



Blount County Master Gardener Gazette

Fall 2022
Volume IV, Issue 3

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Fall is upon us and Fall festivals and seminars are being offered for our enjoyment and edification. See our calendar of events for information. Also check out our Book Nook for a review of *Perennial Combinations* by C. Colston Burrell.

In our Fall 2022 issue. Master Gardener, Elin Johnson gives us advice and beautiful photos on one of my favorites—day lilies. Master Gardener, Sandy Abel, shares her passion for Vernal Pools.

Blount County Master Gardeners, we are here to assist with gardening questions. Please call 865-982-6430 to have them answered. If you want to learn more about the Tennessee Extension Master Gardener training and volunteer program, visit our website at: bcmgtn.org

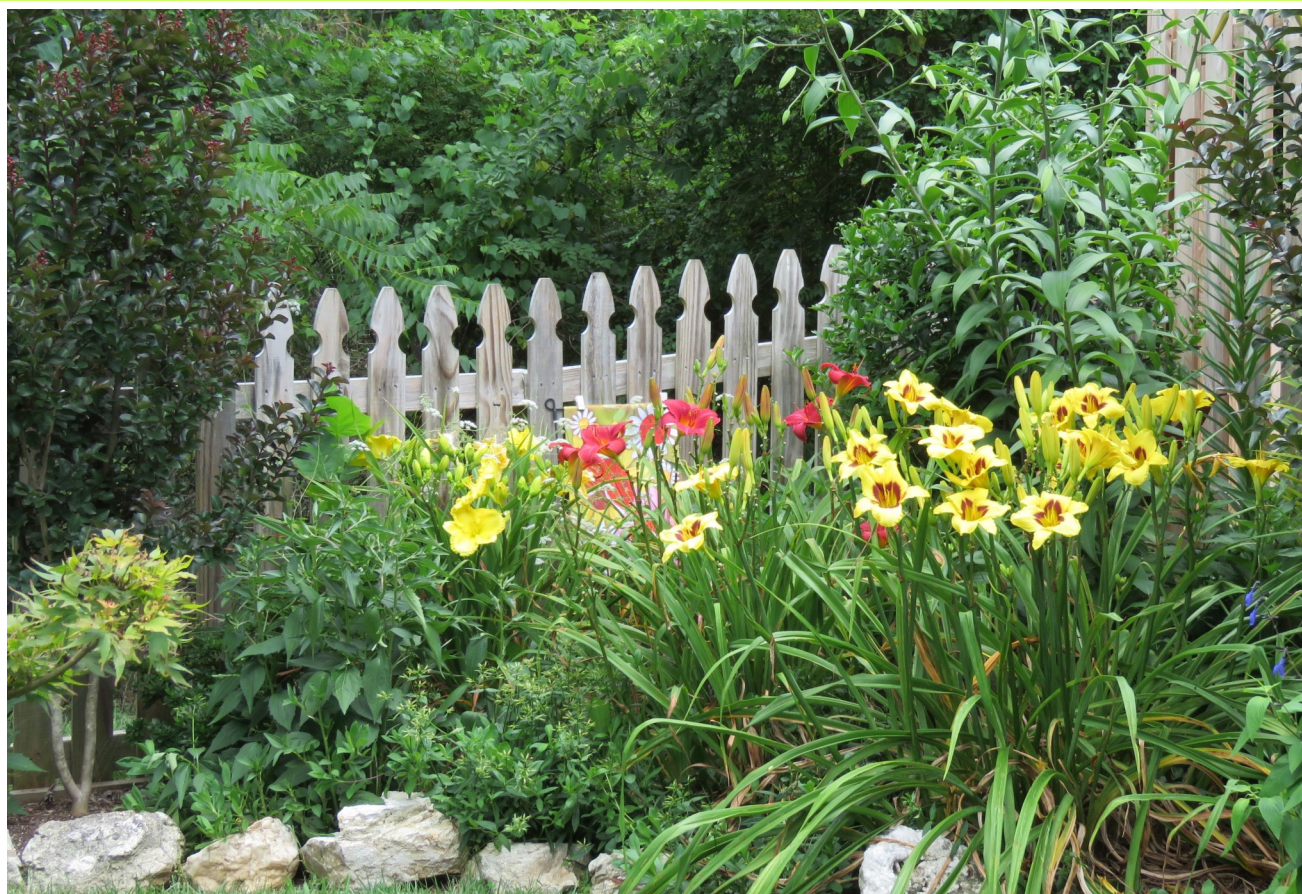
You can also engage with us on our Facebook page at :

<https://www.facebook.com/BlountCountyMasterGardeners/>

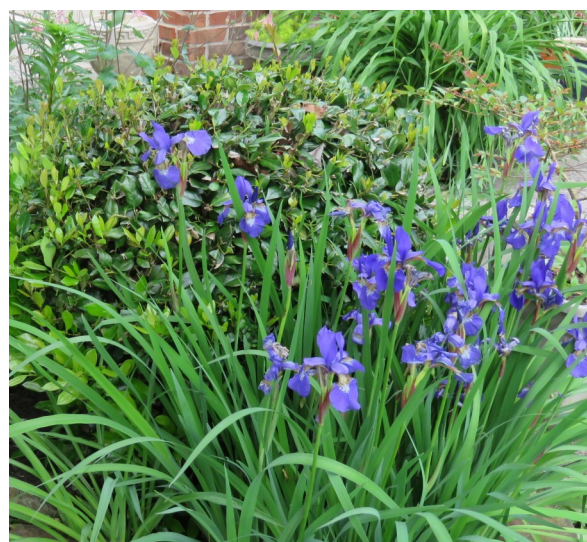


Daylilies

by Elin Johnson, Blount County Master Gardener



My grandmother introduced me to daylilies. She had a row of yellow ones in her garden. They had moved to the house that I remember as a child in 1919, so the yellow daylilies probably originated sometime in the 1920's. I have kept that one—it has bloomed in all of my gardens and presently lives in the front yard of my condo. It's comforting for me to have something to remember her by. She was my mentor and my garden buddy. (I also still have a Siberian iris that originated in her long-ago garden.) The picture above shows the daylilies I chose to bring with me from Sweetwater that now bloom in the back yard at my condo.





Daylilies have been a mainstay in all of my gardens. The Chestnut Street gardens were almost all shady, so I didn't have as many there, but at Fairlane the number topped 30 different varieties. I'd like to show you some of my favorites over the years. The Latin name for daylilies is *Hemerocallis*. But I choose to call them daylilies, and will refer to them here by their variety name.

This was the brick terrace in the Chestnut Street garden. The red one is 'Holiday Delight'. It was a very good bloomer and I also had it in my Fairlane garden. A double yellow one, H. 'Condilla', and 'Mary Todd' also bloomed on the terrace.

But then I moved to the house on Fairlane Drive. There I had a flat property of nearly an acre, much of which was in full sun. So, daylilies became a mainstay in those gardens, and I tried to choose varieties that bloomed early, midseason, and late so I could have them in bloom for a long time. Over time, I accumulated some thirty varieties.

In the front yard I had installed some raised beds. This bed was round, and in spring it was full of daffodils, but in summer the daylilies took over. In the center, the lily, 'Conca d'Or' bloomed in late June and early July to accompany the daylilies. Several of these daylilies had been brought from the Chestnut Street garden: 'Yellow Explosion', 'Holiday Delight', and 'Condilla'.



Holiday Delight



Condilla

On the other side of the circle, Grandmother's yellow daylily and a lovely pink one, 'Cedar Waxwing' bloomed; and in the bed next to the house, 'Lavender Deal' closely matched the phlox that bloomed there.



'Cedar Waxwing'



'Lavender Deal'

Left of the front door, a lovely double red one, 'Highland Lord' bloomed, along with red annuals.



And on the other side of this bed, 'Orange Vols' reminded me of the devotion the people of East Tennessee have to the Tennessee Volunteers.



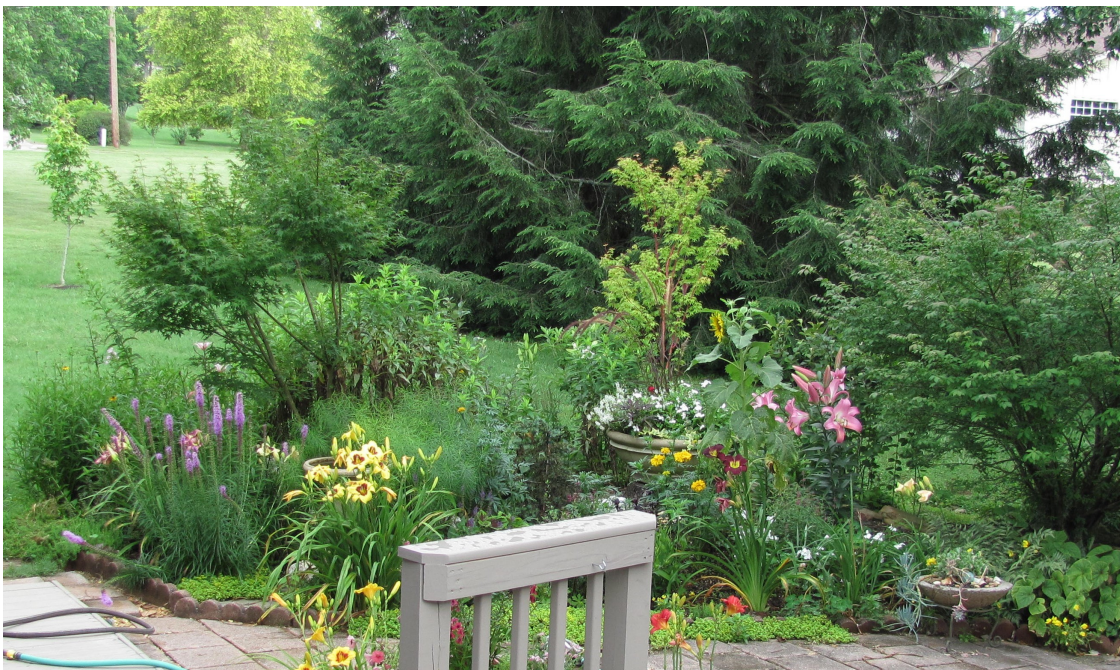
As you turned into the driveway, there was a large raised bed. 'Red Volunteer' resided there along with a matching lily, 'Red Velvet'.



I had brought my favorite Japanese maple to Fairlane. It was planted in the front yard, and two apricot-colored daylilies bloomed underneath, ‘Siloam Double Classic’, and ‘Elizabeth Salter’. These two also came with me to my condo.



Then there was the back yard at Fairlane. Looking to the left from the back porch, this was the view you saw. Several daylilies bloomed in this garden. The yellow one with the purple throat is ‘Don Stevens’, which has been one of my favorites and now blooms at my condo. Several other beauties grew there, too.





'Bella Lugosi'



'Druid's Chant'



'Little Cadet' in its pot



'Heavenly Hash'

I was not satisfied after moving to the condo. I had to have more: This red beauty is 'Apache War Dance'





And I thought 'Wild Horses' was gorgeous.



This one blooms in my present back yard. It was given to volunteers at Blooms Days at UT Gardens by Oakes Daylilies one year, and I don't know its name. But it's another favorite. A summer without daylilies would be unacceptable for me.

Photos by Elin Johnson

Fall Garden Tasks

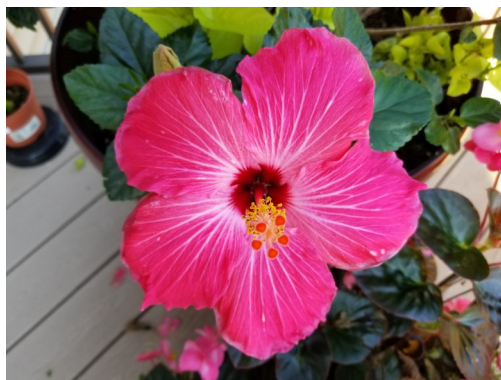
UT Extension Institute of Agriculture Calendar

GARDEN TASKS FOR SEPTEMBER

- Begin planting cabbage, kale and pansies in the latter part of the month.
- Allow plants to finish the summer growth cycle in a normal manner. Never encourage new growth with heavy applications of fertilizer or excessive pruning this late in the season. The plant will not properly harden off, and an early freeze can injure new growth.
- Apply a pre-emergent herbicide on your lawn to control cool-season weeds, such as chickweed, henbit, dead nettle, and annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*). For best control, apply by Labor Day.
- Divide and repot any tropicals you have outdoors to prepare them for their winter home.
- Order or purchase bulbs by October 1, when the best selections are available.

GARDEN TASKS FOR OCTOBER

- Collect the seeds of any annuals you would like to grow again next year. All them to dry completely before storing. A paper bag is great for containing the seed and allowing it to dry.
- October is the preferred time to plant ornamental kale, Swiss chard, and pansies.
- You still have time to order bulbs. Get them in the ground by early December.
- Before the first frost, dig up caladiums and shake off soil. Allow them to dry completely and store in a warm, dry place for the winter.
- October is a good time to plant trees and shrubs since dormant plants will be under less stress. Newly installed deciduous plants require almost no watering during the winter months, but don't forget that a thorough initial watering is paramount. Monitor evergreens, such as junipers, hollies and aborvitae for watering needs if rain is sparse. Even in winter a plant with leaves on it will transpire. Winter wind desiccation can hurt an evergreen tree that lacks sufficient moisture.
- Wash your pumpkins, gourds and winter squash in a mild bleach solution before displaying or storing to help prevent rot.
- Bring in your tropical plants and houseplants before frost. Many plants don't fare well when temperatures drop into the 40s.
- After frost cut back your deciduous herbaceous perennials to lessen the chance of disease or insects overwintering in your beds. Hardy lantanas and salvias are perennials that are borderline hardy and may benefit from retaining their stems through the winter. Any tender plants, such as cannas and elephant ears, appreciate a layer of mulch for extra winter protection.
- Other perennials can be mulched with a thin layer of organic material, but keep the mulch away from the crown or it could hold too much moisture and rot the plant.



GARDEN TASKS FOR NOVEMBER

- It's an ideal time to plant or transplant trees, shrubs and fruit crops. Be sure to water well and add a good 3- to 4-inch layer of mulch to new plantings.
- It's not too late to fertilize your cool-season fescue lawn. Use a turf fertilizer and follow label directions. The fertilizer encourages good root development and helps improve the color of the lawn.
- As soon as the leaves fall from fruit trees and berry bushes, spray for the first time with a dormant horticultural oil. Spraying helps control overwintering insects and diseases. Apply according to label instructions.
- Incorporate compost in the annual and vegetable gardens for next growing season.
- Cut the tops off asparagus plants and mulch with a good layer of compost.
- Cover strawberries 2-inches deep with hay or straw to reduce weeds and increase winter protection.
- Secure raspberry and blackberry canes to protect them from wind.
- Stop fertilizing indoor plants until spring.
- Force bulbs indoors like narcissus, hyacinths, and amaryllis for color early in the new year. Start paperwhites in late November for Christmas flowering. Keep your paperwhites from flopping over by adding alcohol.
- Mulch existing trees and shrubs to help reduce weeds, provide insulation from freezing temperatures, and conserve moisture.
- Reduce peony botrytis blight and hollyhock rust by removing and disposing all leaves and stems this fall. Roses should have all their leaves raked from beneath to prevent black spot. Dispose of plant materials in the trash not the compost pile, to reduce the carryover of disease during the winter.
- Cut chrysanthemum and other perennials' stems back close to the ground once they have begun to die back. Leave ornamental grasses to provide winter interest until spring.
- You can continue to transplant perennials throughout the fall and winter, as long as they remain dormant.
- Winter annuals, such as pansies, violas, Dianthus chinensis, red mustard, snapdragons, ornamental cabbage and kale can still be planted. The earlier in the month, the better.
- It's the ideal time to plant spring-flowering bulbs. Consider planting some of the minor bulbs such as winter aconite, glory of the snow, species tulip, narcissus and grape hyacinths.
- Mulch flower beds with 3- to 4-inches of good compost or fine mulch to keep soil temperature stable and prevent winter plant injury from frost heaving. As the compost of fine mulch decomposes, it will enrich you garden soil as well.

Source: <https://ag.tennessee.edu/utg/Pages/monthlytasks.aspx#AnchorTop>



Vernal Pools

Sandy Abel, Blount County Master Gardener

Description

Just imagine the sound of hundreds of croaking frogs outside your window. Sheep frogs, wood frogs and spring peepers chime in together to create a springtime chorus! Vernal pools, or ephemeral pools, are seasonal wetlands that provide habitat for these frogs and other distinctive plants and animals. They can be created anywhere a depression fills with water. Vernal pools are unique wildlife habitats best known for the amphibians and invertebrate animals that use them to breed. In addition, vernal pools also support a wide variety of birds, mammals and plants.

The pools are temporary wetlands with a permanent base of bedrock or hard clay where water comes and goes. They exist in forested land or in grassland where the base of the depression prevents rainwater or spill-over from nearby waterways from draining. These seasonal pools are covered by shallow water for variable periods from winter to spring but may be completely dry for most of the summer and fall. Pools can range in size from puddles to small ponds and adjacent pools can be connected by vernal swales. The size of a vernal pool can vary from year to year depending on the amount of rainfall and climate conditions. During a single season, a pool may fill and dry several times.

Function and Values

This unique environment provides habitat for numerous plant and animal species that thrive in these harsh changing conditions. Common life in vernal pools includes salamanders, frogs, many invertebrates, turtles and snakes. Vernal pools are important to a wide variety of aquatic organisms that would not successfully reproduce when subjected to fish predation. Many organisms with an aquatic stage in their life cycle have evolved to require the temporary but fish-free waters of vernal pools. These species are called obligates because of this dependency on vernal pools' cycles.



Typical vernal pool in summer grassland

Photo by Sandy Abel

Frogs and salamanders breed in large numbers and may produce thousands upon thousands of larvae each year. The sheep frogs (*Hypopachus variolosus*) sound off like bleating sheep, the wood frogs (*Lithobates sylvaticus*) mimic a duck's quack, and the spring peepers (*Pseudacris crucifer*) chirp loudly similar to crickets. In the fall in Tennessee marbled salamanders arrive during the night in droves to breed and lay eggs in the dry depressions, betting that the dry pool will fill with water. They are followed by the tiger and spotted salamanders in December and February and wood frogs and pool-bound fairy shrimp that hatch in midwinter. During Tennessee's late winter, pale green spotted salamander eggs, pickerel frog and spring peeper tadpoles quietly wait beneath the water surface. Upon metamorphosis in the spring, tiny frogs and salamanders leave the vernal pool and hop or crawl their way into the surrounding uplands or waterways, extending the food webs of the pool out into the habitats around them. Many of the plants and animals spend the dry season as seeds, eggs or cysts and then grow and reproduce when the pools fill with water again. In addition, mammals and birds such as egrets, ducks, and herons use vernal pools as a seasonal source of food, breeding, migration, and shelter.



Spotted salamander - Photo by Steven David Johnson, The Nature Conservancy Magazine



Spring peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*) Photo by forestryimages.org



A variety of flowering plants such as sedges (Cyperaceae family) and rushes (Juncaceae family) are well adapted to the grassland vernal pool environment. Sedges, rushes and grasses (Poaceae family) are monocotyledons. They do not have showy flowers but have a completely different floral structure that is wind pollinated so therefore not evolved with the color and scent to attract invertebrates. This makes their flowers smaller, much more delicate and often more muted in color.

Sedge (Cyperaceae family) in vernal pool mid-summer Photo by Sandy Abel

Sedges, genus *Carex*, is the third largest genus of flowering plants in the world, with almost two thousand species. The flowers are unisexual – that is, the male and female parts are borne on separate flowers. Most *Carex* species are perennial and grow in wetlands or shaded upland woods. The name “sedge” comes from the Middle English word *segge* for “saw” as many of them have rough-edged leaves. The stems of sedges are triangular in cross section.

The Rush family is smaller, with about four hundred species worldwide. Although the rushes are most closely related to the sedges, the flowers are arranged like lily flowers, with a symmetrical cluster of three petals and three sepals. In contrast to lilies, rush flowers are tiny and dully colored. The fruit is a small capsule enclosed by the sepals and petals.

Grasses are the most widespread. The Grass family has about ten thousand species worldwide, with roughly 1,400 species in the United States. Plants in the grass family have small, inconspicuous flowers and narrow leaves with parallel veins. The stems are usually round and typically hollow except at nodes where leaves are attached. The harsh environment of a vernal pool can be tolerated by many grasses, with the fruit -or grain- providing a food source for wildlife.

The following rhyme helps to remember the differences in each plant type:

‘Sedges have edges
Rushes are round
Grasses are hollow
Right down to the ground’



The common buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) thrives in the grassland vernal pool fringe and attracts dragonflies, butterflies, bees, and other insects. Highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*) and other trees can be found in vernal pools. In the spring and early summer, wildflowers often bloom along the receding shoreline of the pools.

Common buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
in summer vernal pool
Photo by Sandy Abel

Status

Vernal pools are an increasingly threatened ecosystem. Development and climate change continue to eliminate and alter this special habitat that supports plants and animals. Vernal pools, unlike wetlands, currently do not have any special regulatory protection and are often overlooked due to their small size and seasonal existence.

What can you do to create a vernal pool? Leave standing water in a wooded environment and avoid dragging logs or driving across the area. In grasslands avoid summer mowing areas of seasonal standing water so as not to disturb seeds and eggs in the soil. Encourage waterfowl by leaving tall grasses and shrubs in place. The National Wildlife Federation's article "Ten Tips to Give Frogs a Landing Pad" describes how to build a vernal pool. Patiently wait through the autumn and early winter, and you may be fortunate enough to be serenaded by bleating, quacking, and chirping frogs in the spring.



Typical vernal pool in a winter forest
Photo Vernalpools.me

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- 2 Brown, Lauren and Elliman, Ted. *Grasses, Sedges, Rushes: An Identification Guide*. 2020. New Haven. Yale University Press. Pages 1-4, 47, 115.
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- 4 Grasses, Sedges, and Rushes Identification. Field Studies Council. www.field-studies-council.org/biodiversity/grasses-sedges-and-rushes-identification. July 7, 2022.
- 5 Vernal Pools. United States Environmental Protection Agency. www.epa.gov/wetlands/vernal-pools. July 5, 2022.
- 6 www.forestryimages.org. July 18, 2022
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Spring wildflowers at fringe of vernal pool
Photo United States Environmental Protection Agency

Plants for Difficult Sites

Part 1—Clay, Moist & Dry Soils, Exposed Sites and Urban Conditions

Landscape sites can present many challenges for planting:

- **Soils**-Poor drainage or excessive drainage due to soil type.
- **Sunlight**-Too much or too little sun requires careful plant selection. Plants which require full-sun need at least 6 hours of sunlight per day. Plants that require shade generally cannot tolerate more than 3 hours of direct sunlight per day.
- **Climate**-North facing landscapes present a concern for wind exposure and freeze damage. South facing landscapes present a concern for intense heat and sun exposure.
- **Moisture**-Water can be an issue. Too much leads to root diseases while too little causes plants to be stunted which can lead to death from drought.
- **Salt**-Roadside salt as well as seaside conditions can kill plants through desiccation. In certain regions, irrigation water can be contaminated with saltwater. Pollution caused by runoff of salt put on roads in winter weather causes weakening of plants .
- **Deer** -Deer browsing can be a serious problem in keeping plants in the landscape.

In order to tip the balance in favor of the plant, several items can be done to enhance the plant's survival on a difficult site:

1. Choose the right plant for the site.
2. Select a plant of high quality.
3. Prepare the site and the soil.
4. Prune any broken or diseased branches or roots.
5. Water thoroughly and mulch.
6. Monitor the plant's progress.

Plants exist which tolerate extreme conditions better than others. The following are lists of plants suitable for the various conditions anyone might have to face in the landscape.

Plants That Tolerate Clay Soils:

Trees: American Hornbeam, Bald Cypress, Cherrybark Oak, Crabapple, Elm, Green Ash, Hawthorn, Loblolly Pine, Locust, London Plane Tree, Overcup Oak, Red Maple, Redbud, River Birch, Sawtooth Oak, Spruce, Sumac, SweetBay Magnolia, Sweetgum, Willow.

Shrubs: Arborvitae, Beauty Bush, Deutzia, Dogwood (shrub-types), Forsythia, Junipers, Possum Haw, Quince, Sumac, Viburnums Witch Hazel, Yews.

Perennials: Aster, Boltonia, *Chrysogonum virginiana* green and gold, Daylily, Echinacea, Goldenrod, *Heliopsis spp.*, Indian Grass, *Physostegia virginiana* false dragonhead, Rudbeckia, Shasta Daisy, Switchgrass, Verbena.

Annuals: *Abelmoschus*, Amaranthus, Cosmos, *Gomphrena*, Marigold, Sunflower.

Ground Covers: *Carex* (native species).

Plants That Tolerate Moist Soils:

Trees: American Hornbeam, Bald Cypress, Black Locust, Bur Oak, Cherrybark Oak, Freeman Maple, Green Ash, Laurel Oak, London Planetree, Nuttall Oak, Osage Orange, Overcup Oak, Pin Oak, Poplar, Red Maple, River Birch, Serviceberry, Sugar Maple, Swamp White Oak, Sweetbay Magnolia, Sweetgum, Sycamore, Tupelo, Willow, Willow Oak, 'Winter King' Hawthorn.

Shrubs: Arborvitae, Clethra, Deutzia, Dogwoods (red-twig and yellow-twig), Filbert, Forsythia, Inkberry Holly, Leucothoe, Possum Haw Viburnum, Rhododendron, Sweetshrub, Viburnum, Virginia Sweetspire, Wax Myrtle.

Perennials: *Aruncus dioicus* goat's beard, *Asclepias spp.* butterfly weed and milkweed, *Chelone sp.* turtle-head, *Eupatorium* Joe Pye weed, Feather Reed Grass 'Karl Foerster', Filipendula, *Helenium*, *Helianthus simulans*, Japanese Iris, Hibiscus, *Kosteletzkya virginica* Virginia saltmarsh mallow, Lobelia, Monarda, Northern Sea Oats, *Physostegia virginiana* false dragonhead, *Ranunculus*, *Ruellia*, Rush, *Sarracenia* pitcher plant, *Tradescantia* spiderwort, *Valeriana*, Yellow Flag Iris.

Annuals: Canna, Coleus, Impatiens, *Melampodium*.

Vines: Cross Vine, Swamp Jessamine, Swamp Rose.

Ground Covers: *Acorus americanus* sweet flag, *Carex* (native species), *Chrysogonum virginiana* green and gold, Lamium.

Plants That Tolerate Dry Soils:

Trees: Ash, Bald Cypress, Birch, Eastern Red Cedar, Filbert, Hawthorn, Hedge Maple, Japanese Black Pine, Lacebark Elm, Live Oak, Longleaf Pine, Redbud, Sawtooth Oak, Shining Sumac, Thornless Honey Locust, Vitex, White Pine.

Shrubs: *Althea* hibiscus/rose mallow, American Beautyberry, Cherry Laurel, Chinese Holly, Cotoneaster, Forsythia, Glossy Abelia, Juniper, Mock Orange, Pomegranate, Quince, Smoketree, Sumac, Viburnum, Yaupon Holly, Yucca.

Perennials: *Achillea* yarrow, Artemisia, *Asclepias* butterfly weed and milkweed, *Baptisia australis* blue false indigo, *Bergenia*, *Boltonia* false aster, *Cerastium*, *Ceratostigma*, Coreopsis, Dianthus aka pinks, Echinacea, *Foeniculum* fennel, Gaillardia, Gaura, Geranium, *Hypericum* St. John's wort, Lavender, *Linaria* toadflax, *Liriope muscari* lilyturf, *Lychnis coronaria* rose campion, *Malva* mallow, Penstemon, *Perovskia* Russian Sage, Rosemary, Salvia, Santolina, *Solidago* goldenrod, Stachys, Stokesia, *Thermopsis villosa* Carolina lupine, Thyme.

Annuals: Cosmos, Groundcover Petunia, Marigold, *Melampodium*, Purslane/Portulaca, Scaevola, Sunflower, Sweet Potato Vine, Wax Begonia, *Zinnia angustifolia* narrowleaf zinnia.

Vines: Carolina Yellow Jessamine, *Lonicera sempervirens* trumpet honeysuckle.

Ground Covers: Ajuga, Creeping Junipers, Creeping Sedums, Creeping Thymes, Daylilies, Dianthus aka Pinks, Dwarf Junipers, *Hypericum* St. John's wort, Shore Junipers, Stachys.

Plants Which Tolerate Exposed Sites:

Trees: Austrian Pine, Beech, Birch, Ginkgo, Hawthorn, Hornbeam, Linden, Locust, Oak, Red Maple, Serviceberry, Willow.

Shrubs: Arborvitae, Cotoneaster, Juniper, Mock Orange, Peegee Hydrangea, Smoke Tree, Twig dogwoods, Viburnum, Yew.

Perennials: Achillea, Candytuft, Daylily, Dianthus aka Pinks, Iris, Rudbeckia, Sedum.

Ground Covers: Creeping Sedums, Daylilies, *Hypericum* St. John's wort, Junipers.

Plants That Tolerate Urban Conditions:

Trees: American Hophornbeam, Bald Cypress, Basswood, Bur Oak, Chinkapin Oak, Crape Myrtle, Dawn Redwood, Elm Hybrids, English Oak, European Hornbeam, Fringetree, Ginkgo, Green Ash, Hawthorn, Kentucky Coffeetree, Lacebark Elm, Littleleaf Linden, Live Oak, London Planetree, Northern Red Oak, Osage Orange, Pin Oak, Red Horsechestnut, Sargent Cherry, Sawtooth Oak, Shingle Oak, Shumard Oak, Swamp White Oak, Sweetgum, Thornless Honeylocust, Tulip Tree, Tupelo, Willow Oak, Yellowwood, Zelkova.

Shrubs: Blue Holly, Cornelian cherry Dogwood, Forsythia, Hibiscus, Hydrangea, *Hypericum* sp. St. John's Wort, Japanese Holly, Leucothoe, Quince, Star Magnolia, Summersweet, Viburnum, Willow, Yew, Yucca.

Perennials: Achillea, Ajuga, Amaranthus, Artemisia, *Asclepias* butterfly weed and milkweed, Baptisia, Boltonia, Candytuft, Coreopsis, Delsoperma, Dianthus aka Pinks, Echinacea, *Eupatorium* Joe Pye Weed, Gaura, Goldenrod, *Helianthus simulans* mock sunflower, Hen-and-Chicks, Mazus, Rudbeckia, Ruellia, Sedum, Stoke's Aster, Thymes, *Verbena canadensis* rose verbena.

Annuals: *Abelmoschus* huskmallow, Bat-faced Cuphea, Castor Bean, Cleome, Cosmos, *Gomphrena* globe amaranth, Groundcover Petunia, Lantana, *Nierembergia* cupflower, Pentas, Portulaca, Purslane, Rudbeckia, Scaevola, Sweet Potato Vine, Tithonia, Verbena, *Zinnia angustifolia* narrowleaf zinnia.

Ground Covers: Candytuft, Creeping Speedwell, *Hypericum* St. John's wort, Pachysandra, Roman Chamomile, Stachys, Sweet Woodruff, Thymes, Woolly Yarrow.



Sources: "Plants for Difficult Sites" by Dr. Sue Hamilton, University of Tennessee Tennessee Invasive Plant Council www.tnipc.org
Invasive Plant Atlas of the United States www.invasiveplantatlas.org

Editor's Note: Next issue we will present plants that tolerate Deep Shade, Dry Shade, Deer Resistant, Salt Tolerant, Sunny Banks & Slopes and Rain Garden Plants

Helianthus giganteus tall sunflower

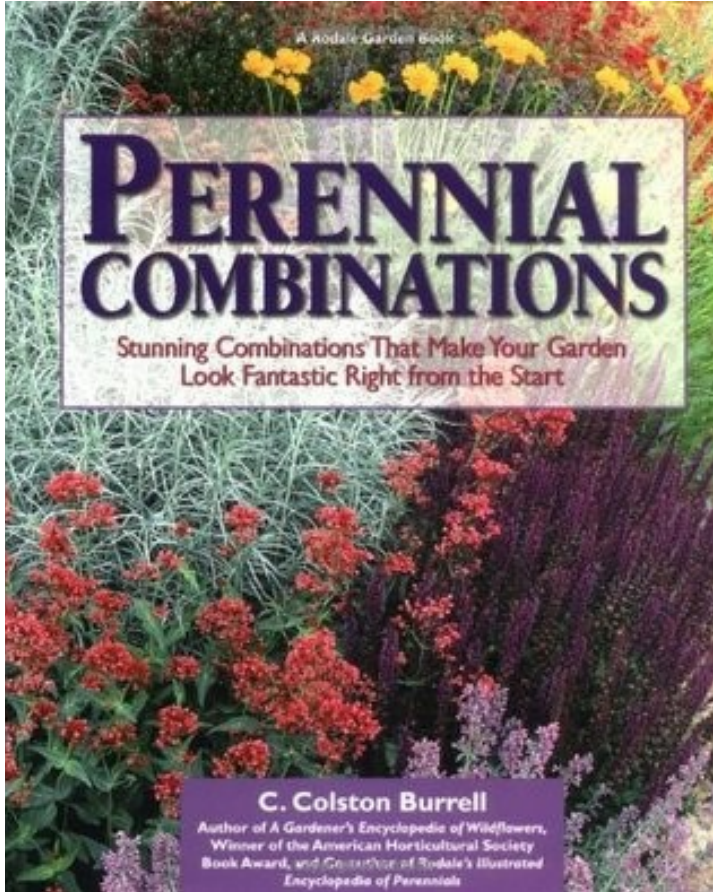
The Book Nook

Perennial Combinations by C. Colston Burrell

I have this book in my personal library and love referring to it when I am planning a new bed or have a difficult site to deal with. Because I could not have said it better, I have included the review by Goodreads.com.

“Perennial combinations are the building blocks of beautiful, successful gardens. Choosing perennials that look great and grow well together is a skill that can take years to develop, but with this book, you're guaranteed to make perfect plant choices right from the start. In *Perennial Combinations*, expert plantsman, C. Colston Burrell hand-selects 120 of the best perennial combinations for homeowners, then offers his expert advice on how to grow and use the combinations to create great gardens.

Each combination is featured in a stunning color photograph accompanied by a numbered photo key and plant list, so it's easy to find and buy exactly the right plants to re-create the combination in your own garden. Each combination features just two to six plants, so they're perfect for even the smallest garden space. You can plant each combination just as it appears in the book, or for a bigger color splash, just repeat the combination or mix it with others that are suited to the same conditions. You'll find combinations for stunning bloom from spring through fall; combinations especially suited to challenging sites like heavy clay soil or seaside gardens; and combinations just for fun, like fragrant combinations and combinations that attract butterflies.



C. Colston Burrell has lived and gardened in different climates across America, so he's made sure this book is useful to gardeners from California to Maine. He's also a professional garden designer, and he's applied his talents to create 22 original garden designs that feature the book's individual combinations. Plus every page includes his personal gardening wisdom, so you'll not only know which perennials to plant together, you'll know how to maintain those perennials so your garden will look beautiful year after year.”

Review source: Goodreads.com



September

17 UT Arboretum Butterfly Festival, 10 am-1 pm, 901 South Illinois Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN, Admission \$5

20 Tennessee Native Plant Society Seminar: Steve Murphree, Insect Pollinators, 7:30 pm-9 pm EST via ZOOM (link and more information available at www.tnps.org)

24 Blue Ribbon Country Fair, Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center, 123 Cromwell Drive, Townsend, 10 am-5 pm, parking donation \$5

October

1 UT Gardens Knoxville, "Fabulous Fall Plant Sale", 9 am-2 pm

18 Tennessee Native Plant Society Seminar: Larry Ponds, Fall Wildflowers, 7:30 pm-9 pm EST via ZOOM (link and more information available at www.tnps.org)

25 *Blount County Master Gardeners Monthly Meeting - 6:30 pm Blount County Public Library*

November

15 Tennessee Native Plant Society Seminar: Margie Hunter, Beyond Aesthetics: Garden As If Life Depends On It, 7:30 pm-9 pm EST via ZOOM (link and more information available at www.tnps.org)

* Items in *italics* are for Master Gardener members only.*

BCMG Note Cards For Sale

Susan Daffron, Membership Director, Blount County Master Gardeners

A fun thing BCMGA did in 2020 was the photo contest. We asked our members to photograph their gardens and submit pictures. One photo was selected each month to be the photo of the month. Many wonderful photos were submitted. Eight photos were selected to create a collection of note cards. We had them printed and they are now available for purchase at a cost of \$10 per set. The note cards are blank inside making them perfect for all occasions: birthdays, thinking of you, etc. They also make wonderful gifts for family and friends. To place your order, please go to <https://bcmgtn.wildapricot.org/Flower-Theme-Note-Cards>



Right Now! Attracting Pollinators to East Tennessee Gardens is a publication of the Blount County Master Gardeners, with all articles written by our members. It features descriptions of 81 plants, about 2/3 of which are native to Tennessee, and photos of all those plants, most of which were taken by our members. In addition, there is an extensive chart of plants attractive to pollinators, including bloom time and whether the plant is a pollen source, a nectar source, or a host plant for butterfly larvae. Finally, there are website and book recommendations, and native plant, nursery, garden center, and online plant resources. *Right Now!* is available at these locations in Maryville: AG Central Co-op, Ginger's Flowers (seasonal), Out of Eden Garden Center, and Southland Books; in Knoxville at Wild Birds Unlimited and Stanley's Greenhouses; and by mail order through the BCMG website, bcmgtn.org.



Blount County Master Gardeners

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We're on the Web at <http://bcmgtn.org>
Like us on Facebook, too.

Blount County Master Gardeners (BCMG) is a volunteer service organization with the goal of training volunteers who can provide the public with research-based information on a variety of horticultural topics. It is built upon solid visions, values, and community support.



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