

DIY Native Garden Planner



Evaluate Your Land

What is the existing landscape like? What do I want to keep? What do I want to change?

Where do I have room for a garden? Will I be able to enjoy it from inside the house?

Are there problem areas in my yard that can be addressed with native plants?

What is my soil type? (texture and moisture)

What areas are sunny? Shady?

Goals and Objectives

What are my overall goals for the property? What do I envision?

1

2

3

What objectives will help me complete my goals? Objectives should include what you are going to do and when.

1

2

3

4

5

Site Sketch

Start with existing features: buildings, driveway, porches, landscaping, etc.
Then see where a native plant garden would fit!

Plant Selection

Which of the following plant characteristics are important for me or my yard in order to meet my goals?

Drought tolerance

Flood tolerance

Deer tolerance

Rabbit tolerance

Salt tolerance

Maximum height or height range:

Color preferences:

Bloom time:

Other:

Possible plant list:

Plant Map Notes

Use this space to add a legend or other notes about your plant map.

Implementation

What methods will I use to prepare the site? Is weed control necessary?

When will I install the plants? Spring or Fall?

Who will I order plants from and when?

What tools will I need?

How much mulch will I need? 2" = 0.167 feet (used in formula below or 3" = 0.25 feet)

Garden size: _____ sq ft X 0.167 ft = _____ cubic ft

A bag of mulch is about 2 cubic feet. For large quantities, convert to yards for bulk delivery. There are about 13.5 bags of mulch in a yard.

Convert cubic feet to yards (divide by 27): _____ yards

Is there anything else I need to do before planting?

Monitor and Maintain

How will I water my garden? Your garden should be receive about an inch of water per week during the growing season for the first couple years.

How often will I inspect my garden to check plant health and look for weeds?

What other maintenance needs will there be?

Typical spring maintenance activities include:

- Thatch removal, if not done in fall
- Weeding
- Watering, as necessary

Typical summer maintenance activities include:

- Weeding
- Watering, as necessary
- Deadhead, as necessary for reblooming

Typical fall maintenance activities include:

- Can remove thatch or leave standing for winter interest and habitat

Measure Your Success

Did I meet my goals and objectives?

What worked well? What didn't?

What would I do differently next time?