

The Making of a Wildflower Garden

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Miller's Tavern, Virginia

By Lance Gardner

Criteria: What is wanted?

- Garden area already exists
- Work around or move existing vegetation
- Redefine boundaries – create break from garden to mowed area
- Plants?
 - Use in church
 - Natives and beneficials
 - Sunny and exposed

Plant selection: Planting a Living Landscape

- Church use:
 - Texture
 - Scents
 - Colors
 - All seasons
 - Survive the planting area – sunny and drought tolerant
- Personal preferences:
 - Natives
 - No invasives
 - Feed pollinators – bees, butterflies, etc.
 - Seeds for birds
 - Variety
 - Reduced maintenance

Garden layout

- Asymmetrical symmetry
 - Symmetrical centering plants: Baptisia and Liatris
 - Two of everything else
 - One on each side of center line
 - Not balanced – placed offset pairs
 - Limited tall plants
 - Did not use front to back (tall, short) placement, viewed from all sides
 - Invite viewer participation – look for flowers
 - Work around peonies

What I chose

- Annuals for faster color and fill
 - Marigolds
 - Salvia
 - Annual vinca
 - Dusty miller
 - Globe amaranth
 - Snapdragons
 - Basils – purple and green, scent and flowers

Perennials

- Lupine, Baptisia and Tephrosia – Nitrogen source
- Alliums – scent and deterrent
- Solidago – scent and fall color
- Echinacea – summer color and birds
- Rosemary and lavender – scent and year round color, pollinator
- Rudbeckia – good for cutting, birds
- Liatis – tall center
- Tradescantia – color, had some to donate
- Symphiotrichum – fall color
- Penstemon – color and shape
- Chrysopsis – color and texture
- Asclepias – color, butterflies
- Oenothera – color and texture

Future needs

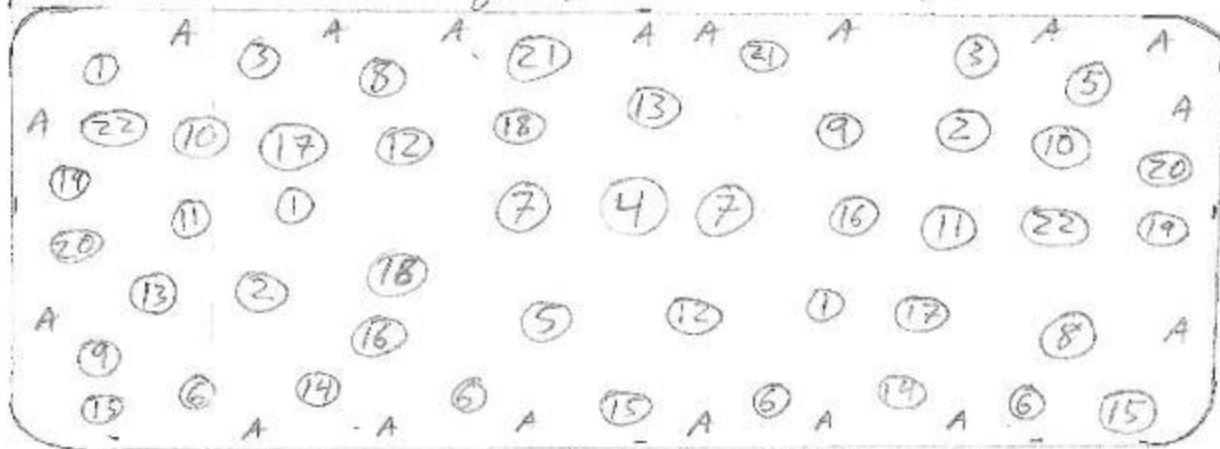
- Once established, watering should be minimal
- Allow to fill in to reduce weeds
- Maybe stepping stones for access (make your own)
- One hour/month for weeding
- Mark plant locations for winter planting
- Limit root disturbance

1. *Allium cernuum*
2. *Artemisia salicifolia*
3. *Asclepias tuberosa*
4. *Baptisia australis*

5. *Echinacea purpurea*
6. *H. sachsii*
7. *Liatris scarpa*
8. *Lupinus perennis*

9. *Rudbeckia fulgida*
10. *Solidago canadensis*
11. *Stokesia laevis*
12. *Symphiotrichum laterifolium*

*Myrica
cerifera
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*Myrica
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13. *Symphiotrichum elongifolium*
14. *Nepenthes virginiana*
15. *Chrysopsis mariana*
16. *Pentstemon fruticosus*

17. *Rudbeckia triloba*
18. *Solidago odora*
19. *Rosemary*
20. *Lavender*

21. *... ..*
22. *... ..*

A = annual