

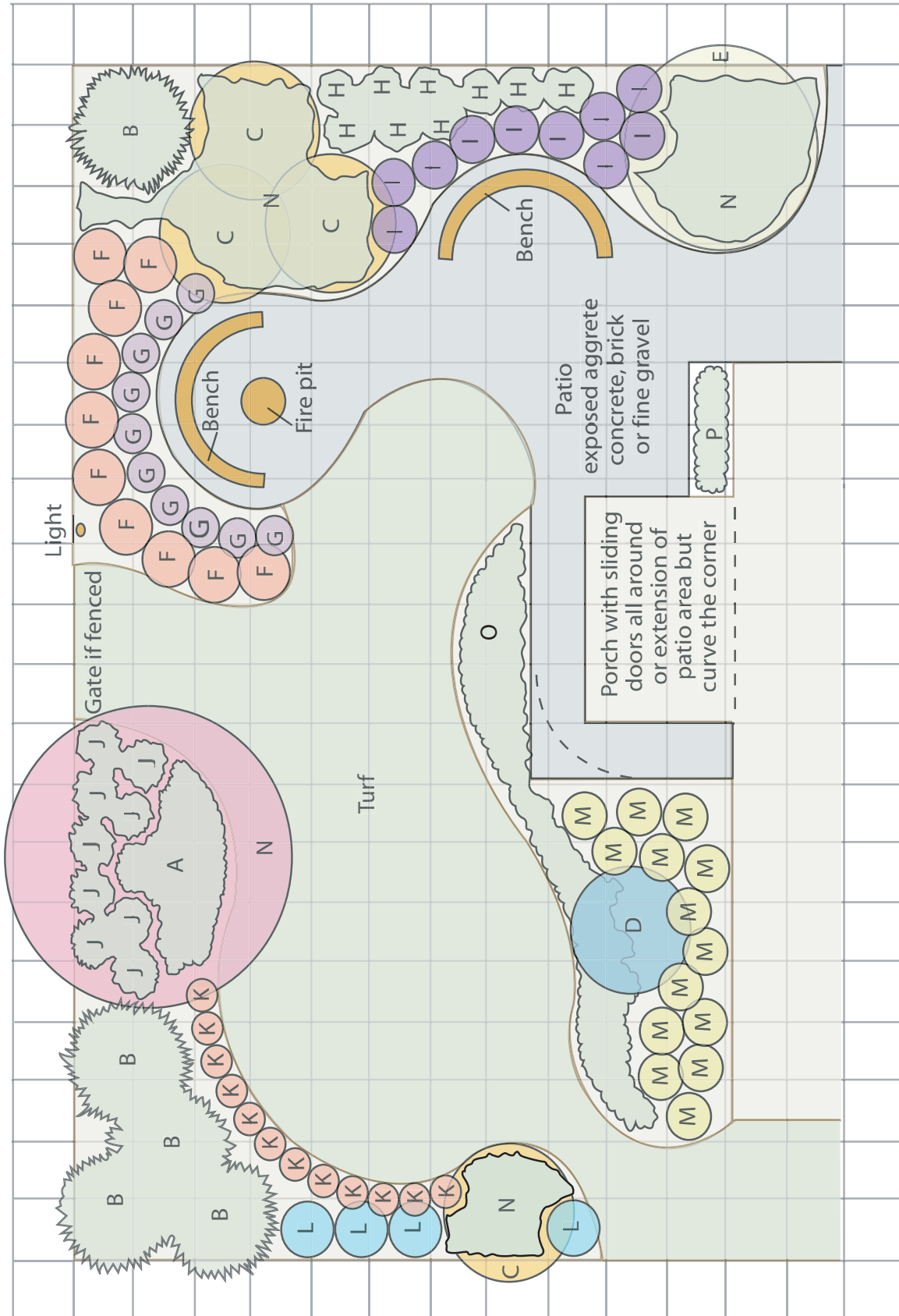
LANDSCAPE PLANS



A Backyard for Entertaining

THIS LANDSCAPE PLAN IS IDEAL FOR HOSTING PARTIES, WHETHER LARGE OR SMALL, DAY OR NIGHT.

The yard features outdoor 'rooms' and enough space to add tables on the lawn or hard surfaces, plus a backyard gate to bring in the tables, tents, and other assorted gear. Everyone from teens to adults will appreciate the benches and cozy fire pit. There is room to roll a bar out from the garage for outdoor serving, too. Up-lighting beneath the deciduous trees will add to the romance of a party after dark.



1 square = 5 feet

Key to Planting Plan

This garden plan has been designed for maximum flexibility. The base plan includes general recommendations for plant types. This allows you to select trees, shrubs, and other plants that are suited to your location and your personal preferences. We have also included a set of suggested varieties for five regions. See below for more details.

Note: Dimensions are approximate mature height.

- A Large shade tree with broad spread 50-70', 1**
- B Tall, upright evergreen 35-70', 5**
- C Ornamental deciduous and flowering tree 15', 4**
- D Medium to small ornamental tree, 1**
- E Large ornamental tree 20-35', 1**
- F Medium deciduous/flowering/fruiting shrub 5-8', 10**

- G Low-growing deciduous or evergreen shrub 2', 10**
- H Evergreen shrub 6-9', 9**
- I Small flowering shrub 3', 13**
- J Evergreen shrub that will tolerate shade, 9**
- K Small flowering deciduous shrub 3', 12**
- L Medium, upright shrub 4-6', 4**
- M Flowering deciduous or evergreen shrub 4-5', 14**
- N Ground cover**
- O Mixed perennials**
- P Annual bedding plants**

Plant Recommendations by Region

The plants suggested below are arranged by general region of the country. Use the map as a general guide to the plant lists that might be best suited to your location. Because climate can vary substantially within each region, we suggest that you verify your plant choices with a local nursery or garden center professional. If a particular variety we list is not available in your area, your garden professional should be able to suggest a substitute.



MIDWEST

A Acer saccharum 'Green Mountain' (*Green Mountain Sugar Maple*) 50-75', upright oval, thick leaves, orange-scarlet fall color; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Acer platanoides (*Norway Maple*) 50-60', dense, round-headed tree, deep green foliage turns yellow in fall; Zones 4-7

Gleditsia tri. 'Shademaster' (*Honeylocust*) 50-60', small dark green leaves, yellow fall color, thornless and fruitless; Zones 4-7

B Abies concolor (*White Fir*) 50' bluish needles and light new growth, pyramidal form; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Pinus strobus (*White Pine*) 50-80', upright evergreen, long soft needles; Zones 3-8

Tsuga Canadensis (*Canadian Hemlock*) 35-50', feathery habit, evergreen; Zones 3-7

C Malus 'Prairifire' (*Prairifire Crab*) 15-20', upright, true red blooms, maroon fruit, dark shiny bark; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Crataegus crusgalli var. inermis (*Thornless Cockspur Hawthorne*) 15-20', white flowers and small red berries; Zones 4-7

Prunus nigra 'Princess Kay' 15', double white flowers in spring, dark bark; Zones 2-6

D Magnolia k. stellata 'Royal Star' (*Royal Star Magnolia*) 8' compact and rounded, double white fragrant flowers in spring; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Acer palmatum 'Bloodgood' (*Bloodgood Japanese Maple*) 15', small rounded tree with purple-red foliage; Zones 5-8

Malus 'Jewelberry' (*Jewelberry Crab*) 10' dwarf rounded crab, pink buds open white, masses of small glossy red fruit; Zones 4-7

E Malus 'Robinson' (*Robinson Crab*) 25', reddish leaves, copper fall color, crimson buds open deep pink, dark red persistent fruit; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Magnolia kobus x Loebneri 'Leonard Messel' (*Leonard Messel Magnolia*) 15-20', 12-petaled flowers of fuchsia to pink, deep green foliage; Zones 5-8

Cercis canadensis (*Redbud*) 20-30', rose-pink flowers in spring, heart-shaped leaves have yellow fall color; Zones 4-9

F Philadelphus 'Natchez' (*Mockorange*) 6', large fragrant white flowers in early summer, well branched and rounded; Zones 5-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Viburnum lantana 'Mohican' (*Mohican Viburnum*) 6', globe shaped, cream flowers in April, orange fruit, purple fall color; Zones 3-7

Viburnum x juddii (*Judd Viburnum*) 6-8', dark pink buds open to fragrant white, dark green leaves; Zones 5-8

G Cotoneaster horizontalis (*Rockspray Cotoneaster*) 2', low-growing, pinkish-white flowers in early summer, red berries into winter, dark green shiny leaves; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus sabina 'Scandia' (*Scandia Juniper*) 12-18", low-growing and spreading, with dark green feathery foliage; Zones 4-7

Rhus aromatica 'Gro-Low' (*Dwarf Fragrant Sumac*) 24-30", low grower, fragrant yellow flowers, red hairy fruit, scarlet fall color; Zones 3-8

H Juniperus chinensis 'Angelica Blue' (*Angelica Blue Juniper*) 5-6', improved Pfitzer that has bright blue foliage, horizontal habit; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus chinensis 'Sea Green' (*Sea Green Juniper*) 4-6', mint-green foliage with arching branches; Zones 4-8

Pinus mugo pumilio (*Mugo Pine*) 3-6', bright green needles; Zones 2-7

I Aronia melancarpa 'Autumn Magic' (*Black Chokeberry*) 3-5', upright, white flowers in spring, black fruit into winter, red-purple fall color; Zones 3-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Rhododendron 'PJM' (*PJM Rhododendron*) 4', pinkish flowers in spring, mahogany winter color, keep moist; Zones 4-7

Spirea japonica 'Neon Flash' (*Neon Flash Spirea*) 3', rounded, red flowers all season, burgundy fall color, new growth has purple tinge; Zones 3-8

J Taxus media 'Dark Green Spreader' (*Spreading Yew*) 3-4', dense dark green evergreen; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Taxus media 'Tauntonii' (*Taunton Spreading Yew*) 3-4', slow-spreading globe, light green foliage; Zones 4-8

Ilex verticillata 'Afterglow' (*Afterglow Winterberry*) 3-6', glossy green summer foliage, fall may be yellow-green to purple-bronze, orange-red fruit, needs pollinator such as I. 'Jim Dandy'; Zones 4-9

K Rosa 'Nearly Wild' (*Nearly Wild Rose*) 2-3', fragrant pink blooms, ever blooming; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Rhododendron x 'Orchid Lights' (*Orchid Lights Azalea*) 2-3', dwarf form, soft lilac flowers, hardy to -45 degrees F; Zones 4-7

Weigela florida 'Minuet' (*Minuet Weigela*) 24-30", green-tinted purple foliage, tubular lilac, red, and yellow flowers; Zones 4-8

L Syringa 'Bailbelle' (*Tinkerbelle Lilac*) 5', upright, dark buds open to fragrant pink; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Rhododendron 'Apricot Surprise' (*Apricot Surprise Azalea*) 4-5', pink-yellow bud opens to single golden orange; Zones 4-7

Aronia arbutifolia 'Brilliantissima' (*Red Chokeberry*) 6-9', vase shape, white flowers followed by long-lasting red fruit, crimson fall color; Zones 4-8

MIDWEST CONTINUED

M Taxus media 'Dark Green Spreader' (*Spreading Yew*) 3-4', dense dark green evergreen; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Hydrangea a. 'Annabelle' (*Annabelle Hydrangea*) 4', large white flowers all summer; Zones 4-8

Azalea mollis (*Azalea Mollis*) 5', flowers profusely in spring and early summer; Zones 4-8

N Vinca minor (*Periwinkle*) 6", shiny dark green foliage, bright blue flowers in spring; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Lamium maculatum (*Spotted Dead Nettle*) 8-12", pink or white flowers, silver leaves with green edges; Zones 3-8

Hosta 'Lancifolia' (*Lanceleaf Hosta*) 12-24", narrow dark green leaves, lavender flowers on 24" stalk in late summer; Zones 3-8

○ Mixed perennials including aster, coreopsis, echinacea, geranium, iris, and sedum

P Annuals of choice

NORTHWEST

A Quercus kelloggii (*California Black Oak*) 30-75', large leaves, irregular trunk and a majestic canopy, brilliant red, yellow, and orange fall color; Zones 6-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Acer macrophyllum (*Big-Leaf Maple*) can reach 100', large 12" leaves, bright gold and yellow fall color; Zones 6-9

Umbellularia californica (*Oregon Myrtle*) 60-100', multiple stems, beautiful wood, fragrant foliage, prefers moist conditions; Zones 5-7

B Abies lasiocarpa (*Balsam Fir*) 80', slow growers with narrow conical shape; Zones 2-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Abies procera (*Noble Fir*) 100', blue-green foliage, dark purple-brown cones; Zones 5-10

Taxus brevifolia (*Pacific Yew*) 50', small evergreen usually found as an understory species in the wild, scaly bark, yellow hint to needles, bright red (toxic) berries; Zones 6-10

C Malus 'Doubloons' (*Doubloons Crab*) 18', dense, upright spreading, double white flowers, persistent yellow fruit; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Malus 'Profusion' (*Profusion Crab*) 20', upright spreading, bronze-tinged foliage, pink flowers, persistent maroon fruit; Zones 4-7

Prunus emarginata (*Bitter Cherry*) 20-50', loved by birds, reddish brown bark, prolific white flowers, red fruit; Zones 5-10

D Malus 'Royal Fountain' (*'Huber'*) (*Royal Fountain Crab*) 10', weeping form, rose-red flowers, red fruit; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Acer palmatum dissectum 'Contorta' (*Contorted Japanese Maple*) 8', green leaves, weeping form; Zones 5-8

Acer palmatum dissectum 'Crimson Queen' (*Crimson Queen Japanese Maple*) 6-8', weeping mounded, deep purple-red foliage, scarlet fall color; Zones 5-8

E Acer negundo 'Variegatum' (*Variegated Box Elder*) 25', oval to rounded, creamy white and green foliage; Zones 5-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Magnolia x loebneri 'Merrill' (*Merrill Magnolia*) 25' rounded, large white flowers, yellow-green fall color; Zones 5-8

Oxydendrum arboreum (*Sourwood*) 20', pyramidal to rounded, dark green leaves, creamy white bell-shaped flowers; Zones 5-8

F Hydrangea quercifolia 'Snow Queen' (*Snow Queen Hydrangea*) 6', broad and upright, large flower panicles take on a pink tint as they mature, large lobed leaves turn purple in fall; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Viburnum x burkwoodii (*Burkwood Viburnum*) 6', dark green glossy leaves, white flower clusters; Zones 4-5

Weigela 'Pink Princess' (*Pink Princess Weigela*) 6', rounded to arching, pink flowers; Zones 5-8

G Juniperus chinensis sargentii (*Sargent Juniper*) 18-24", low growing, deep green foliage; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus horizontalis 'Blue Chip' (*Blue Chip Juniper*) 12", blue foliage with purple tips in winter; Zones 3-8

Cotoneaster dammeri 'Coral Beauty' (*Coral Beauty Cotoneaster*) 12", spreading habit, white flowers, red fruit, glossy evergreen leaves; Zones 5-7(8)

H Physocarpus capitatus (*Pacific Ninebark*) to 12', maple-like leaves, small white flowers, vivid fall color; Zones 2-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus chinensis 'Pfitzeriana Aurea' (*Goldtip Juniper*) 5', green foliage are tinged gold- yellow and take on more yellow green in winter; Zones 4-8

Juniperus chinensis 'Sea Green' (*Sea Green Juniper*) 4-5', dark green, arching habit; Zones 4-8

NORTHWEST *CONTINUED*

I Physocarpus opulifolius 'Nanus' (*Dwarf Ninebark*) 3', rounded, white clusters of flowers; Zones 2-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Spirea x bumalda 'Gold Flame' (*Goldflame Spirea*) 3', mounded, new foliage is tinted pink, becoming yellow-green later, light crimson flowers; Zones 4-8

Spirea japonica 'Shibori' (*Shibori Spirea*) 2', broadly rounded, mixed pink and white flowers; Zones 4-8

J Taxus x media 'Dark Green Spreader' (*Spreading Yew*) 3-4', dark green evergreen; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Taxus x media 'Henry' (*Gem Yew*) 4-6', dark green and fluffy fast-growing evergreen; Zones 4-8

Buxus microphylla 'Winter Green' (*Boxwood*) 3-4', light green, small leaves; Zones 4-9

K Rosa 'Meicoublan' (*White Meidiland Rose PP6088*) 24", double white blooms all summer; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Rosa 'Chuckles' (*Chuckles Hardy Shrub Rose*) 24", large deep rose-pink flowers all season; Zones 4-9

Spirea japonica 'Shibori' (*Shibori Spirea*) 2-3', mounded shape, rose-pink and white flowers in June and July, yellow-red fall color; Zones 4-8

L Aronia melanocarpa elata (*Glossy Black Chokeberry*) 4-6', upright, white flowers in spring, black fruit into winter, red fall color; Zones 3-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Amelanchier alnifolia 'Regent' (*Regent Serviceberry*) 4-6', white flowers, sweet purple fruit, yellow to red fall color; Zones 2-7

Ilex verticillata 'Afterglow' (*Afterglow Winterberry*) 3-6', large orange-red fruit, needs dwarf early male pollinator; Zones 4-9

M Hydrangea macrophylla 'Pink Beauty' (*Pink Beauty Hydrangea*) 4-5', pink sterile florets in large globe heads, prune after blooming; Zones 6-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Hydrangea arborescens 'Grandiflora' (*Snowhill Hydrangea*) 4-5', large globes of white blooms all summer, green summer foliage; Zones 5-9

Taxus x media 'Dark Green Spreader' (*Spreading Yew*) 3-4', dark green evergreen; Zones 4-8

N Pachysandra terminalis 'Green Carpet' (*Spurge*) 6-8", deep green evergreen, white flowers in May; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Vinca minor (*Periwinkle*) 6", shiny green leaves, blue flowers in spring; Zones 4-9

Athyrium niponicum (*Japanese Painted Fern*) 12-18", gray, red and green foliage, dark stems; Zones 3-9

O Mixed perennials include aster, adenophora, aquilegia, fuchsia, hemerocallis, heuchera, and spring bulbs

P Annuals of choice

NORTHEAST

A Acer saccharum (*Sugar Maple*) 45', upright to oval rounded, medium green with orange, red, and scarlet fall color; Zones 3-5

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Acer rubrum 'Northwood' (*Northwood Maple*) 40', rounded, medium to dark green foliage with reddish fall color; Zones 3-8

Tilia cordata (*Littleleaf Linden*) 60-70', dense symmetrical tree, fragrant flowers in early summer, fall color is yellow or yellow green; Zones 4-7

B Pseudotsuga menzies (*Douglas Fir*) 40-80', blue-green foliage, ascending branches; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Abies concolor (*White Fir*) 50', soft blue needles, pyramidal form; Zones 4-7

Tsuga canadensis (*Canadian Hemlock*) 35-70', bright green lacy foliage; Zones 4-7

C Cornus mas (*Cornelian Cherry Dogwood*) 20-25', oval-rounded, yellow flowers in early spring, bright red fruit; Zones 5-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Crataegus crugalli var. inermis (*Thornless Cockspur Hawthorne*) 25', rounded, dark green glossy foliage, white flowers, red fruit; Zones 4-7

Malus 'Purple Prince' (*Purple Prince Crabapple PP8478*) 20', rounded, purplish foliage, rose-red flowers, maroon fruit; Zones 3-7

D Malus 'Jewelcole' (*Red Jewel Crabapple*) 15', upright, white flowers, red persistent fruit; Zones 3-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Amelanchier x grandiflora 'Autumn Brilliance' (*Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry*) 20', upright, clusters of white flowers, bright red fall color; Zones 3-8

Chionanthus virginicus (*Fringe Tree*) 18', oval shape, small and fragrant cream flowers, yellow fall color; Zones 4-9

E Cercis canadensis (*Eastern Redbud*) 25', rose-pink flowers in spring, heart-shaped leaves turn yellow in fall; Zones 4-9

NORTHEAST CONTINUED

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Betula pendula 'Youngii' (*Young's Weeping Birch*) 15', picturesque form, dark green leaves; Zones 2-6

Prunus virginiana 'Canada Red' (*Canada Red Cherry*) 25', upright rounded, purple foliage, white clusters of flowers; Zones 2-6

F Aronia arbutifolia 'Brilliantissima' (*Red Chokeberry*) 6-9' upright, white flowers in spring, red fall color, red fruit into winter; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Myrica pensylvanica (*Bayberry*) 5-12', semi-evergreen, dark green leaves, small gray-white fruit; Zones 4-6

Lindera benzoin (*Spicebush*) 6-12', rounded and open, yellow flowers, golden fall color, scarlet fruit; Zones 5-9

G Juniperus horizontalis 'Hughes' (*Hughes Juniper*) 18", silvery blue, low growing; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus sabina 'Scandia' (*Scandia Juniper*) 12-18", low growing, dark green feathery foliage; Zones 4-8

Spirea albiflora (*Japanese White Spirea*) 2', white flowers in flat clusters, rich green foliage; Zones 4-8

H Juniperus chinensis 'Maneyi' (*Maney Juniper*) 4-5', semi-erect and bushy, bluish cast; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Cotoneaster salicifolius (*Willowleaf Cotoneaster*) 10', oblong evergreen leaves, small white flowers, red fruit through winter; Zones 6-7

Ilex cornuta (*Chinese Holly*) 8', bushy and dense, white flowers, red fruit; Zones 7-9

I Deutzia gracilis (*Slender Deutzia*) 2-4', racemes of white flowers in late spring, deep green leaves; Zones 5-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Daphne x burkwoodii 'Carol Mackie' (*Daphne*) 2-3', fragrant pink flowers, foliage is edged in cream; Zones 4-7

Spirea nipponica 'Halwards Silver' (*Halward's Silver Spirea*) 2-3', white flowers, dark green summer foliage, red-yellow fall color; Zones 4-8

J Taxus cuspidate (*Japanese Spreading Yew*) 4-6', dark green, bushy habit; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Taxus media 'Densifolmis' (*Dense Spreading Yew*) 3-5', dark green foliage; Zones 4-8

Pyracantha coccinea (*Scarlet Firethorn*) 6' semi evergreen, thorny, white flowers, orange-red fruit; Zones 5-9

K Rosa 'Meicoublan' (*White Meidiland Rose PP6088*) 24", double white flowers all summer; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Cotoneaster apiculatus (*Cranberry Cotoneaster*) 2-3', dense mounded shrub, pink flowers in early summer, bright red fruit into winter; Zones 5-7

Philadelphus x virginalis 'Minnesota Dwarf Snowflake' (*Dwarf Snowflake Mockorange*) 2-3' compact dwarf, prolific bloomer, very fragrant white flowers in early summer; Zones 4-8

L Taxus media 'Hicksii' (*Hicks Yew*) 5-10' upright and narrow, dark green; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Weigela florida 'Alexandra' (*Wine & Roses Weigela*) 6', upright, rose-pink flowers, purple foliage; Zones 4-8

Viburnum trilobum 'Alfredo' (*Alfredo American Cranberrybush*) 5', white flowers, red fruit, red fall color; Zones 3-8

M Taxus cuspidate (*Japanese Spreading Yew*) 4-6', dark green bushy foliage; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Hydrangea a. 'Annabelle' (*Annabelle Hydrangea*) 4', large white flowers all summer; Zones 4-8

Rhododendron 'PJM' (*PJM Rhododendron*) 4-5', pink-lavender blooms in springs, foliage turns mahogany in winter; Zones 4-8

N Lamiastrum galeobdolon 'Herman's Pride' (*Yellow Archangel*) 12" yellow flowers in spring, silver and green foliage; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Lamium maculatum 'Beacon Silver' (*Spotted Dead Nettle*) 8-12" silver leaves, pink flowers; Zones 3-8

Vinca minor (*Periwinkle*) 6", shiny green leaves, blue flowers in spring; Zones 4-9

O Mixed perennials including aster, coreopsis, geranium, hosta, rudbeckia, and veronica

P Annuals of choice

SOUTHWEST

A *Catalpa speciosa* (Western Catalpa) 40', upright and oval, ruffled white flowers in early summer, broad green leaves; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Cupressus arizonica (Arizona Cypress) 40-50', evergreen scales, red-brown, olive bark, yellow cones; Zones 7-9

Ulmus parvifolia (Chinese Elm) 50', rounded, dark green leaves; Zones 5-9

B Cupressocyparis leylandii (Leyland Cypress) 60', fine feathery texture; Zones 6-10

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus depeana (Alligator Juniper) 60', rich blue color; Zones (6)7-9

Juniperus scopulorum 'Wichita Blue' (Rocky Mountain Juniper) 18', brilliant blue foliage; Zones 4-8

C Cercis occidentalis (Western Redbud) 16-20', deep pink flowers in spring; Zones 7-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Cercis reniformis (Texas Redbud) 18', red-purple flowers, purple fall color; Zones 7-9

Chilopsis linearis (Desert Willow) 15-25', rich green summer color, shaggy bark; Zones 7-9

D Hibiscus syriacus (Rose of Sharon) 8-12', upright form, large red, white or purple flowers July through September; Zones 5-10

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Kolkwitzia amabilis (Beautybush) 6-10', upright and arching, pink flowers in spring, gray bark, persistent capsule seeds; Zones 5-8

Shepherdia argentina (Silver Buffaloberry) 10-15', silvery gray foliage, yellow flowers and fruit; Zones 2-6

E Koelreutiria bipinnata (Chinese Flametree) 20', fragrant yellow flowers, pink fruit; Zones 6-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Vitex negundo (Chastetree) 20', blue-purple flowers, gray-green foliage; Zones (5)6-8

Albizia julibrissin (Mimosa Silk Tree) 20-35', fragrant pink flowers, pod fruit, fine-textured foliage

F Cotoneaster divaricatus (Spreading Cotoneaster) 5-6', rose flowers, dark red fruit, small dark green leaves; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Syringa rothomagensis (Chinese Lilac) 8-10', graceful, fragrant lilac flowers; Zones 4-7

Amorpha fruticosa (False Indigo) 4-10', purple blue flowers, pod fruit, leaves are yellow in fall; Zones 4-9

G Caryopteris x clandonensis (Blue-Mist) 2'. Low mounded, bright blue flowers in late summer; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (Kinnikinnick, Bearberry) 6-24", spreading, glossy evergreen foliage, bronze fall color; Zones 3-6

Salvia greggii (Cherry Sage) to 3', reddish spiked flowers, treat as perennial or shrub; Zones 6-8

H Cotoneaster lacteus (Parney Cotoneaster) 6-8', dark green evergreen, red nutlets through winter; Zones 6-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus chinensis 'Pfitzeriana' (Pfitzer Juniper) 5', bright green foliage; Zones 4-8

Juniperus chinensis 'Sea Green' (Sea Green Juniper) 4-6', arching dark green foliage; Zones 4-8

I Rosa woodsii (Woods' Rose) 4' native, pink summer flowers; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Philadelphus microphyllus (Littleleaf Mockorange) 3-4', dark green leaves, pure white and very fragrant flowers; Zones 6-9

Yucca glauca (Soapweed) 3', low evergreen shrub, 4' stem with pendulous pinkish flowers; Zones 4-8

J Raphiolepis indica (India Hawthorne) 3', white or pinkish flowers, oblong leaves; Zones 8-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Euonymus kiautschovica (Manhattan Euonymus) 6', ovate foliage, semi-evergreen, pink fruit capsule; Zones 5-8

Pyracantha koidzumii (Firethorn) 8', multistemmed, upright, orange fruit; Zones 8-10

K Berberis thunbergii 'Rose Glow' (Rose Glow Barberry) 4', mottled pink, cream to purple foliage; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Cotoneaster apiculatus (Cranberry Cotoneaster) 3', dark green foliage, pink flowers, red fruit into winter; Zones 5-7

Rhus aromatica 'Gro-Low' (Dwarf Fragrant Sumac) 2', fragrant yellow flowers, red fall color, red fuzzy fruit; Zones 3-8

L Anisacanthus thurberi (Desert Honeysuckle) 3-5', pink flowers, treat as shrub or perennial; Zones 6-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Hibiscus syriacus (Rose of Sharon) 8-12' upright, large white, red, or purple flowers July-September; Zones 5-10

Lonicera fragrantissima (Winter Honeysuckle) 5', slender recurving branches, fragrant creamy white flowers, dark red fruit; Zones 4-8(9)

M Philadelphus microphyllus (Littleleaf Mockorange) 3-4', dark green leaves, pure white and very fragrant flowers; Zones 6-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Fendlera rupicola (False Mockorange) 6', white flowers, narrow thick foliage; Zones 6-9

Rhus triloba (Skunkbush) 3-6', greenish flowers, brilliant fall color; Zones 4-6

SOUTHWEST *CONTINUED*

N Mahonia repens (*Creeping Grape Holly*)¹, evergreen ground cover, black fruit; Zones (4)5-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Potentilla tabernaemontani (*P. verna*) (*Spring Cinquefoil*) 9-12", mat-forming, yellow flowers in spring; Zones 5-8

Cytisus decumbens (*Prostrate Broom*) 4-12", bright yellow May-June; Zones 6-9

○ Mixed perennials including lavender, sedum, verbena, and primrose

P Annuals of choice

SOUTHEAST

A Cladrastis kentukea (*American Yellowwood*) 40-55', bright green foliage is soft yellow in fall, fragrant white flowers, pod fruit; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Liriodendron tulipifera (*Tuliptree*) 70-90', bright green foliage, perfect green-yellow flowers resemble tulips, cone-like samaras into winter; Zones 4-9

Quercus acutissima (*Sawtooth Oak*) 40-60', oblong leaves, acorn fruit; Zones 8-9

B Cedrus deodara (*Deodar Cedar*) 40-70', pyramidal with pendulous branches, light blue or gray-green foliage; Zones 7-8(9)

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus virginiana (*Eastern Red Cedar*) 40-50', sage green to blue-green foliage; Zones 3-9

Taxodium distichum (*Bald Cypress*) 50', deciduous, soft green turning rich orange in fall; Zones 4-11

C Davidia involucrata (*Dove Tree*) 20', white pendulous flowers, reddish 1 1/2" fruit; Zones 6-7(8)

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Cornus mas (*Cornelian Dogwood*) 20', early spring flowers are yellow, dark green leaves; Zones 5-8

Prunus caroliniana (*Carolina Cherry Laurel*) 20', dark green foliage most of the year, extremely fragrant white flowers; Zones 7-10

D Hamamelis virginiana (*Common Witchhazel*) 10-20', fragrant yellow flowers in October or December, yellow fall color; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Lindera benzoin (*Spicebush*) 6-12', yellow flowers, red fruit, light green foliage; Zones 5-8

Osmanthus x fortunei (*Fortune Tea Olive*) 15', evergreen resembling holly, fragrant white flowers in fall; Zones 7-10

E Acer truncatum (*Purpleblow Maple*) 25-30', rounded form, purple leaves; Zones 4b-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Carpinus caroliniana (*Ironwood*) 20-30', rounded top, dark green leaves turn yellow in fall; Zones 3b-9

Koelreuteria paniculata (*Golden Raintree*) 30-40', panicles of yellow flowers in July, purplish leaves mature bright green then yellow in fall; Zones 5-9

F Cyrilla racemiflora (*Leatherwood*) 8-12', semi-evergreen, lustrous deep green leaves, fragrant white, capsuled fruit; Zones 6-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Deutzia scabra (*Fuzzy Deutzia*) 6-10', white or pink flowers, dull green foliage; Zones 5-7(8)

Viburnum dilatatum 'Erie' (*Erie Viburnum*) 6', rounded and compact, dark green in summer, white flat topped flowers, red fruit; Zones 5-8

G Abelia x grandiflora 'Prostrata' (*Dwarf Glossy Abelia*) 18-24", white-tinged pink blossoms, shiny green leaves take on a purplish color in winter; Zones 5-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Euonymus japonicus 'Microphyllus' (*Dwarf Japanese Euonymus*) 1-3', dark green foliage; Zones (6)7-9

Danae racemosa (*Alexandrian Laurel*) 2-4', refined evergreen shrub, orange red fruit; Zones 7b-9

H Juniperus chinensis 'Blaauw Golden' (*Golden Blaauw Juniper*) 4-6' vase shaped, golden needles; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Ligustrum japonicum (*Japanese Privet*) 6-12', dense upright evergreen, fragrant creamy white blossoms, black fruit; Zones 7-10

Loropetalum chinense (*Loropetalum*) 6-10', rounded leaves are gray underneath, evergreen, fragrant cream to white flowers; Zones 7-9

I Hypericum patulum (*Goldencup St. Johnswort*) 3', semi-evergreen, golden yellow flowers; Zones 6-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Rhododendron x 'Orchid Lights' (*Orchid Lights Azalea*) 2-3', dwarf, soft lilac flowers; Zones 4-9

Spirea japonica 'Norman' (*Norman Spirea*) 2', mint green foliage, rose-pink flowers; Zones 4-8

SOUTHEAST *CONTINUED*

J *Rhododendron carolinianum* (*Carolina Rhododendron*) 3-6', showy flowers of white or yellow; Zones 5-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

T *taxus cuspidate* (*Japanese Spreading Yew*) 4-6', dark green foliage, spreading habit; Zones 4-8

V *iburnum suspensum* (*Sandankwa Viburnum*) 6', evergreen, white flowers tinged pink, black fruit; Zones (8)9-10

K *Rosa 'Betty Prior'* (*Betty Prior Shrub Rose*) 3', single small pink flowers, recurrent bloomer; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

I *lex crenata 'Compacta'* (*Dwarf Japanese Box Holly*) 3', black fruit, dark green foliage; Zones 5-7

S *pirea nipponica 'Halwards Silver'* (*Halwards Silver Spirea*) 2-3', white flowers, red-yellow fall color; Zones 4-8

L *Aesculus parviflora* (*Bottlebrush Buckeye*) 8', white panicles in summer, dark green leaves with gray undersides; Zones 5-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

C *alycanthus floridus* (*Sweetshrub*) 6-9', reddish brown, maroon flowers, fragrant stems when bruised; Zones 5-9

C *lethra alnifolia* (*Summersweet*) 4-6', fragrant white or pink flowers in late summer; Zones 4-9

M *Hydrangea macrophylla* (*Bigleaf Hydrangea*) 3-6', showy foliage, white, pink or bluish flowers depending on soil pH; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

H *drangea quercifolia* (*Oakleaf Hydrangea*) 4-6', panicles of white changing to pink to brown flowers, leaves turn mahogany in fall; Zones 5-9

J *asminum floridum* (*Flowering Jasmine*) 3-5', slender arching stems, yellow flowers; Zones 8-10

N *Euonymus fortunei* (*Wintercreeper*) 6-12" evergreen ground cover, dark blue-green foliage; Zones 4-10

ALTERNATE PLANTS

P *achysandra procumbens* (*Allegheny Pachysandra*) 6-10", flat bluish green sometimes mottled foliage, whitish pink fragrant flowers; Zones 4-9

V *inca minor* (*Periwinkle*) 3-6", dark green foliage, blue flowers in spring; Zones 4-9

○ Perennials that may include **Shasta daisy, coreopsis, iris, nepeta, and phlox**

P **Annuals of choice**

Before You Begin. Preparation is the key to creating a garden that will offer a lifetime of pleasure. Before you head to the nursery or lift a spade, take the time to review all garden plan materials. Ask yourself the following questions:

- **Do I have a suitable location for this plan?** The layout diagram shows the dimensions for the plan as designed. In general, you can enlarge or reduce the size of the garden by adding or eliminating plants, although the character of the garden may change if you alter the size dramatically.
- **Does my yard offer the right conditions?** Check the plant list carefully to see whether the plan will do best in full sun, partial shade, or full shade. Also make sure that the plants are suited to your USDA Growing Zone. (In many cases, the alternative plants list includes varieties that will grow in other zones.)
- **Does my soil need improvement?** Most plants will survive in a variety of soil conditions, but well-drained, moist (but not soaked) soil is generally best. To test your soil, wet it thoroughly with a hose, wait 24 hours, then squeeze a clump in your hand. If the soil forms a ball that holds together, but breaks up easily when you poke it with your finger, your soil is ideal. If the soil won't hold its shape when squeezed, it is probably too sandy. If the clump doesn't break up easily, the soil may be too clay. In either case, you can improve your soil by mixing in organic matter like compost or peat moss.
- **Is my soil's pH and fertility okay?** Check at your local garden store for a soil test kit, or inquire about testing at a local county extension service office. Follow the recommendations that come with your test results if you need to correct the soil's pH (how acid or alkaline the soil is) or fertility.

Creating the Bed. To lay out your bed, use a garden hose to mark the edges. When you are satisfied with the layout, use striping paint (available at many home centers) to mark the outline. (Or, sprinkle flour along the hose for a more temporary mark.) Using a sharp spade, dig along the marked line to set the edge of your bed.

If the garden location is currently covered with lawn, you have a couple of options. For smaller areas, you can strip the sod using a straight-edged shovel. To make this easier, wet the area thoroughly, then use the shovel to cut the lawn into strips that are the width of the shovel and about three feet long. (Expert tip: Sharpen the edge of the shovel frequently with a file.) Use the shovel to pry up and roll back the strips of sod. Once the sod is removed, you can loosen the underlying soil with a shovel or a power tiller.

For larger areas covered by lawn, consider using a heavy-duty garden tiller to grind the sod into the underlying soil. This has the twin benefits of adding organic matter to the soil and eliminating the need to discard or compost sod.

Regardless of how you are preparing your bed, be sure to use this opportunity to mix in organic matter (such as compost, peat moss, or rotted manure) and loosen the soil at least 6 inches deep, or even 8 to 12 inches if you can. Don't mix in fertilizer unless your soil test shows a need; in general, excessive amounts of fertilizer will do more harm than good.

After your bed is prepared, water it thoroughly and wait a week. This will allow some weed seeds to germinate. Remove these seedlings or dig them back into the soil. If you choose to use chemicals to kill the weeds, follow the instructions to the letter, including the time to wait after application before planting.

Edging. Most beds are easier to maintain if they have an edging that keeps surrounding grass or vegetation from invading. Choose plastic, metal, stone, or brick -- whatever you prefer. If you have lawn around your bed, consider also including a mowing strip, a 6- to 12-inch-wide swath of masonry or stone set even with the surrounding soil.

Planting. Now comes the fun part! If you have all of your plants on hand, keep them in their pots and set them out on the planting bed. This will give you a preview of how the bed will look and allow you to make adjustments. Use the tags that come with the plants to ensure that the spacing is correct. Don't worry that the bed looks sparse; the young plants need room to grow.

When you're satisfied with the arrangement, plant your garden from largest to smallest container (usually trees first, then shrubs, perennials, and finally annuals). Each plant type does best with a specific planting method:

- **Trees.** Dig a hole that is slightly larger than the pot or root ball and deep enough so the top of the root ball or pot is slightly higher than the surrounding soil. For potted trees, remove the tree from the pot, loosen the soil slightly around the roots, then place the tree into the planting hole. For balled-and-burlapped trees, loosen the burlap after the tree is in the hole, cutting away as much of the burlap as possible. When the tree is in place and straight, fill the hole one-third with soil, tamp firmly to make good contact between roots and soil, then water. Repeat twice more until the hole is filled. Make a shallow collar of soil around the hole to catch water and hold it near the root zone. Water the tree thoroughly by letting a hose run slowly for 30 minutes.
- **Shrubs.** Plant shrubs in a hole that's about twice the diameter of the root ball. The top of the root ball should be slightly above the surrounding soil level. Backfill with garden soil, tamping firmly to ensure a contact between soil and roots. Water immediately by slowly running a hose at the shrub's base for about 20 minutes.
- **Perennials and Annuals.** Set these plants in soil at the same level they were growing in the pot. Firm the soil around each plant with your hands, then water thoroughly.

Mulching. As you place each plant, it's a good idea to add mulch to conserve moisture, cool the roots of plants, and protect the soil from washing away in the rain. Organic mulches like shredded bark will require periodic additions as the mulch decays. Mulches like crushed stone are more permanent, but may not offer the character you prefer.

Aftercare. The first season of growth is the most critical for your garden. A good guideline is to water thoroughly every other day for the first two weeks, then twice weekly for the remainder of the first season. The following year, you can let nature take its course, supplementing dry periods with deep watering.

You should also be diligent about weeding your bed during the first year. As the plants mature and fill in, there will be fewer opportunities for weeds to gain a foothold. A thick layer of mulch will also help keep weeds in check.

Ongoing Maintenance. Most plants will thrive with only minimal care. Apply a general fertilizer according to package directions in the spring after growth has started. If you need to prune trees or shrubs to maintain their shape or size, do it in late winter before growth has started. The exception to this general rule is spring-flowering shrubs like lilacs that should be pruned immediately after flowering.