Designing with Native Plants

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Elements of Design

• Line
• Form
• Mass
• Color
• Texture

Principles of Design

• Simplicity – emphasize two to of the Elements
• Scale
• Sequence – relates to the creation of and the movement through spaces
• Balance
• Focalization – Enhance the focal point with special layout and planting design

Trees

• The USDA has also calculated that 1 acre of forest absorbs upwards of 6 tons of CO₂ and emits 4 tons of O₂. That is enough to meet the needs of 18 people!
• Evergreens placed along the NW side, block the winter’s winds, heating expense can be lowered by 20-50%
• Shade Trees create a microclimate around the home and according to the USDA Forest Service, can reduce air conditioning expense by 30%.
• According to the USDA Forest Service, a tree placed on the SW side of the home can reduce air conditioning expense by 30%.
• Texas A&M University found that visual exposure to settings with trees produced a significant recovery from stress within a 5 minute period, as denoted by changes in blood pressure and muscle tension.
• Pregnant women with trees around their homes were less likely to have under-weight babies than those without trees.
• Areas impacted by the spread of emerald ash borer across 15 states – first recorded in 2002 – was associated with an additional 15,000 deaths from cardiovascular disease and an additional 6,000 deaths from lower respiratory.

Shrubs

• Craft space and spatial sequences

Rubus oderatus
Thimble Berry

Metasequoia glyptostroboide
Dawn Redwood

Hydrangea arborescens ‘Annabelle’
Smooth Hydrangea

Baptisia australis
False Indigo

Baptisia x ‘Screaming Yellow’
False Indigo

Baptisia x ‘Twilight Prairie Blues’
False Indigo
Herbaceous

- Are the materials for decorating the spaces and providing detail.
- Predominantly for color, texture, motion and detail.

Panicum virgatum ‘Dallas Blues’  
Eupatorium ‘Little Joe’  
Helianthus angustifolius  
Hydrangea paniculata ‘Limelight’  
Ilex verticillata,  
Taxodium ascendens ‘Debonair’

Silphium terebinthinaceum  
Amsonia hubrichtii

Carex pensylvanica

Sporobolus heterolepsis

Calamagrostis x acutiflora ‘Karl Foerster’  
Eupatorium maculatum ‘Phantom’

Calamagrostis x acutiflora ‘Karl Foerster’  
Eupatorium ‘Little Joe’

Calamagrostis x acutiflora ‘Karl Foerster’  
Aster tataricus ‘Jindai’

Rudbeckia maxima

Monarda fistulosa

Echinacea pallida

Vaccinium membranaceum  
Itea virginica ‘Henry's Garnett’  
Aronia melanocarpa  
Eryngium yuccifolium

Iris versicolor  
Carex grayi  
Iris virginica

Got Deer?  
Actea pachypoda  
Amsonia x ‘Seaford Skies’  
Amsonia hubrectii  
Aesculus parviflora

Switch Grass  
Joe Pye Weed  
Swamp Milkweed  
Hydrangea  
Winterberry Holly  
Bald Cypress  
Prairie Dock  
Blue Star Amsonia  
Oak Sedge  
Prairie Dropseed  
Feather Reed Grass  
Joe Pye Weed  
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Feather Reed Grass  
Tatarian Aster  
Dumbo Ears  
Bergamot  
Pale Purple Cone Flower  
Huckleberry  
Virginia Sweetspire  
Black Chokeberry  
Rattlesnake Master  
Blue Flag Iris  
Gray’s Sedge  
Southern Blue Flag Iris  
Dolls Eyes  
Blue Star Amsonia  
Blue Star Amsonia  
Bottlebrush Buckeye