

DESIGN IDEAS FOR TREE-DOMINATED GARDENS

RAIN GARDEN : Better with woody plants! (Infiltrates runoff year-round)

WOODLAND GARDEN : Follow Nature's patterns. In-depth : Rick Darke's *American Woodland Garden*

EDIBLES : Concentrate on berries, cold-season leafy vegies, and shade-tolerant herbs

STROLL GARDEN : Capitalize on the mystery of partial views. See *SHRINK Your Lawn* for photos.

GROUNDCOVER TAPESTRY : Patterned foliage creates interest where blooms are scarce.

RESOURCES

Twin Cities Area Plant Sellers

- the Vagary - small plants for great prices incl perennials, herbs, many natives
www.thevagary.com, sells at St Paul Downtown Farmer's Mkt
- OutBack Nursery in Hastings - best selection of MN native trees & shrubs, extensive list of native perennials and grasses too, sale day for regular customers twice yearly
www.outbacknursery.com, call 651-438-2771 for catalog
- Friends School Plant Sale is May 8,9,10 in 2009 - huge variety of annuals, vegies, vines, natives, even some shrubs & trees, held at Fairgrounds (bring your own cart)
www.friendsschoolplantsale.com

Other Plant Sellers

- One Green World (edibles - Oregon)
www.onegreenworld.com, 1-877-353-4028
- Oikos (hardy edible trees/shrubs - MIch)
www.oikostreecrops.com, 1-269-624-6233
- Richter's (herbs - Canada)
www.richters.com, 1.905.640.6677
- Van Engelen Bulbs (bulk discounts)
www.vanengelen.com, 1-860-567-8734

Books

- Rick Darke - *The American Woodland Garden : Capturing the Spirit of the Deciduous Forest*
- Evelyn Hadden - *SHRINK Your Lawn : Design ideas for any landscape*
- Toby Hemenway - *Gaia's Garden : A Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture*

For design ideas, articles, and
book and video reviews, visit
www.LessLawn.com

Less **LAWN**
Shrink your lawn and grow your pleasure!

COMPANION PLANTS FOR TREES IN TWIN CITIES AREA

Perennials

- Astrantia major has ball-shaped blooms, bunnies eat leaves
- Blue Cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*) has divided foliage & blue seeds, likes moist
- Bugbane (*Cimicifuga racemosa*) has torchlike blooms and beautiful foliage
- Creeping Jacobs Ladder (*Polemonium reptans*) stays low, pretty blue flowers, not creeping! - the Vagary
- Epimedium (E. varieties) has tiny pink/red flowers and red-rimmed foliage - Friends School Plant Sale
- Perennial foxglove (*Digitalis lutea*) - the Vagary
- Spikenard (*Aralia racemosa*) large foliage, pretty berries, likes shade
- Wood poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*) has pretty foliage, yellow flowers - the Vagary

Edible Perennials

- Chives & Garlic Chives - Friends School Plant Sale has varieties
- Garden Sage in dry spots w/ late afternoon sun
- Horseradish has tropical look & aromatic foliage (good sub for Canna lilies)
- Lady's Smock (*Cardamine pratensis*) - moist soil, pretty white blooms, tastes spicy
- Lovage needs moisture, tastes like celery, good in soup/salads/sandwiches
- Mints - Richter's has wide variety
- Sorrel (get Profusion, nonflowering), tastes sour like lemon, good in salads/sandwiches

Edible Shrubs

- Blueberries/Huckleberries under conifers
 - Currants/Gooseberries, especially Clove Currant with aromatic foliage
 - Hazelnuts, native shrubs for drier woods
 - Low Juneberry (*Amelanchier humilis*, other)
 - Raspberries & other cane fruits in rich moist soil under trees
- (NOTE: One Green World & Oikos have many trees & shrubs with edible berries or nuts)
- Sweetfern (*Comptonia peregrina*) in acid woods for delicious healthy tea - OutBack

Other Shrubs & Vines

- Best clematis vine for shade is *C. paniculata*, with fragrant flowers in September
- Native honeysuckle (*Lonicera flava*) attracts hummingbirds & has showy foliage
- Hops vines have decorative & aromatic seeds & like moisture and shade
- Russian or Siberian Cypress (*Microbiota decussata*) stays low, wine color in winter
- Native spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) foliage smells like cloves/allspice, needs moist
- Summersweets (*Clethra alnifolia*) need moist
- Native Viburnums for wildlife

Understory Trees

- Bladdernut has gorgeous bark
- Blue beech (*Carpinus caroliniana*) has orange-red fall color
- Mulberry has yummy berries - Oikos & OneGreenWorld have dwarf varieties
- Serviceberry (esp Apple Serviceberry) for early flowers, edible fruit, fall color, casts not-too-dense shade
- Speckled Alder (*Alnus rugosa*) - Nitrogen fixer for shade, pretty bark and birchlike seeds
- Wahoo (*Euonymus atropurpurea*), native with bright crimson fall color, dangly pink seeds in winter (not edible) - OutBack
- Witch Hazel unusual blooms at unusual times

Ferns

- Dwarf Goatsbeard looks ferny, stays put
- LadyFern tolerates drier soils
- Maidenhair for aesthetic appeal

Bulbs

- Alliums do fine with some shade
- Native Camas (*Camassia quamash*) do ok with some shade, pretty blue flowers
- Miniature iris like protection from Western sun
- Pheasant-eye Narcissus (*N. poeticus*) fragrant, naturalizes, likes some shade