



If you had a plant die and you're not sure why, here are some of the most common causes and prevention methods...

**1. Water** - in the heat of summer, a missed water is the most likely reason a plant died. Even the most drought-tolerant plants need daily water through the first few summers until they are established. All potted plants need daily water in summer because most of the water runs out the bottom of the pot. *Avoid missing a day of water by installing a drip system with an automatic timer.*

**2. Gophers or deer** - gophers eat roots from below ground, deer eat foliage and/or damage bark by rutting in the fall. *Prevent this by planting with gopher baskets, choosing deer-resistant plants, and caging young plants during rutting season (September-December)*

**3. Poor soil** - if soil is heavy clay, water cannot drain and plants will drown. *Before planting, test your soil for drainage (water should be gone within a few hours) and amend soil if needed.*

**4. Temperature** - annual plants will die after a season or two, and perennials that are not cold hardy enough will die in winter. *Choose plants that can withstand temperatures of your area.*

**5. Disease** - insects or fungus can cause damage to plants over time. *Spray with insecticide or fungicide as soon as you notice a problem*