

Design-less Gardening: A Naturalistic Approach



Golden Rule

- Right plant, right place
- Find the balance between low maintenance and desired aesthetics

Fill every Niche

- The “no dirt” rule
- Mimic mother nature but make it your own
- Recognize your habitat and then choose your plants

Natural design elements

- Repetition of patterns, colors, and shapes
- Natural shapes
- Working with layers
- Blur the lines
- Natural materials
- Be skeptical of symmetry

Sun-loving plants

- *Asclepias incarnata*, rose milkweed
- *Asclepias tuberosa*, butterfly milkweed
- *Carex pensylvanica*, Pennsylvania sedge
- *Fragaria virginiana*, wild strawberry
- *Houstonia caerulea*, bluets

- *Monarda punctata*, spotted bee balm
- *Schizachyrium scoparium*, little bluestem
- *Solidago puberula*, downy goldenrod
- *Symphotrichum laeve*, smooth aster
- *Symphotrichum novae-angliae*, New England aster

Shady Species

- *Actaea racemosa*, black cohosh
- *Chrysogonum virginianum*, green and gold
- *Maianthemum racemosum*, Solomon's plume
- *Phegopteris connectilis*, long beech fern
- *Phlox divaricata*, woodland phlox
- *Symphotrichum cordifolium*, blue wood aster
- *Tiarella cordifolia*, foam flower
- *Vaccinium angustifolium*, low-bush blueberry

Plants tolerant of wet feet

- *Lindera benzoin*, spicebush
- *Matteuccia struthiopteris*, fiddlehead fern
- *Vaccinium corymbosum*, high-bush blueberry

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