact: Peter Pollock, Ron Donahue or Stan Zemler.

Denver*, Denver Water Department, (303) 628-8329. Contact: Ken Ball.

Ft. Collins*, Water Utilities Department, (303) 221-6681. Contact: Molly Nortier.


Crawley, Ext. Svc., Weld County, (303) 356-4000 x.4406. Contact: Donna Liess.

Lakewood, Parks & Recreation, (303) 987-7800. Contact: Bill Jewell.

Longmont*, Municipal Utilities, (303) 776-6050. Contact: Kathy Faatz.


FLORIDA

NEVADA

San Diego, San Diego County Water Authority, Cuyamaca College Office of Public Information, (619) 297-3218. Contact: Pete Rios.

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