

Edible Landscaping

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Growing Food Around the House

- History
- Modern Movements
- Reap the Benefits
- Incredible Edibles



European Roots – Cottage Gardens



- combined flowers, fruits, vegetables and herbs
- animals roamed free, providing fertilizer and pest control
- made the growing of food pleasurable and convenient

European Roots - Potagers



- separated distinct areas into garden rooms
- plantings very symmetrical and geometric
- relied on raised beds and pathways

Gardening in the New World

Jamestown

- brought seeds from England
- many relied on Native Americans and their crops



Williamsburg

- backyards with orchards and vegetable gardens
- movement towards separation of food and flowers
- many formal plantings with hedges



Food from afar

Mechanization and Westward expansion moved production away from home

Urban populations expanded – number of home gardens decreased as land was replaced with buildings



A VIEW OF ONLY ONE BLOCK OF OUR NURSERY-GROWING CITRUS TREES



City Beautiful Movement

From 1860-1910 US population jumped from 31.4 million to 91.9 million. Urban centers housed 46% of the population.

Cities deteriorated, lower classes lived in squalor, upper classes moved.

Creation of beauty meant to improve conditions.



Potato Patches

Detroit mayor asked owners of vacant lots to allow unemployed to grow vegetables

Gardens greatly reduced welfare spending

\$3,000 investment resulted in \$12,000 worth of vegetables and potatoes



WWI Victory Gardens

Food shortage in Europe
increased exports

U.S. prices rose, community
gardens sprang up in
response

Number of gardens almost
doubled from '17 – '18



WWII Victory Gardens

Made commercial produce more available to the Armed Forces

Reduced demand for materials used in food processing and canning

Enhanced vitality and morale of Americans on the home front





Post-War Suburban Sprawl



Modern Movements

- Reduce dependence on chemical inputs
- Better utilize available materials
- Grow more food in less space
- Conserve water
- Enhance aesthetic value of property



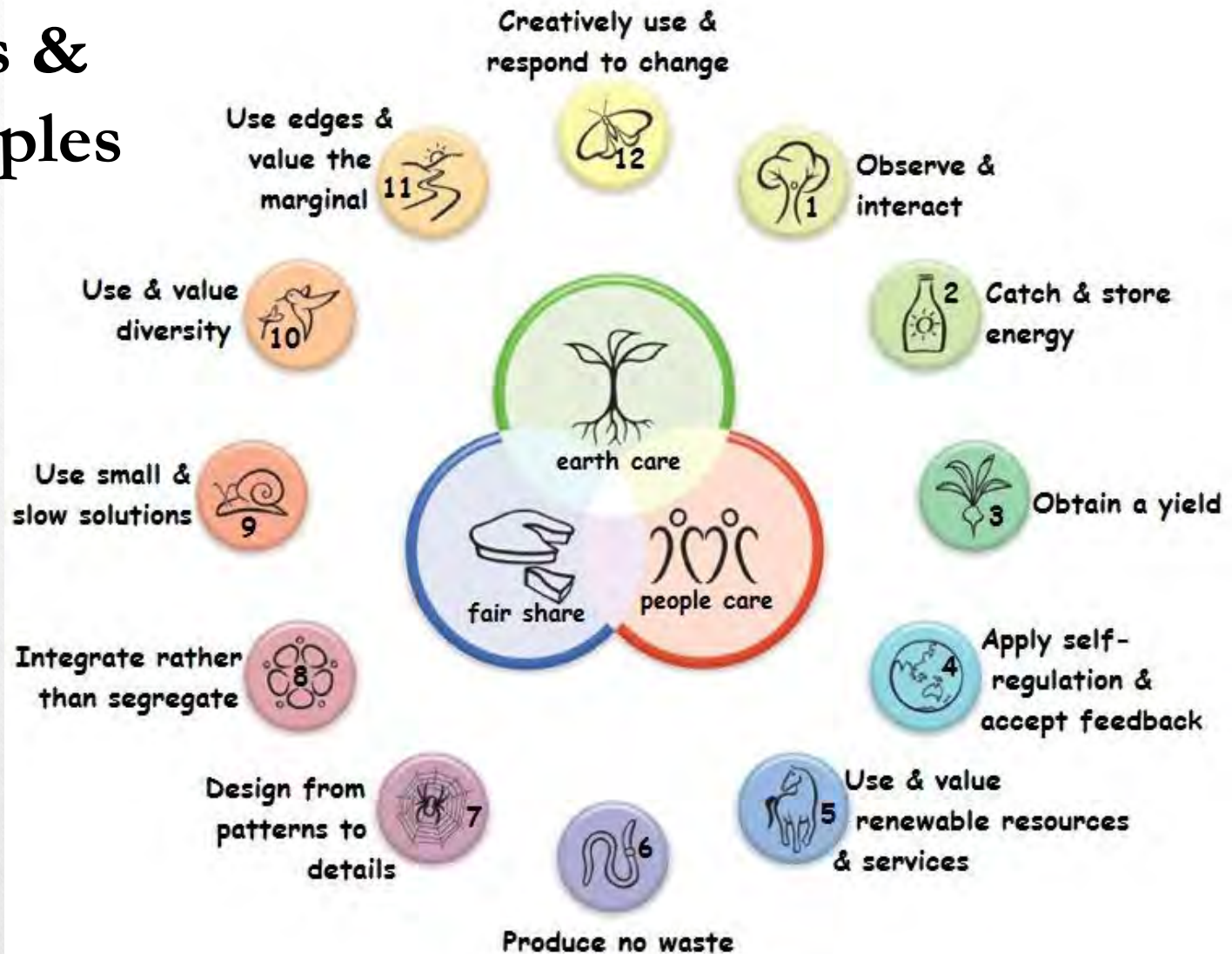
Community Gardens



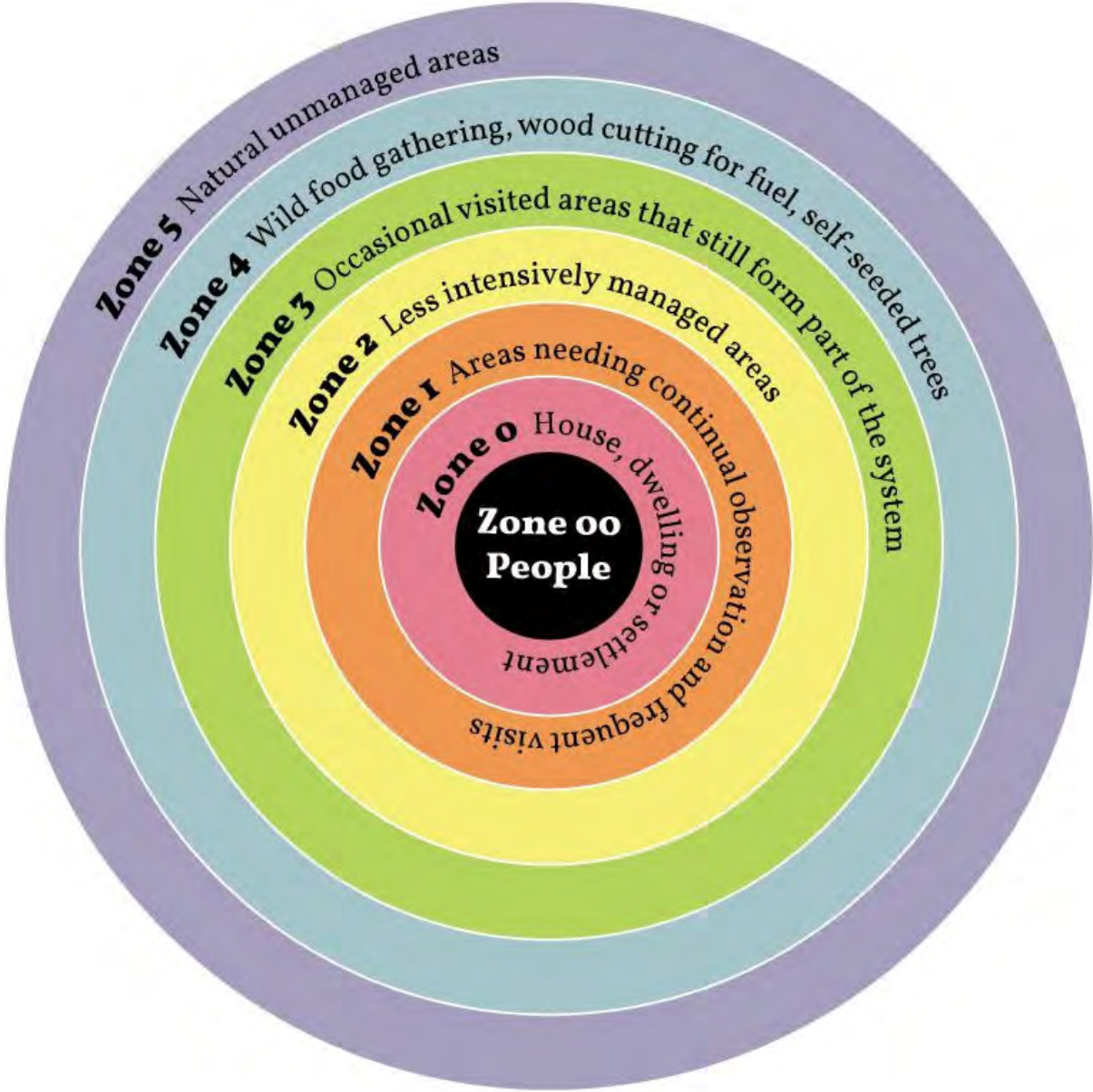
Permaculture



Ethics & Principles



Zones

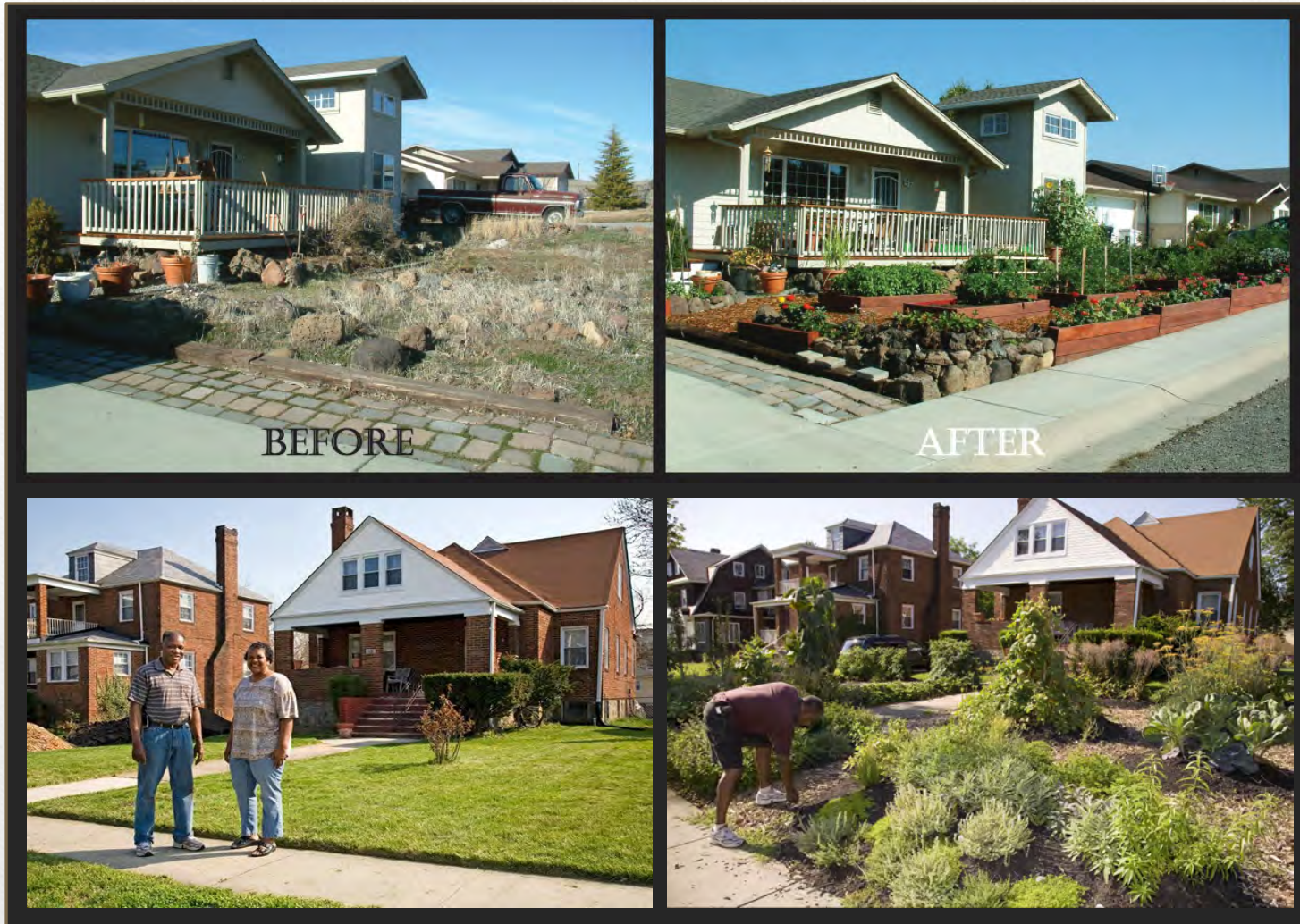




Urban Agriculture



Edible Landscaping



BEFORE

AFTER

Food Not Lawns & Edible Estates

Reaping the Benefits

- Health – nutrition, activity, food safety
- Aesthetic – color, size, ever-changing landscape
- Financial – cost of growing vs. purchasing food
- Environmental – pollination, carbon offset, organic practices
- Social – sharing of plants and food, conversation starter
- Educational – children and young adults, city dwellers



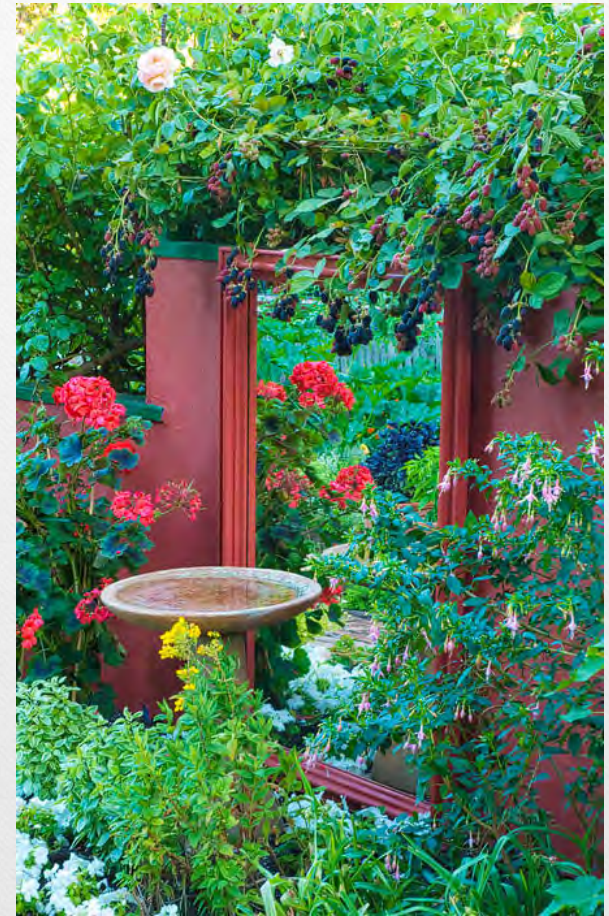
Design Elements

Hardscaping

- Rocks
- Paths
- Walls
- Ornaments
- Seating
- Patios/Decks
- Water features
- Fences
- Arbors

Softscaping

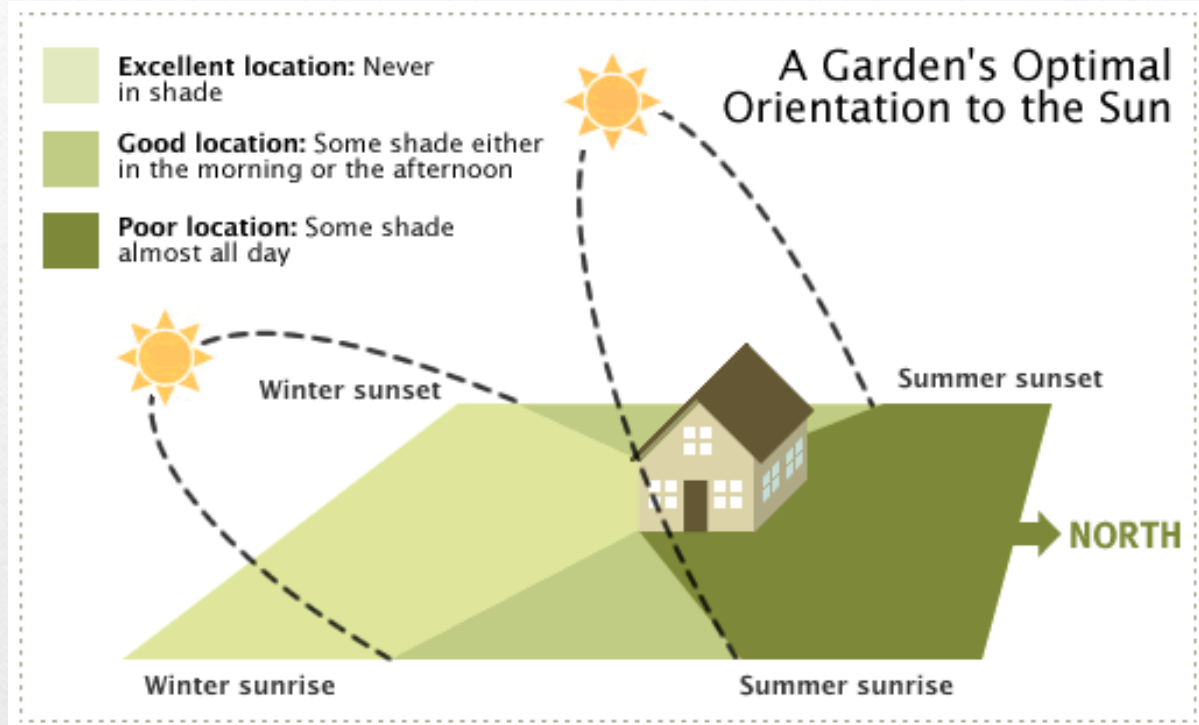
- Soil
- Grass
- Trees
- Shrubs
- Vines
- Perennials
- Annuals
- Moss





Site Evaluation

- Light
- Soil
- Water
- Space
- Access



Container Gardening

(pots, baskets, troughs, boxes, buckets etc.)



Advantages:

- no digging
- require little space
- can extend season by bringing inside

Disadvantages:

- can dry out quickly
- can harbor disease
- plants can become rootbound

GARDEN TIP

Container Gardening

Gardening in pots and containers is a great way to experiment with garden design. Keep these rules in mind to ensure that your potted plants survive.

DISINFECTING

To avoid bugs and plant diseases make sure all plant containers are clean. Wash containers with soap and water, rinse, and let air dry.

SOIL MIX

A good potting soil contains organic nutrients and should be able to drain well and keep the soil at optimum moisture levels.

CONTAINER FILLER

Using filler materials in the bottom of pots require less soil and your plants will still flourish. Materials such as packing peanuts, pop bottles, plastic containers, aluminum cans and other recycled items can be used.

COVER DRAIN HOLES

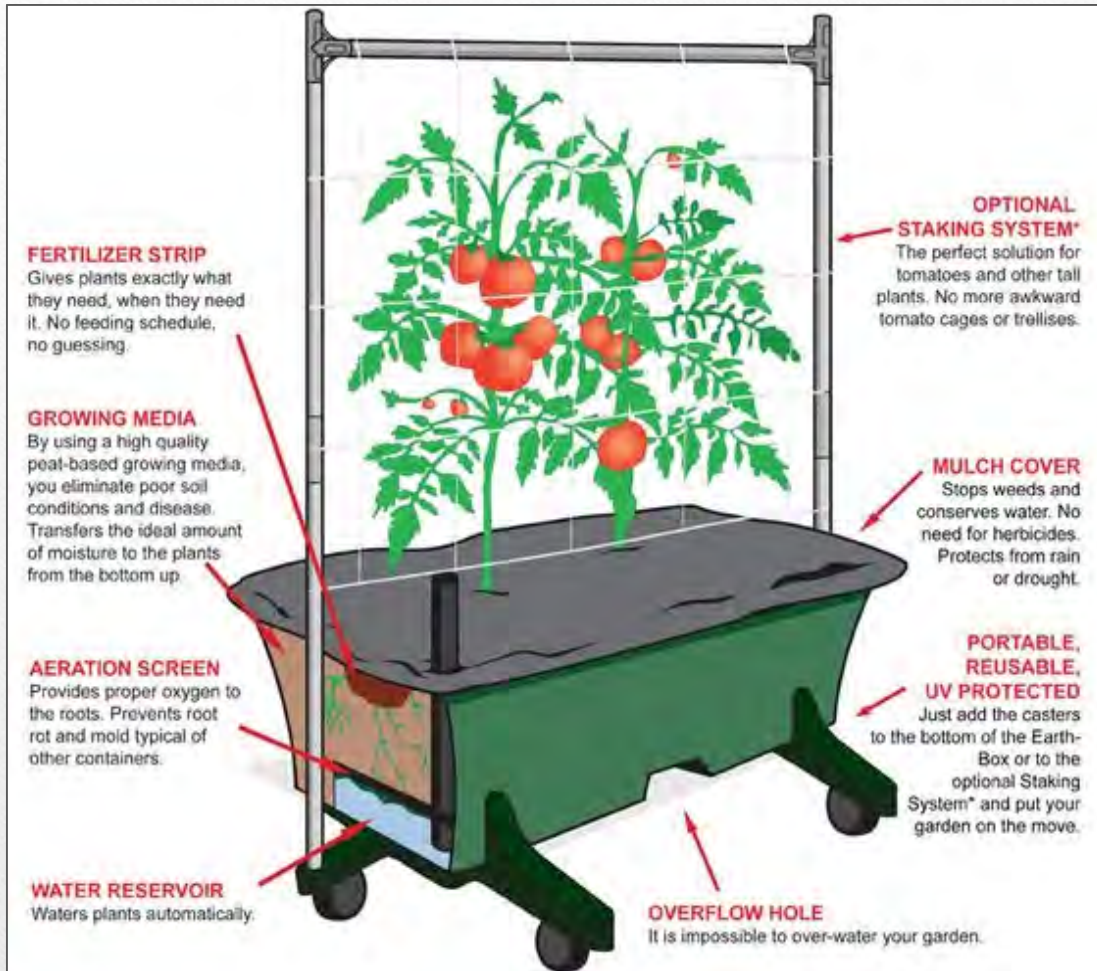
Place a screen over holes to prevent soil and filler material from draining out.



Pots



Self-Watering Containers



Raised Beds & Berms





Defined Beds



Mounds



Level Beds



Maximizing Productivity & Aesthetics

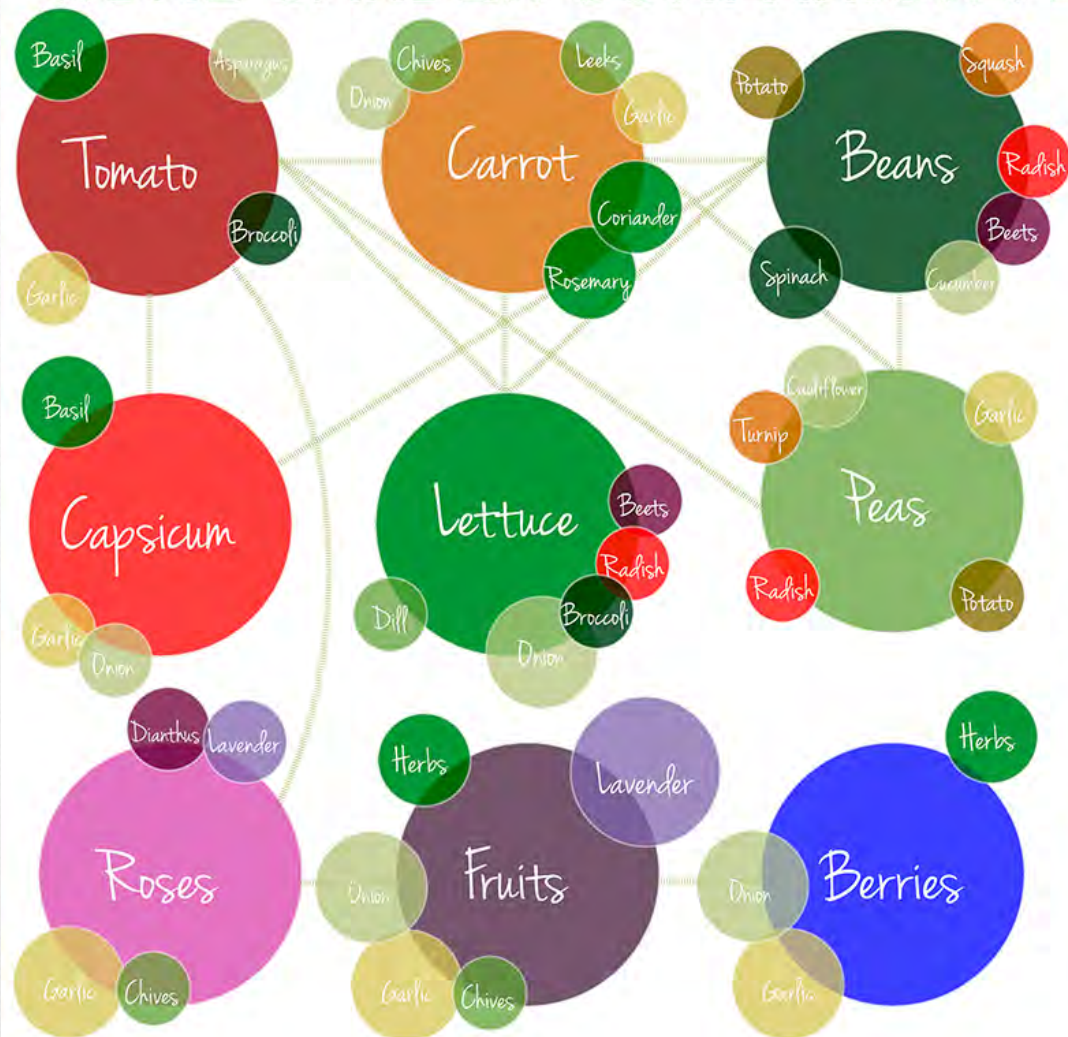


Companion Planting

The planting of different crops in proximity for pest control, pollination, providing habitat for beneficial creatures, maximizing use of space, and to otherwise increase crop productivity



HOME GARDEN COMPANION PLANTING IDEAS



Nasturtium

Nasturtium helps to deter nasty pests, like whitefly, caterpillars, and beetles and is a sacrificial plan for aphids. Nasturtiums are also edible: leaves, flowers and seeds!

Lavender

Lavender is not only beautiful and fragrant, its a tough hardy plant that helps to repel bad insects like whitefly and moths, and draw in good insects, like bees.

Mint

Mint is a tasty and helpful garden companion. Helps to deter nasty pests like moths, aphids, ants and rodents. Many varieties are highly invasive, so container planting is a good option.

Chives, Garlic, and Onions

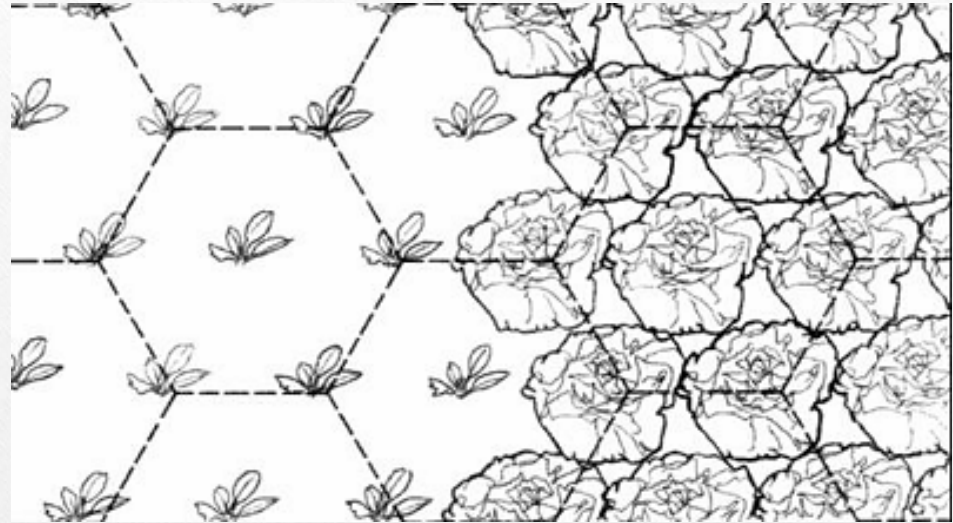
Onions, chives, and garlic help to deter pests, improve soil, and reduce systemic diseases.

Other flowering plants that can help to reduce garden pests and/or draw pollinators into your home garden:

- Marigold
- Petunia
- Poppy
- Alyssum
- Borage
- Lupin
- Tansy
- Geranium
- Pansy
- Zinnia

Biointensive Gardening

Plants are spaced closely in double-dug raised beds to maximize growing area and reduce the need for fertilizer, mulch, and water



Case Study: Ithaca NY



Initial plantings





Adding hardscaping





Incorporating edibles



Utilizing space



Going up and out



Case Study: Towson MD





Moving ornamentals



Creating beds and berms





Monitoring growth
& Re-evaluating placement



Maximizing best spaces

Expanding into
underutilized spaces



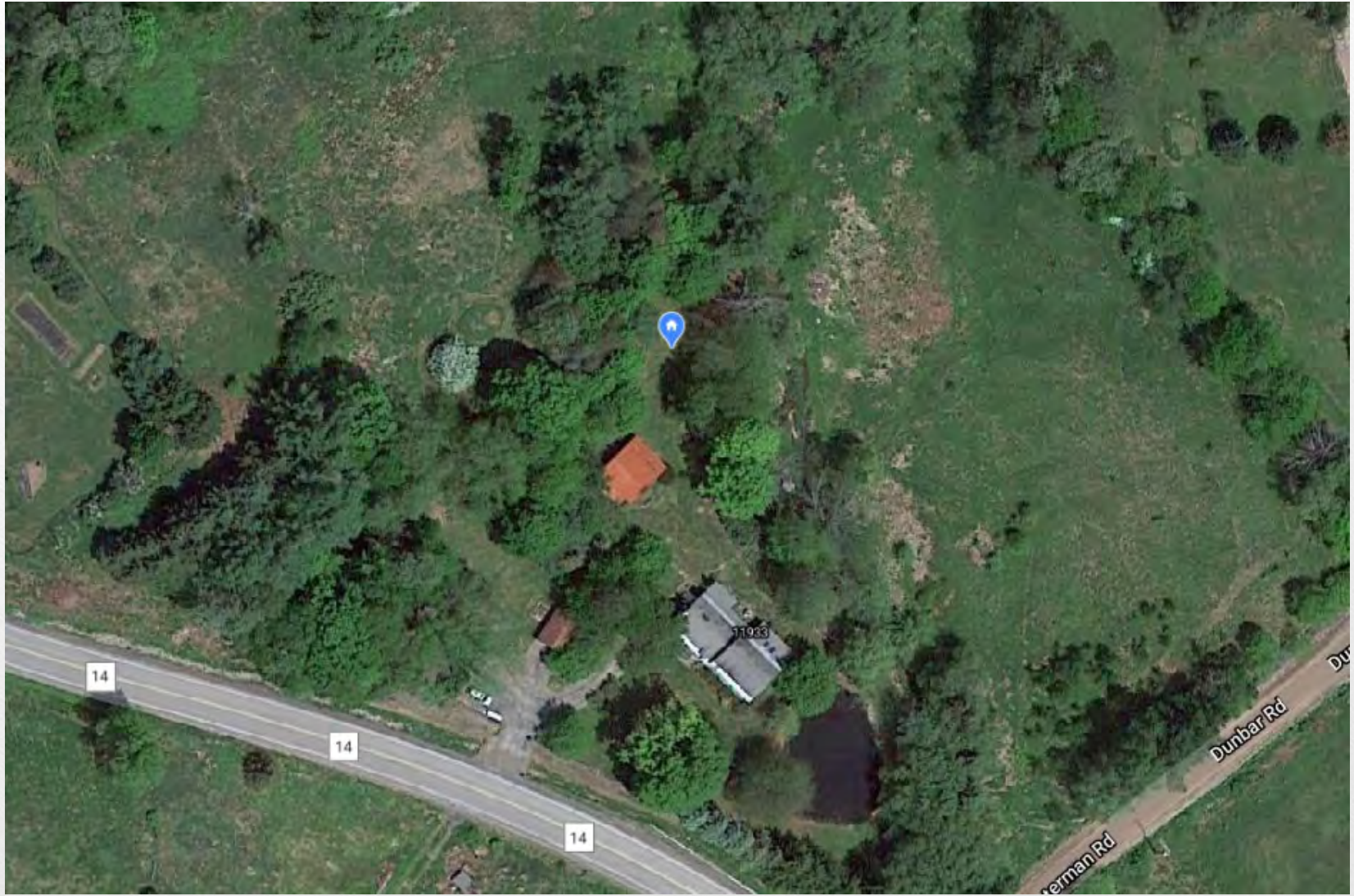


Saving the harvest



Current Project: Meredith NY







ZONE 0 - HOUSE (people)

ZONE 1 - FREQUENTLY VISITED (kitchen garden, compost piles, small fruits)

ZONE 2 - SEMI-INTENSELY CULTIVATED (large crops, future high-tunnel)

ZONE 3 - OCCASIONALLY VISITED (fruit & nut trees, possible pasture)

ZONE 4 - MINIMAL CARE (wild edibles, wood cutting, mushroom cultivation)

ZONE 5 - WILDERNESS, UNMANAGED (hiking, meditation, county roadway)





















Edibles to Incorporate





Nut Trees

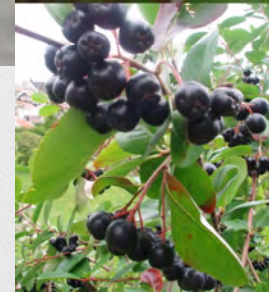
Shag Bark Hickory



Fruit Trees and Bushes



Black Lace Elderberry



Aronia (Chokeberry)

Grape Vines



Climbing Berries

Rhubarb



Asparagus



Herbs



© 2010 Rosalind Cretsy

Garlic



Kale and Cabbage



Collards & Brussel Sprouts



Chard and Beets



Amaranth



Nasturtium



Beans



Potatoes



Tomatoes



Creasy

Peppers



Unexpected edibles!





Hosta!



Ferns!