



Gardening with Native Perennials

Planting the Right Plants in the Right
Places

Ellen T. Folts – Amanda's Garden

Why native Plants?



Imagine if you will what our area looked like before European settlers arrived. Wild plant and animal communities interacting with each other. Plants providing food for animals. Animals pollination plants and moving seeds around. A happy cohabitation that we can create again in our gardens. Planting the plants that matter to Butterflies, bees, birds and other animals.

Matching Plants to the Gardens We Have



In order to have success with our garden and landscape planting we need match the plants to the soil, light and area we have. There are great plants for every situation and with creative placement we can achieve astounding gardens that not only are beautiful in their own right but provide habitat.

Choosing Plant Material

- Light
- Soil Moisture
- Soil fertility
- Exposure
- Micro Climates
- Color
- Availability



Use a pallet of plants that can survive similar conditions and similar stresses. Plants that grow together in the wild or in similar situations. Doing this we can match the plants to the site.

Embrace the Area You Have

- Choose plants that will thrive
- Add essential layers
- Cover the soil
- Plant densely
- Plant for all seasons
- Provide texture, structure, fillers and groundcovers, Dynamic fillers and time.

Connecting people to their surroundings



WOODLAND GARDENS

- Plants need a source of shade.
- Soil should be rich in organic matter, at least the top 3-6 inches.
- Unusual interesting plants that play key roles in the local natural community.

Dry Shade Plants



Tying the Garden Together – The Layers





Right Plant in the Right Place

- Dry Shade



Wild Columbine

Aquilegia canadensis



White Doll's Eyes

Actaea pachypoda



Red Doll's Eyes

Actaea rubra



Green and Gold

Chrysogonum virginianum



False Solomon's Seal

Maianthemum racemosum



Perfoliate bellwort

Uvularia perfoliata



Christmas Fern

Polystichum acrostichoides



Blue Wood Aster

Symphyotrichum cordifolium



Early Meadow Rue

Thalictrum dioicum



May Apple

Podophyllum peltatum



Violets



Right Plant, Right Place

- Moist Shade



Hepatica

Hepatica nobilis



Twinleaf

Jeffersonia diphylla



Bloodroot

Sanguinaria canadensis



Wild Ginger

Asarum canadense



Woodland Phlox

Phlox divaricata



Yellow Wood Poppy

Stylophorum diphyllum



Maidenhair Fern

Adiantum pedatum



WETLAND GARDENS

- Must have high water content at least part of the year.
- Can be natural or man made.
- Can be in full sun or part shade.
- A wet area is an opportunity.



Tying the Garden Together – The Layers



Right Plant right place

- Wet Shade



Royal Fern

Osmunda regalis



White Turtlehead

Chelone glabra



Turk's Cap Lily

Lilium superbum



Red Cardinal Flower

Lobelia cardinalis



Bottle Gentian

Gentian andrewsii



Right Plant Right Place

- Wet Sun



Joe Pye Weed

Eupatorium maculatum



Blue Flag Iris

Iris versicolor



Golden Groundsel

Packera aurea



Water Avens

Geum rivale



PRAIRIE GARDENS

- Plants need full sun.
- Soil tends to be on the dry side.
- Many plants for hummingbirds and butterflies are found in these gardens.
- Flowers provide lots of color.
- Can be used to make paths, break up areas or distract from an unsightly area.



Tying the Garden Together – The Layers



Black Eyed Susan

Rudbeckia fulgida



Butterfly weed

Asclepias tuberosa



Anise Hyssop

Agastache foeniculum



Common Milkweed

Asclepias syriaca



Virginia Mountain Mint

Pycnanthemum virginianum



Goldenrod

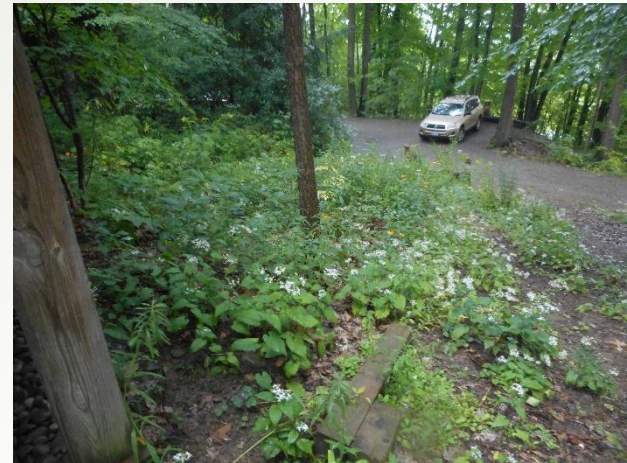
Solidago



Grasses



Woodland Garden through the seasons



Fall





Well Garden through the Season



Pond Garden Through The Seasons



Part Sun Garden Through The Seasons



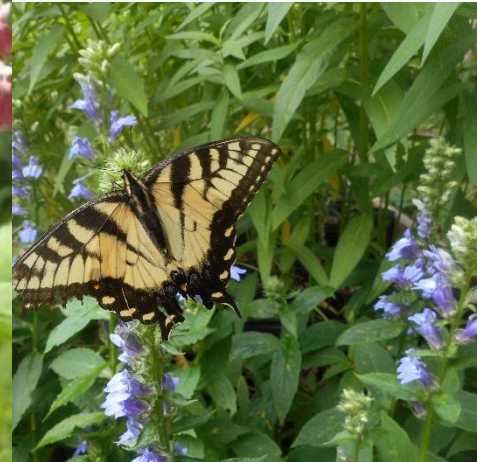
Deep Shade Garden



- Use existing soils
- Cause as little disturbance of soil as possible.
- Bigger is not always better – choose high quality plants that can grow into your site.
- Check the ultimate width of plants and space accordingly – groundcovers too.
- Layout all your layers and then plant.

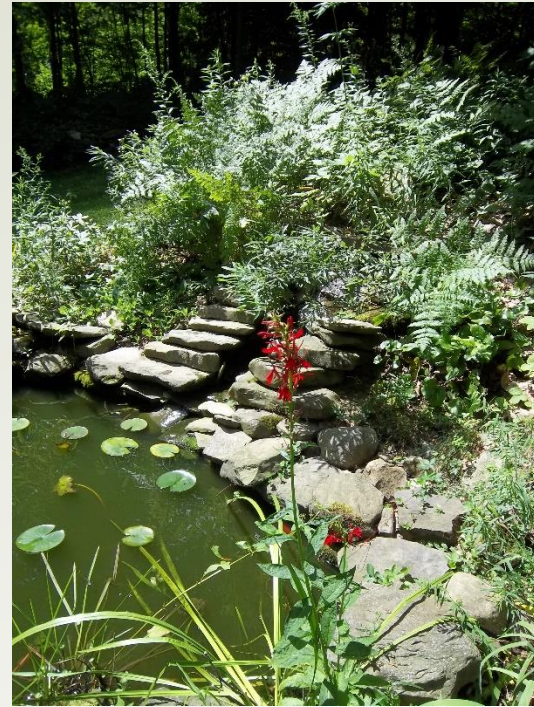


If you plant it they will come



Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant
Communities for Resilient Landscapes
by Thomas Rainer and Claudia West





Amanda's Garden

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