Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Pattern Book:

Sample plant lists and designs for four Florida regions

USDA Hardiness Zone 9B, South Central Florida

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Purpose

The design and maintenance of landscapes in residential yards has a significant impact on water shortages and declining water quality in many counties in Florida. Maintenance of traditional landscape plantings can require a large amount of water, fertilizer, and pesticides which can be a serious environmental threat to Florida's waterbodies.

As part of a broad effort to improve water quality, the following landscape guidelines were developed for USDA Plant Hardiness Zones 9B in Central Florida to guide the design and installation of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) in residential neighborhoods. By adopting Florida-Friendly principles for residential yards homeowners will be creating environmentally sound landscapes that will conserve and protect both water and energy. Homeowners with FFL yards will enjoy attractive landscapes and wildlife, save time and money, and protect the quality of Florida's water by reducing pollution in our waterbodies.

How to Use this Document

Step 1- Review the Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles and general design principles
Step 2- Note the activity zones for residential yards and the design intent for each zone
Step 3- Analyze your yard to determine site conditions in each activity zone
Step 4- Determine which plant groups are appropriate for your site conditions
Step 5- Refer to the example master plan layouts for organization suggestions
Step 6- Check the plant tables for your site condition- choose a mix of plants with a variety of textures, colors, sizes and shapes
Step 7- Note the recommended irrigation schedule

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™

The intent of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) is to use resource-efficient plants and sustainable maintenance practices and materials to conserve water and reduce negative impacts on waterbodies and wildlife habitats. The primary design concept is "right plant, right place" which means choosing resource-efficient plants (those that use less water, pesticides, and fertilizer), which will grow and remain healthy with minimal care under the site conditions. Choosing the right plant requires an analysis of the site including soil, sun/shade patterns, moisture, and existing vegetation. The health of the existing vegetation provides clues to specific site conditions- look for healthy plants and use plants with the same growing requirements.

Florida-Friendly Design Principles

- Choose the **Right plant, for the Right Place** to minimize resource use
- **Reduce turf** to a small but functional area and replace large turf areas with low spreading groundcover or drought tolerant plants
- **Plant trees** for shade on the east, west, and south sides of the house
- **Shade the AC** unit with trees rather than shrubs
- **Direct water flow** in the yard and use plants to catch and **filter rainwater** before it flows into waterbodies or the stormwater system
- Use plants to **attract wildlife** throughout the yard
- **Specialty gardens**, such as butterfly gardens, can be created by grouping plants to provide food and shelter
- Incorporate **mulched areas**, gravel areas, pathways, and patios in the yard to provide access and spatial organization

General Landscape Design Principles

- **Organization:** Create outdoor "rooms" by using pathways, hardscapes, and plants to divide and organize spaces
- **Proportion:** Keep the size of the plants proportional to the house and spaces in the yard
- **Repetition:** Repeat plant materials for a unified and cohesive look, with just enough variety for interest
- **Variety:** Make the yard interesting by having variation in plant sizes (especially heights), color, texture, and shape
- **Composition:** Group and arrange plants in overlapping masses based on the size, form, color, and growing requirements
- **Emphasis:** Use dramatically different plants as focal points to attract attention

Residential Yard Activity Zones

Design Intent for Activity Zones

Private Zone- Back Yard

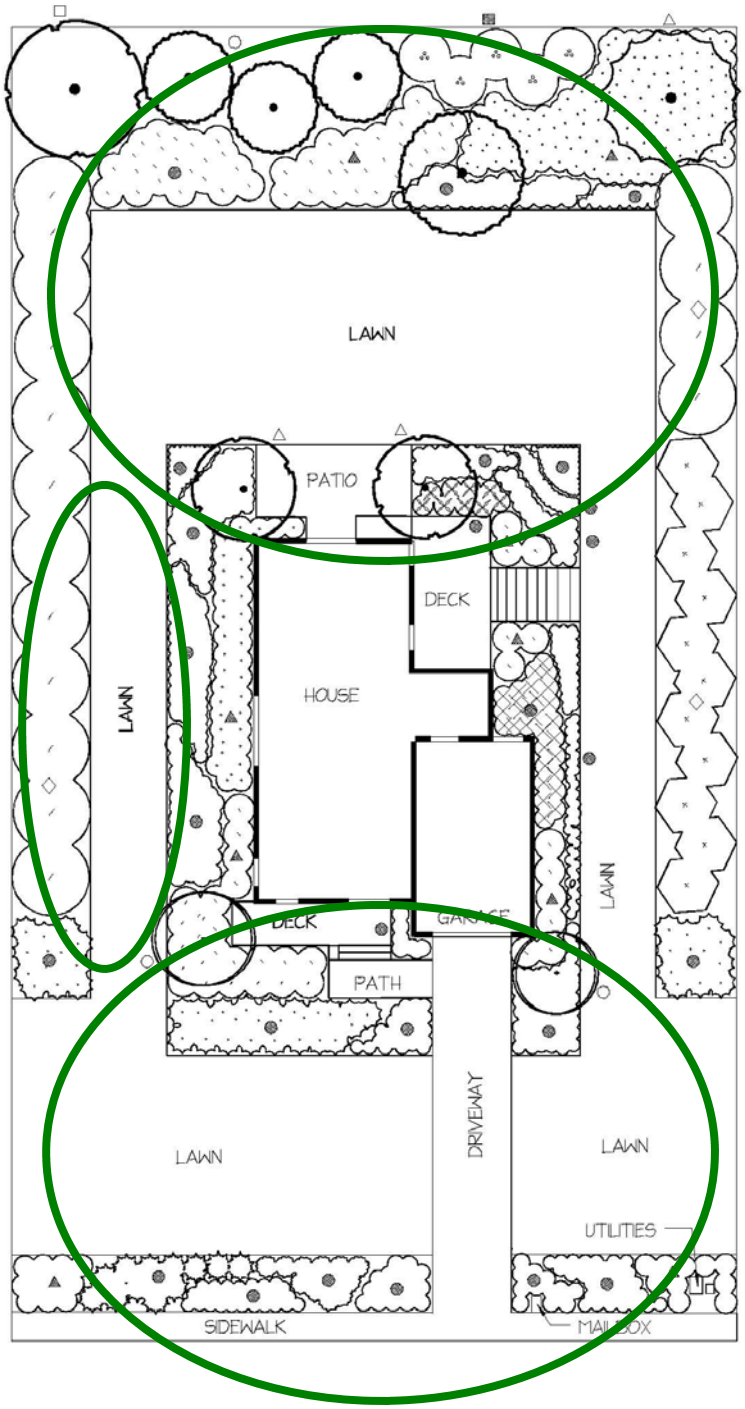
- Create comfortable microclimates for the user (sun/ shade areas)
- Create activity areas for children's play and dogs
- Create entertainment and dining areas
- Include pathways for circulation
- Screen for privacy from exterior views
- Design for specialty gardens (butterfly, rain, Vegetable, and water edge)
- Provide access to utility meters and vents
- Use more low maintenance, hardy plants

Utility/Work Zone- Side Yards

- Screen utilities (AC unit, pool pumps, etc.)
- Screen for privacy from exterior views
- Provide a yard work area (compost bin, work bench)
- Include pathways for circulation

Public Zone- Front Yard

- Design for curb appeal and property value
- Design for high visibility- use a variety of color, form, and texture in plants
- Highlight front yard with good quality specimen plants
- Direct view to front entry with focal plants
- Blend with neighborhood (don't overdesign for area)
- Consider safety for visitors and delivery people
- Choose plants with tidy growth habit for walkways



Inventory and Analysis of Site Conditions

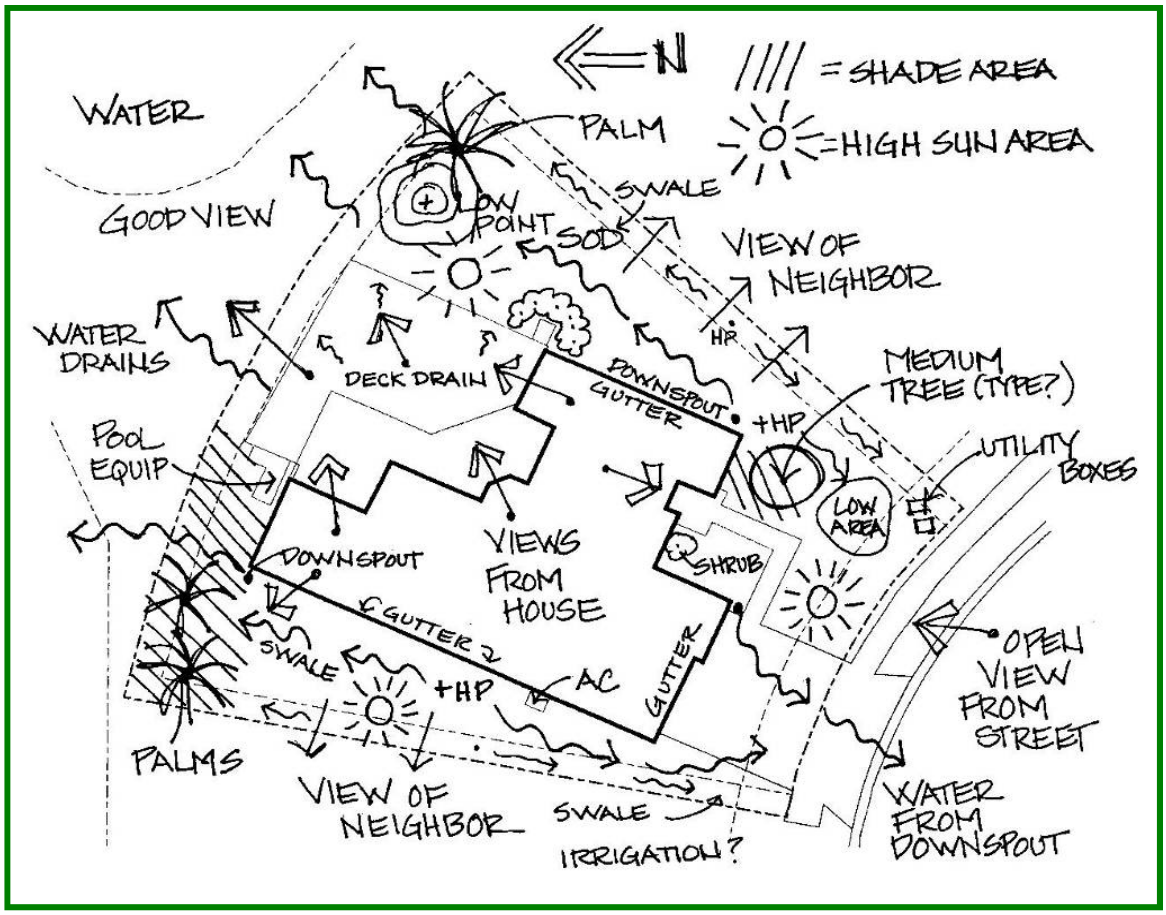
Inventory—Note the following on the base map:

- Utility location and building easements
- Areas of sun, shade, and part shade
- Views from the house, street and the neighbors
- Direction of water flow
- Low areas and high points
- Soil characteristics (type)
- Vegetation to keep
- Exotic, invasive vegetation to remove
- Location of gutter/downspouts
- Location of irrigation heads
- House type (architecture)
- Color and materials of house and hardscape
- Window and door locations, height of windows
- Depth of building overhangs
- Circulation routes
- Maintenance problems (inaccessible areas, bare spots, erosion, etc.)

Site inventory and analysis is the process of recording all site conditions on a plan view base sheet and analyzing the conditions to guide design decisions and determine actions to be taken

Analysis– determine actions to be taken to resolve problems:

- Plant shrubs to screen (hide) or open (frame) a view (or utilities)
- Collect stormwater with gutters/rain barrels and/or redirect and harvest water
- Plant trees for shade or clear for sun
- Relocate or create circulation routes to provide adequate access
- Remove old, overgrown vegetation, or relocate if possible
- Test soil and amend with compost if necessary
- Remove exotic, invasive vegetation
  *contact local UF/IFAS extension office for more information



Plant Groups for Site Conditions

Plant Groups

Plants groups are based on the most appropriate plants for specific site locations and conditions. For example, Group A1 to A3 includes plants that are appropriate for the front entry and other areas of the front yard. Group B1 and B2 includes plants that are better suited under windows or along walls. Group C plants are the best plants for along property lines and fences and Group D includes plants that work well under trees. Group E includes plants for a variety of specialty gardens.

Each plant group was created by matching the physical characteristics and functional attributes of the plants to specific site conditions and user needs in each activity zone. Consideration was given to the typical type of activities (play, entertaining, walking), building and hardscape conditions (walkways, utilities, windows), and the type of user (family, delivery people) for each zone. Other considerations included maintenance practices, accessibility, privacy, and safety issues.

Plant choices for each group were based on drought tolerance, regional suitability, low maintenance (pruning), native status, local availability, and cost. Plants where also chosen to facilitate use, reduce maintenance, create habitats, and look attractive. This book includes descriptions of the characteristics of the plants in each group, examples of planting plans, design suggestions, and plant lists for each group.

Plant Characteristics: lists the physical and aesthetic characteristics of plants appropriate for each site condition

Example Planting Plans: The planting plan examples give suggested layouts and arrangements for plant materials and bed lines for zone 9B. Optional master plans show different design/layout possibilities

Design Tips: include photos of typical site conditions (Figures 1 and 2 are examples of typical problems), with suggested design solutions

Plant tables: include the plant name, size, sun and shade requirements, and native status. Native plants are indicated by an asterisk (*) by the plant name

Site Conditions

Group A1: Front Entries and Patios
Group A2: Along Sidewalks and Walkways
Group A3: Around Mailboxes and Utilities
Group B1: Under Windows
Group B2: Along Walls
Group C1: Along Property Lines
Group C2: Along Fences
Group D: Under Trees
Group E: Specialty Gardens– Butterfly Garden, Water Edge, Rain Garden

Figure 1: Entry lacks interest

Figure 2: Shrubs along wall are over-trimmed

Plant Groups
Design Characteristics

Group A1: Front Entry/Patio

- Low growing and compact plants typically retain their form without sprawling or growing over horizontal surfaces. The clean growth habit allows trimming to be kept at a minimum and walkways are safer for visitors and delivery persons
- Colorful plants are good choices for focal points because they capture the viewer's attention and draw the eye to the entry or patio
- Specimen plants with bold forms are also used at front entrances to create focal points from the street
- Medium to course texture and complex flowers and foliage patterns makes planted areas interesting for close-up viewing in the patio
- Medium to small trees around the patio provide an overhead plane that gives the feeling of enclosure and protects from the sun

Group A2: Along Sidewalks and Walkways

- Low-growing, non-sprawling plants with clumping growth habits keep views open and pathways clean and clear of tripping hazards
- Arching, weeping, and mounding forms that brush the pathway soften the hard edge

Group A3: Around Mailboxes and Utilities

- Low or medium shrubs around AC units prevent blockage of air flow to the unit; use tree canopies to shade unit instead
- Plants with clean growth habits tend to retain their original form and require less pruning to prevent interference to the AC unit
- Prevent insect bites and injury to mail carriers and meter readers by selecting plants that do not attract biting or stinging insects and don't have thorns or sharp points

Plant Groups: Design Characteristics

Group B1 and B2: Under Windows and Along Walls

- Medium shrubs cover the lower wall and reduce the visual mass of the wall
- Shrubs with soft/fine texture and flexible branches are easy to prune and reduce injury when accessing the wall for maintenance
- Plants with medium mature heights will fill the wall space beneath the window without covering the window
- Plants with soft texture and loose foliage (no thorns or stiff leaves), ensures easy pruning and access to windows for maintenance and storm shutters. Flexible branches plants also allow for emergency exit if needed.
- Small trees with low canopies will screen and shade windows

Group C1 and C2: Along Property Lines and Fences

- Fast growing, upright shrubs with dense foliage provide maximum screening and greater privacy
- Evergreen shrubs provide year-round buffers
- Plants with dense foliage and clean growth habits will hide the fence and make maintenance easier
- Match the mature height of the plant to the height of the fence for complete coverage
- Attractive plants are used for front yard fences that require plants on both sides to hide the fence from the street and the house view

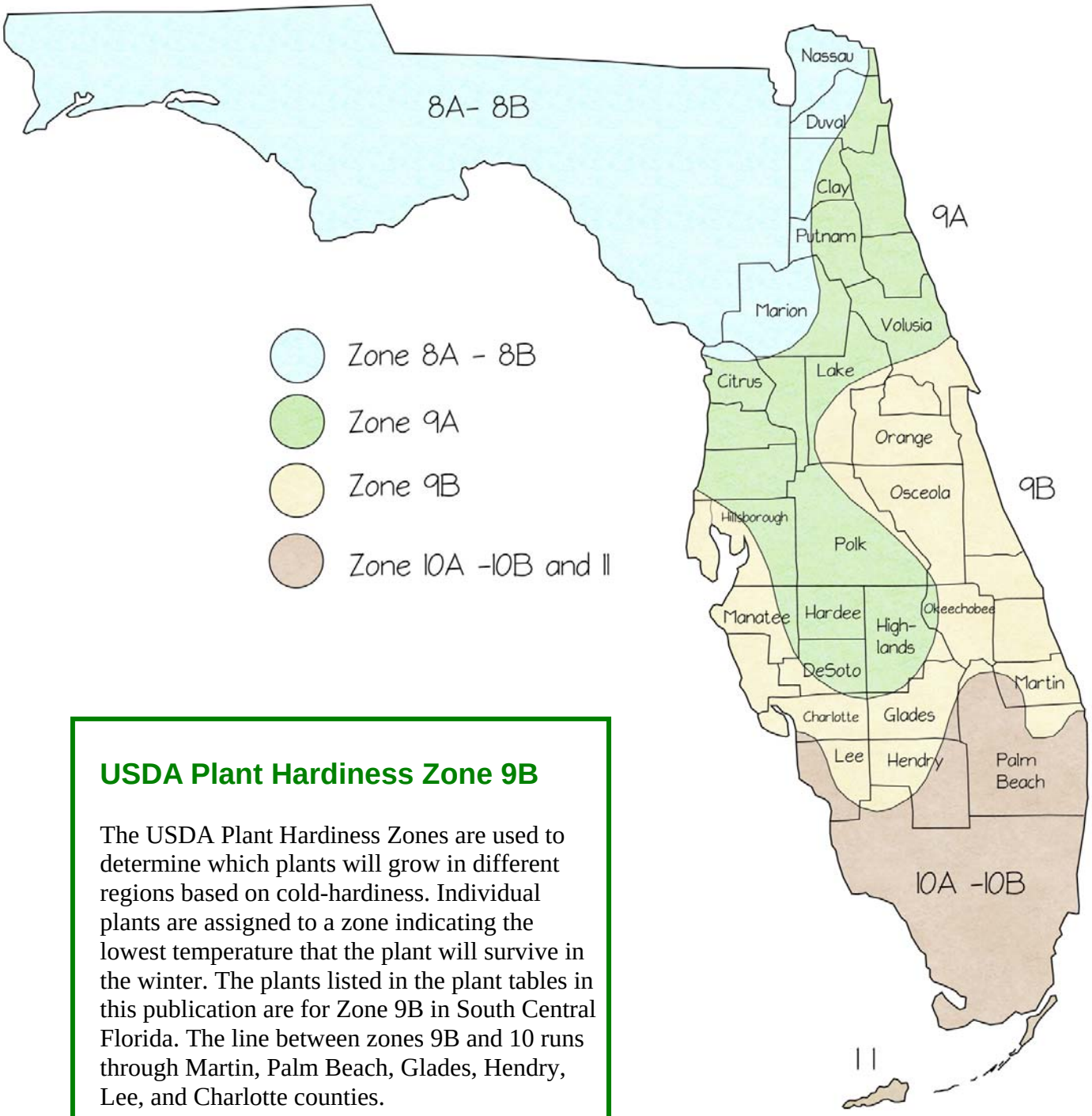
Group D: Under Trees

- Small plants (with small root balls) will minimize plant and tree root interference
- Groundcovers with vining and spreading habits are good choices to cover large areas under trees
- Plants with larger foliage will hide fallen leaves under deciduous trees
- Shade conditions will be either filtered or dense and may vary with the time of year

Group E: Specialty Gardens– Rain Garden, Butterfly, and Water Edge

- Plants that tolerate wet and dry conditions are necessary for rain gardens
- Color, food and shelter are important for butterfly plants
- Plants that are attractive, provide a buffer, and help to clean the water should be used along the water edge

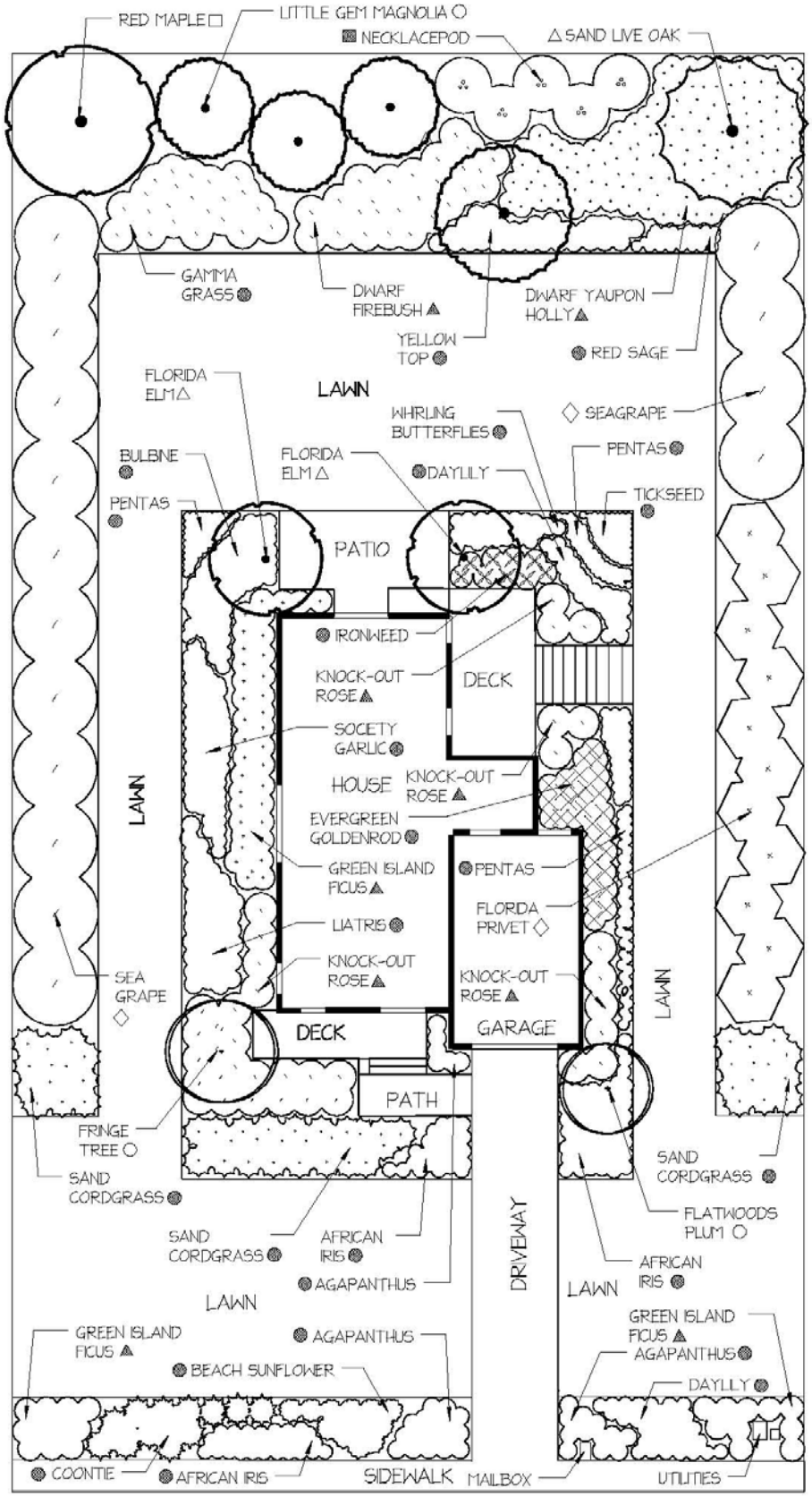
USDA Plant Hardiness Zones
North Florida– Zone 9B



USDA Plant Hardiness Zone 9B

The USDA Plant Hardiness Zones are used to determine which plants will grow in different regions based on cold-hardiness. Individual plants are assigned to a zone indicating the lowest temperature that the plant will survive in the winter. The plants listed in the plant tables in this publication are for Zone 9B in South Central Florida. The line between zones 9B and 10 runs through Martin, Palm Beach, Glades, Hendry, Lee, and Charlotte counties.

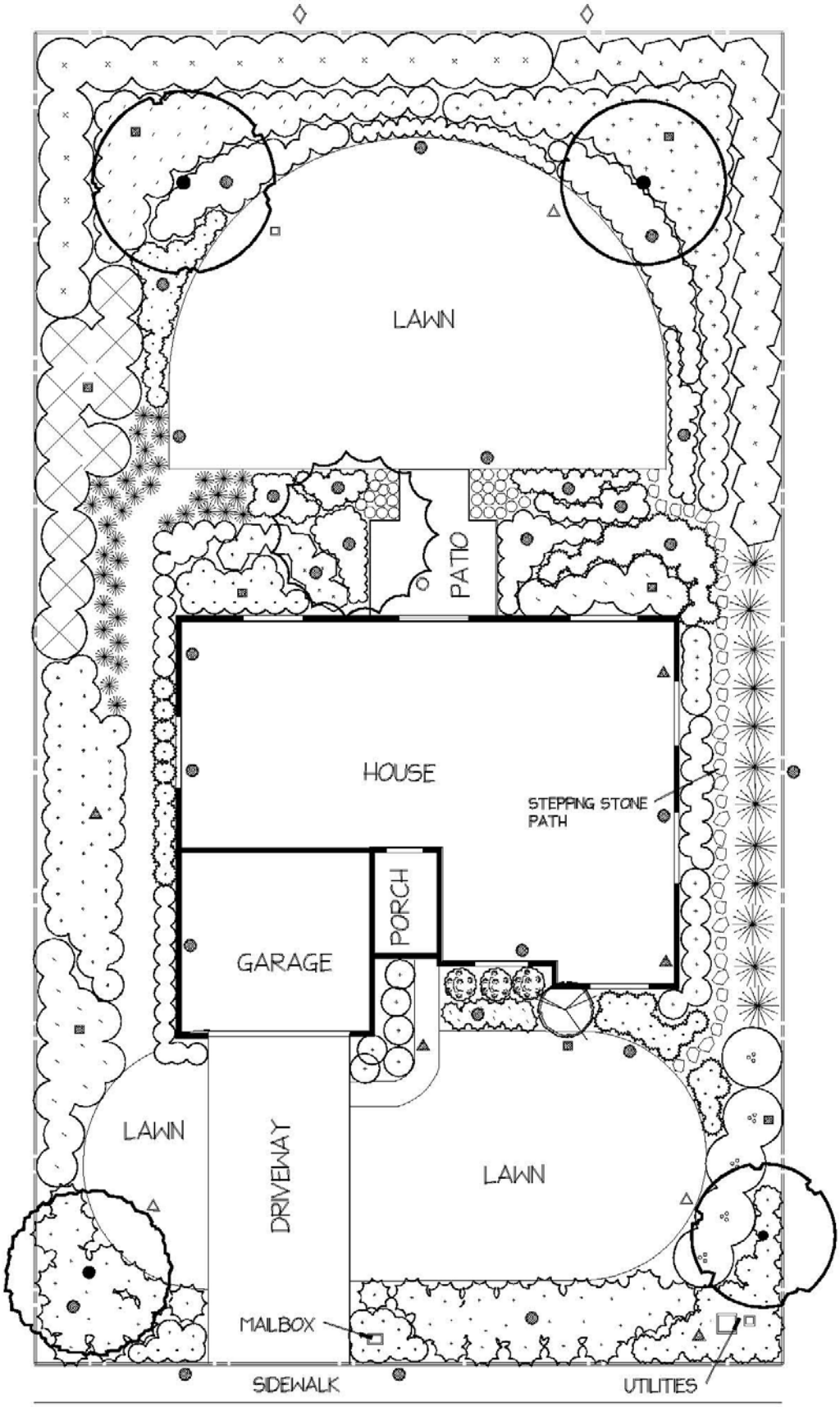
Master Planting Plan– Zone 9B
Formal Geometric Design



Formal Geometric Design Characteristics

1. Use of geometric forms– squares
2. Structured, defined architectural look
3. Straight edges on plant beds and 90 degree corners
4. Plants in long, linear rows
5. Use of well defined, linear lawn panels
6. Long open viewsheds

Optional Planting Plan Layout
Formal Contemporary Design

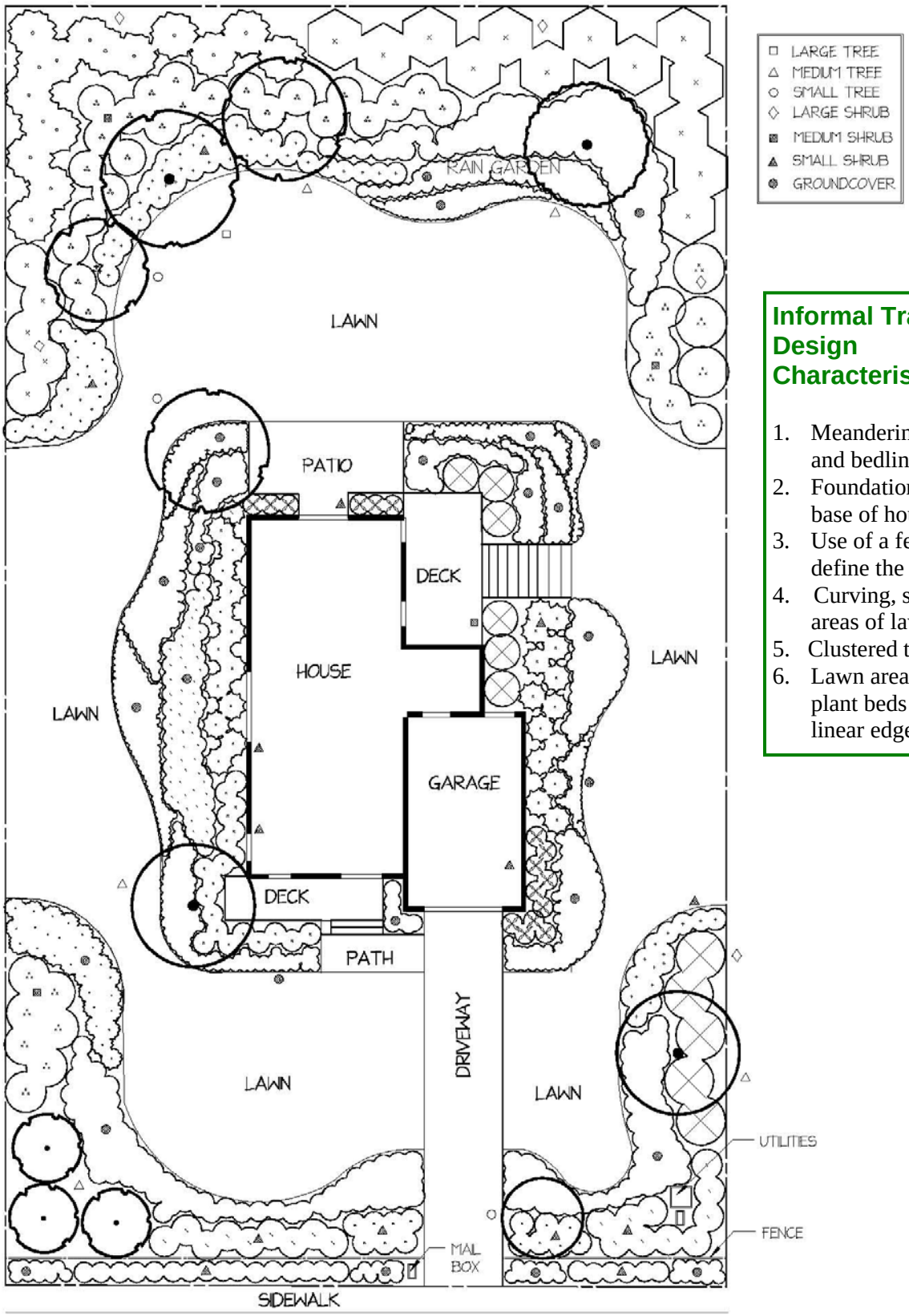


- LARGE TREE
- MEDIUM TREE
- SMALL TREE
- LARGE SHRUB
- MEDIUM SHRUB
- SMALL SHRUB
- GROUNDCOVER

Formal Contemporary Design Characteristics

1. Use of geometric forms-circle segments
2. Symmetrical balance in the layout
3. Organized around a central axis
4. Well defined lawn panels
5. Use of trees to frame a view
6. Straight edges in plant beds

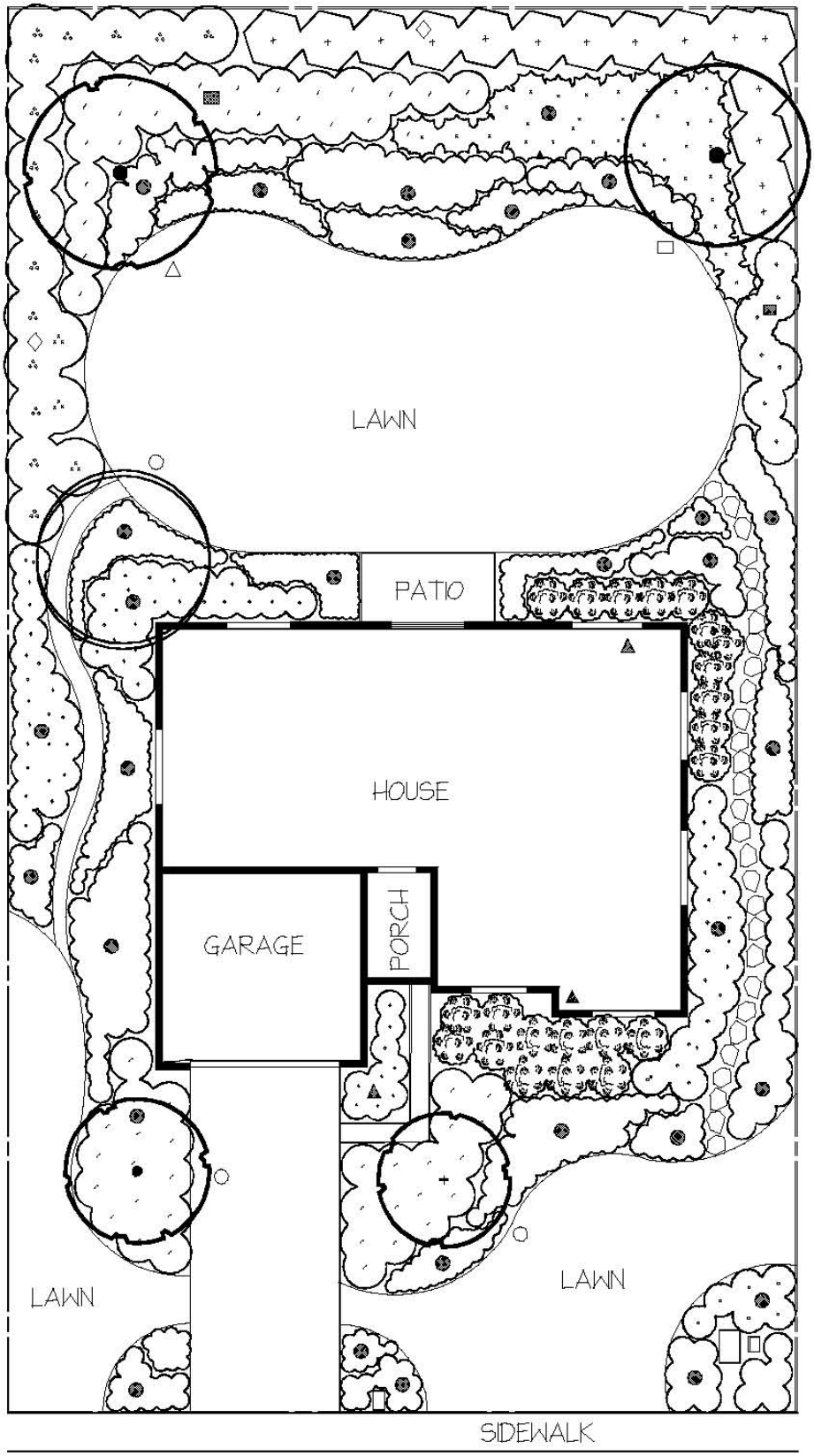
Optional Planting Plan Layout
Informal Traditional Design



Informal Traditional Design Characteristics

1. Meandering pathways and bedlines
2. Foundation plants at base of house
3. Use of a fence to define the front yard
4. Curving, sweeping areas of lawn
5. Clustered trees
6. Lawn areas defined by plant beds with curvi-linear edges

Optional Planting Plan Layout
Informal Naturalistic Design



- LARGE TREE
- MEDIUM TREE
- SMALL TREE
- LARGE SHRUB
- MEDIUM SHRUB
- SMALL SHRUB
- GROUNDCOVER

Informal Naturalistic Design Characteristics

1. Meandering pathways and bedlines
2. Use of materials in natural forms, such as stepping stones and weathered wood
3. Use of forms that mimic nature
4. Use of organic, free flowing forms
5. Curving, sweeping areas of lawn
6. Curvilinear edges on plant beds

The plant group/ site condition is listed here

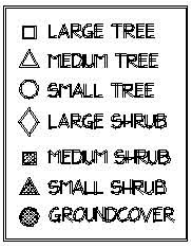
Using the Design Tip Sheets
Group A1– Front Entry

Photos of each site condition addressed in the plant groups are included to help the reader recognize the design considerations

Before Photo: This box describes the condition illustrated in the photo, including maintenance and design considerations

Desired Characteristics

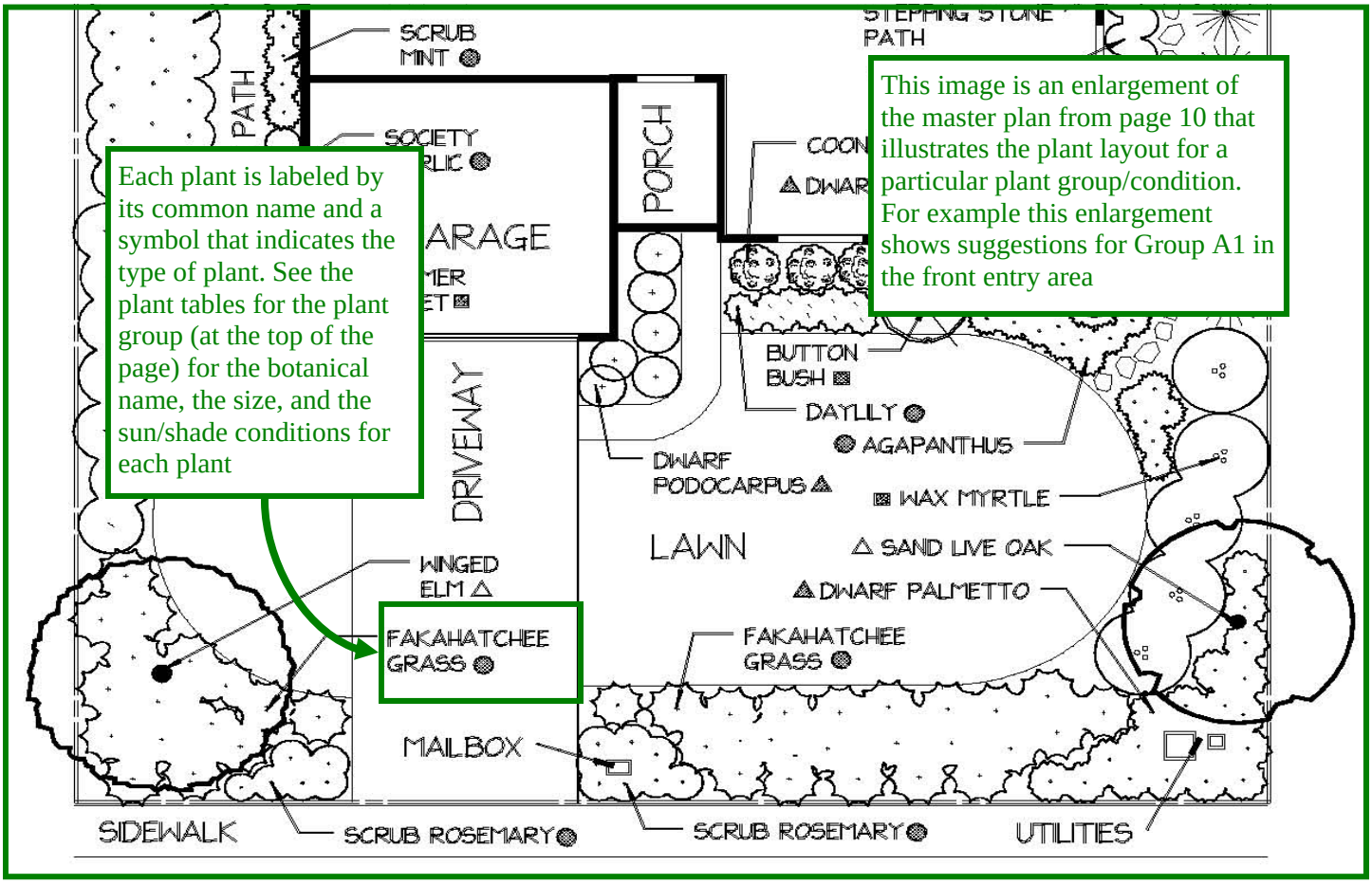
Look here for the desired aesthetic and structural characteristics of the plants. Comments include the growth habit, texture, form, size, and maintenance issues.



The key shows the symbols indicating the type of plant on the master planting plan

Design Tips

Look here for design tips and ideas on choosing plants and locating them for function, maintenance, aesthetics, and safety.



Each plant is labeled by its common name and a symbol that indicates the type of plant. See the plant tables for the plant group (at the top of the page) for the botanical name, the size, and the sun/shade conditions for each plant

This image is an enlargement of the master plan from page 10 that illustrates the plant layout for a particular plant group/condition. For example this enlargement shows suggestions for Group A1 in the front entry area

Design Tip Sheet
Group A1– Front Entry

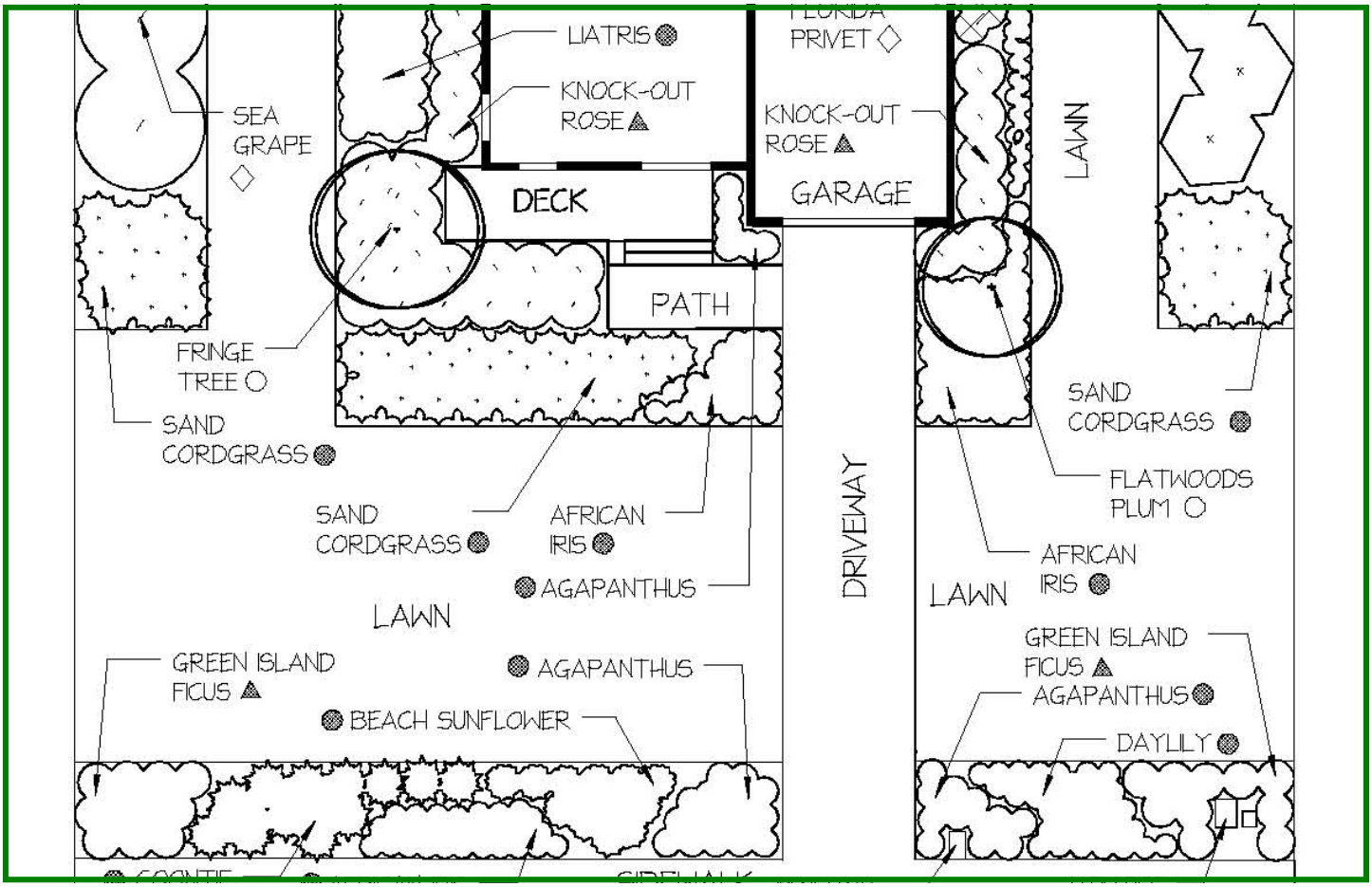
Before Photo: Existing plants on both sides of path are too large for the walkway area and must be trimmed frequently to keep front entry clear for walking

Desired Characteristics

- Low growing
- Compact, medium to small
- Clean growth habit
- Colorful
- Medium or coarse texture
- Bold forms, unique shape or texture

Design Tips

- Place low/small plants with compact growth habit next to the walkway to reduce trimming
- Place interesting plants at natural viewpoints

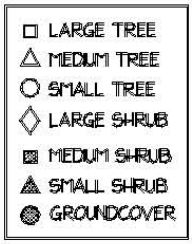


Design Tip Sheet
Group A1– Patios

Before Photo: Lack of plants creates an exposed, unattractive patio with no colorful plants for interest and no tree canopy for shade

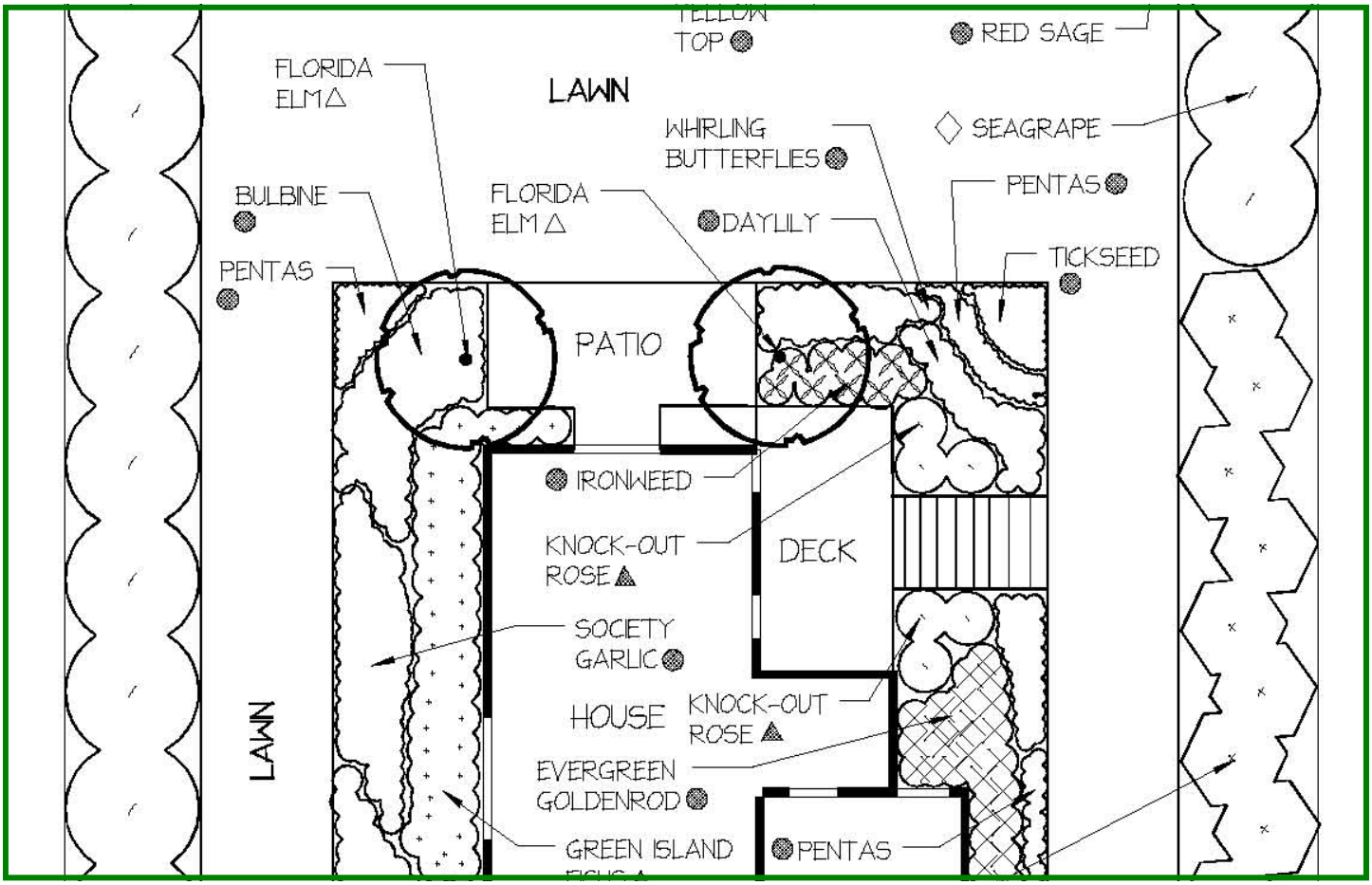
Desired Characteristics

- Low growing, compact
- Clean growth habit
- Colorful
- Medium or coarse texture
- Wide canopy trees
- Bold forms, unique shape, size or texture



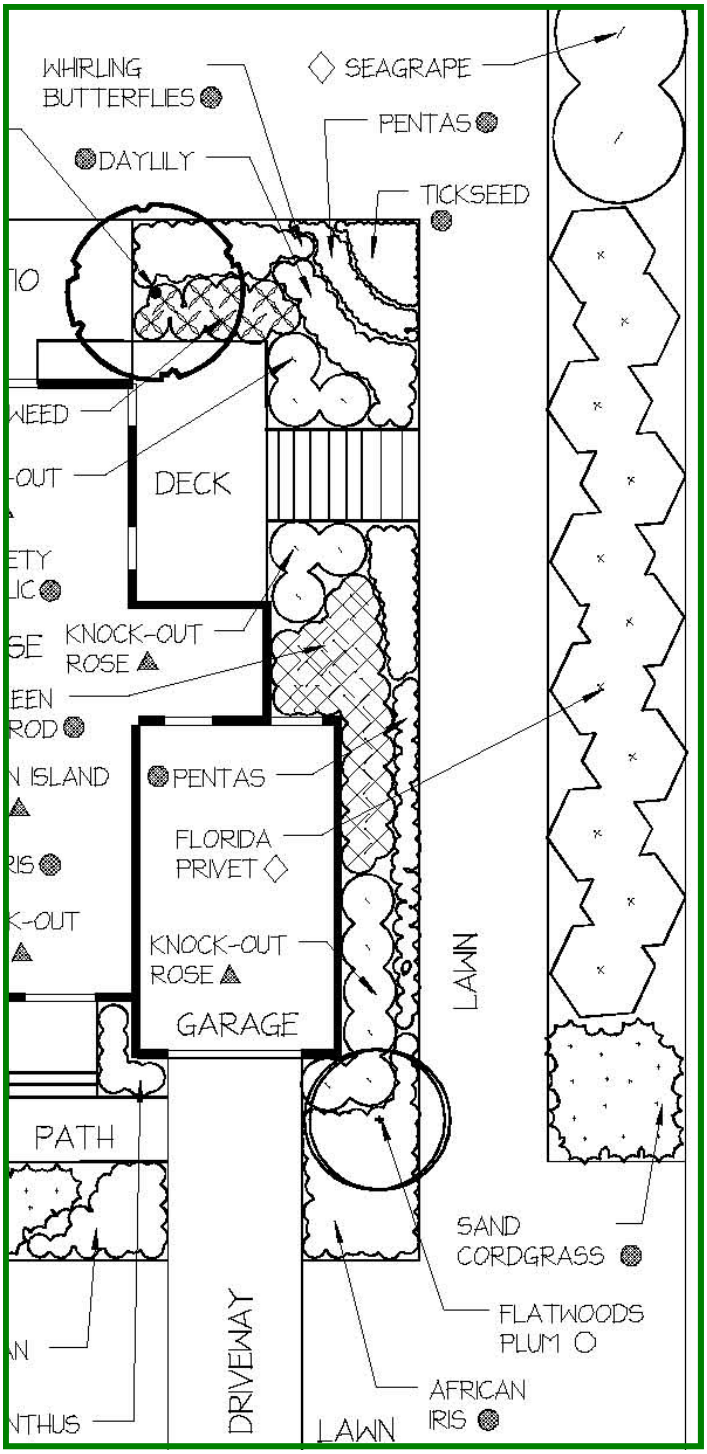
Design Tips

- Place interesting plants at natural viewpoints
- Locate plants with a coarse texture closest to the patio to make the space feel smaller or use fine texture close to the patio to make the space feel larger



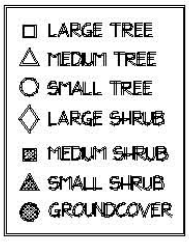
Design Tip Sheet
Group A2– Sidewalks and Walkways

Before Photos: Right photo: Plants too large for edge of walkway– require frequent trimming
Bottom photo: Large shrubs block the stepping stone pathway



Desired Characteristics

- Low growing
- Non-sprawling
- Clumping
- Easy to trim/mow-able
- Soft texture
- Interesting shapes and color



Design Tips

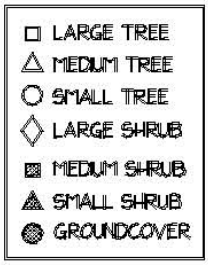
- Reduce trimming and edging by placing plants with clean, compact growth habits closest to walkways
- Avoid plants that attract biting or stinging insects
- Use plants with interesting textures, shapes and colors for close viewing
- Use plants that will not outgrow the planter area

Design Tip Sheet
Group A3– Mailboxes and Utilities

Before Photos: Left photo: Mailbox covered with plants obstructs access and invites insects
Bottom photo: Lack of plants on one side leaves utilities exposed and large shrubs on other side require frequent pruning to leave space on side of utility

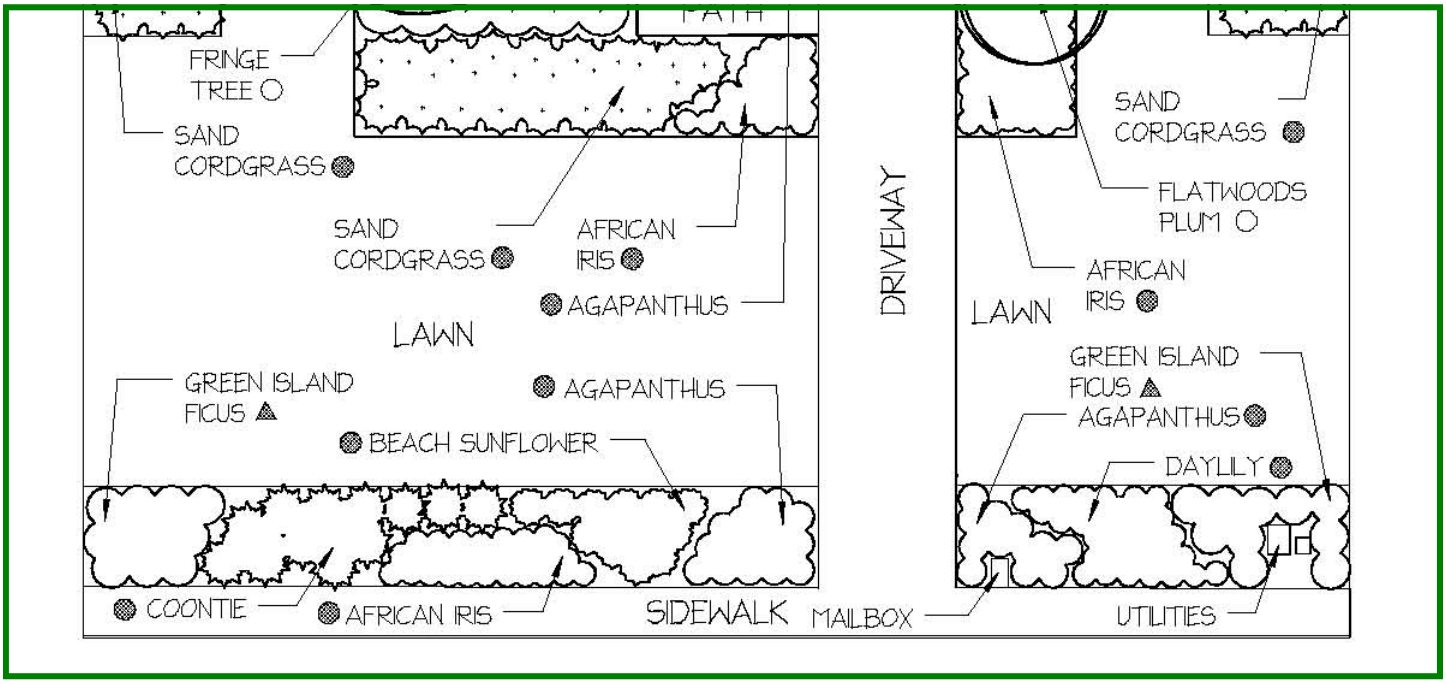
Desired Characteristics

- Low/medium shrubs
- Clean growth habit
- Soft foliage, no thorns
- No flowers that attract bees



Design Tips

- Keep plants that attract stinging or biting insects at least 2' below mailbox
- Check with the US Postal service for mailbox requirements regarding plants
- Consult with local utility company for planting regulations for above and below ground utilities
- Consider the height of the utility when choosing plants
- Leave a 2-3' open space around utility for access
- Leave a small footpath for access in large plant beds

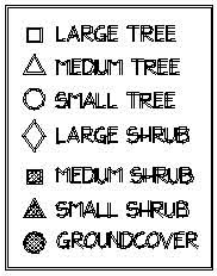


Design Tip Sheet
Group B1– Under Windows

Before Photo: Plant material is too tall for the window, making access difficult to hang storm shutters and clean windows

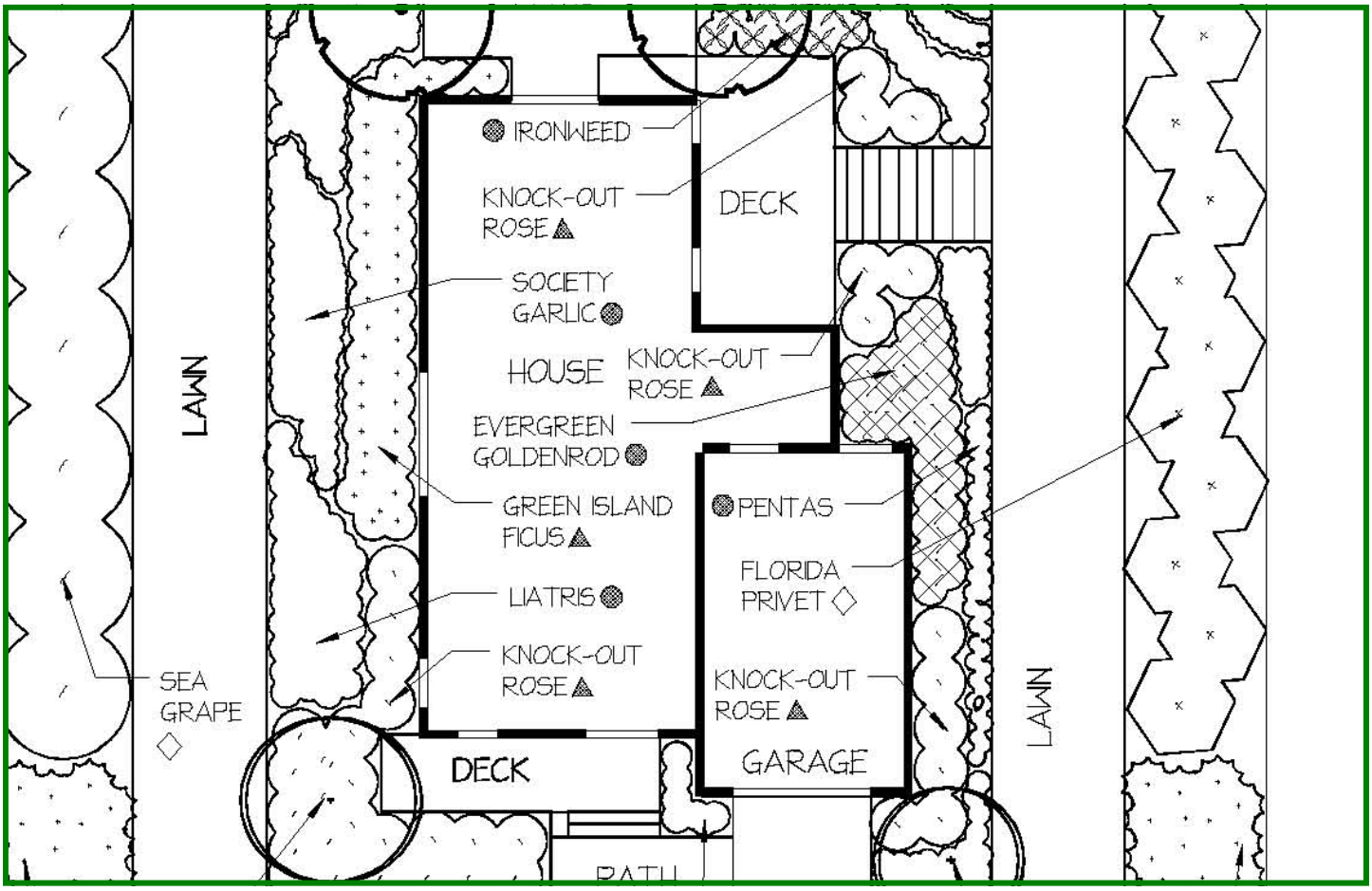
Desired Characteristics

- Low/medium shrubs
- Soft/fine texture
- Loose foliage
- Easy to trim
- Flexible branches
- No thorns or prickly leaves



Design Tips

- Avoid blocking views by choosing plants with medium compact size
- Choose plants with a loose, open branching pattern if you want to block a view but let in light
- Choose shrubs with a tidy growth habit and plant for easy access for cleaning and hanging storm shutters
- Avoid stiff, thorny plants that would prevent exiting from windows and cause injuries during maintenance

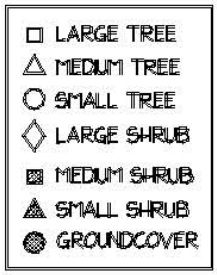


Design Tip Sheet
Group B2– Along Walls

Before Photo: Large shrubs require frequent pruning to fit in small planter along wall. Maintenance is difficult with plants against house. Lack of air space between house and plants encourages growth of mold and mildew

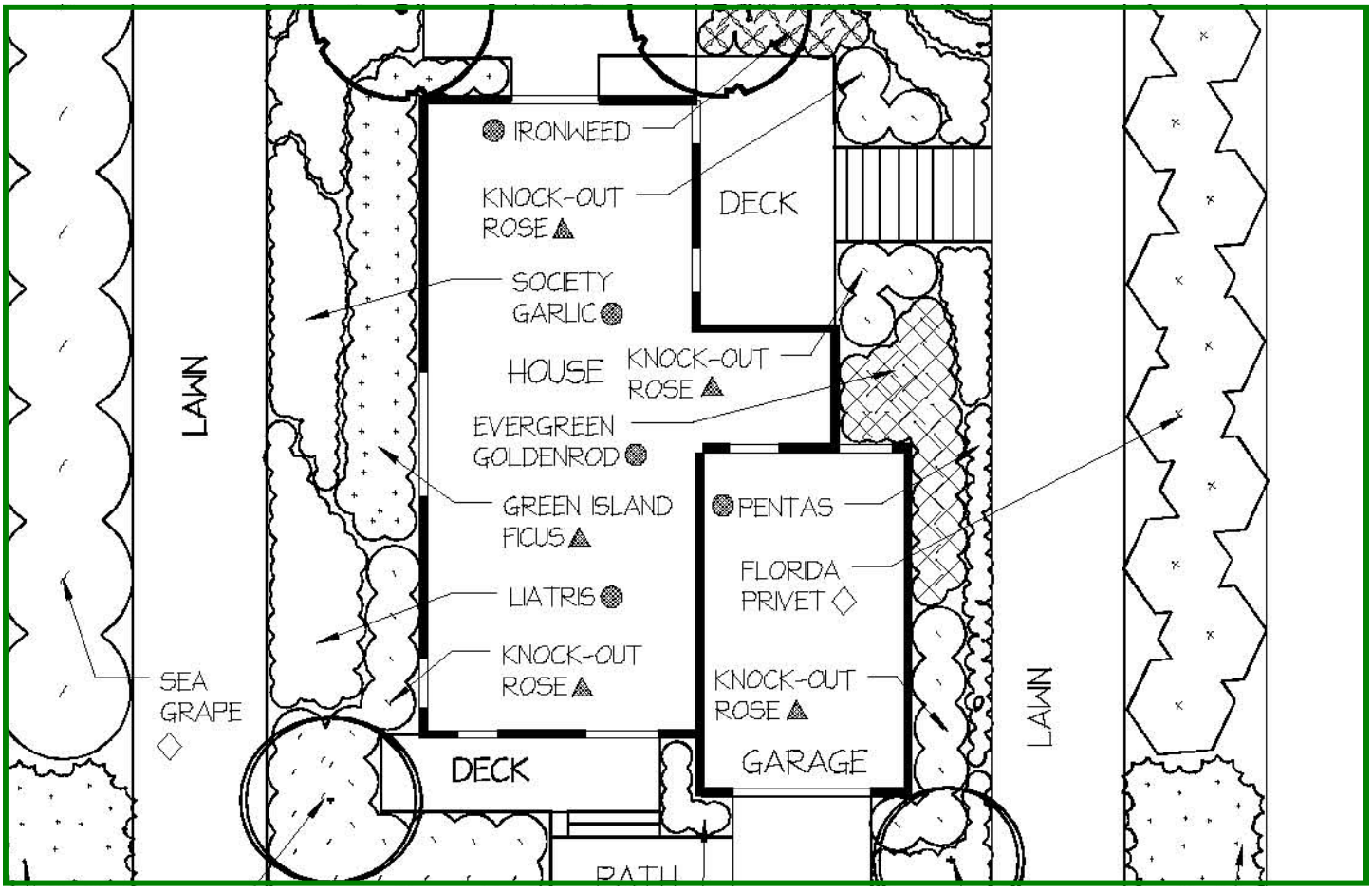
Desired Characteristics

- Medium/tall shrubs
- Soft/fine texture
- Loose foliage
- Flexible branches



Design Tips

- Leave a 2' wide strip of gravel between the wall and the plant material for maintenance access and air circulation (reduces mold and mildew growth)
- Choose shrubs with a tidy growth habit to reduce trimming
- Choose plants that are color compatible with the wall color
- Choose shrubs that will not outgrow the planter space and the vertical space

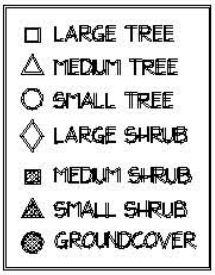


Design Tip Sheet
Group C1– Along Property Lines

Before Photo: Lack of planting leaves the view to neighbors exposed and provide no screening for privacy. Replace with trees and shrubs to create a buffer

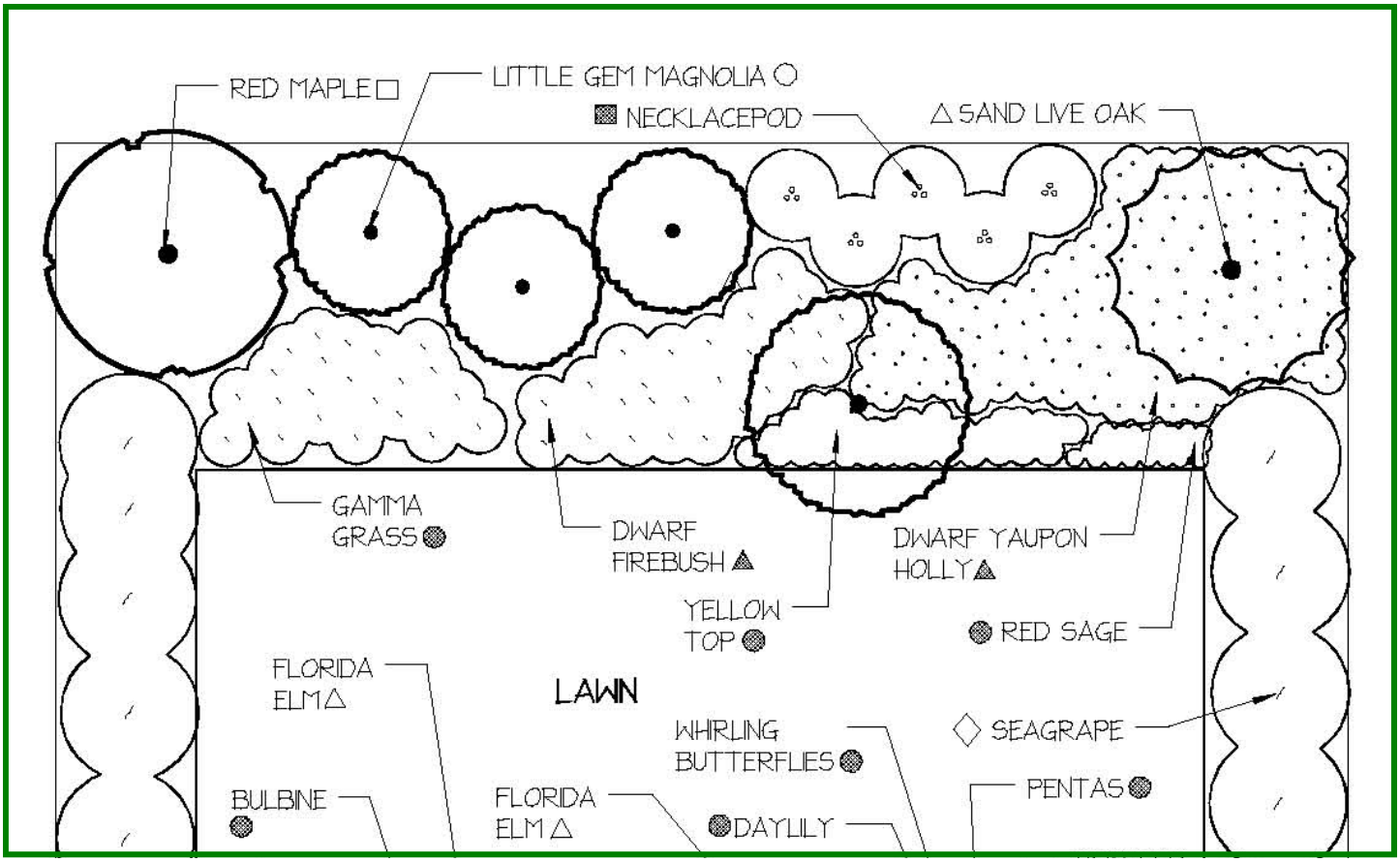
Desired Characteristics

- Dense foliage
- Upright form
- Evergreen
- Sturdy
- Fast growing
- Larger tree canopies



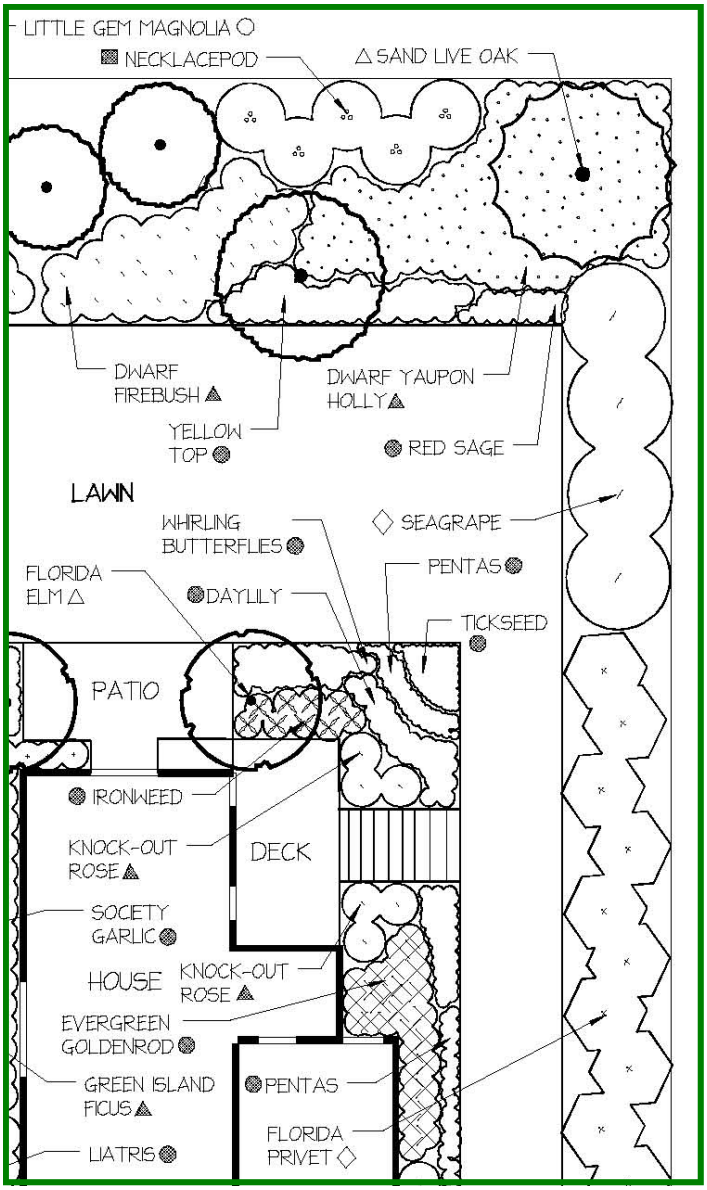
Design Tips

- Choose fast growing plants with dense growth habits for screening and privacy
- Select evergreen plants with appropriate height to block unwanted views
- Vary the height of plants for more interest
- Use trees to block views of overhead utilities but don't plant directly beneath the overhead wires
- Mix shrubs and trees for low and high screening
- Consider the view from patio and windows



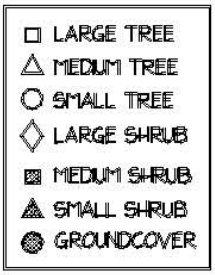
Design Tip Sheet
Group C2– Along Fences

Before Photo: – Top Photo: The chain-link fence can be unsightly and feel unfriendly. Conceal and soften the fence with plant material. Bottom Photo: The decorative fence is hidden by shrubs that are too large, over – trimmed, and poorly shaped for the desired aesthetics



Characteristics

- Tall fence– dense foliage
- Tall fence– upright form
- Tall fence– fast growing
- Short fence– full arching grasses
- Short fence- soft, clumping plants
- Colorful
- Evergreen



Design Tips

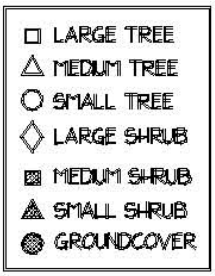
- For decorative fence choose low growing plants that accentuate decorative elements, such as caps. For utilitarian fences (chain link or stockade) choose taller shrubs that will cover the fence.
- In back yards– place plants with coarse textures against fences to make the space appear smaller or use fine texture to make the space appear larger

Design Tip Sheet
Group D-Under Trees

Before Photos: Top photo: The sod is in poor condition and will not grow well in the deep shade. Bottom photo: Plant bed is too small and too close to tree trunks to allow for mowing or trimming without damage

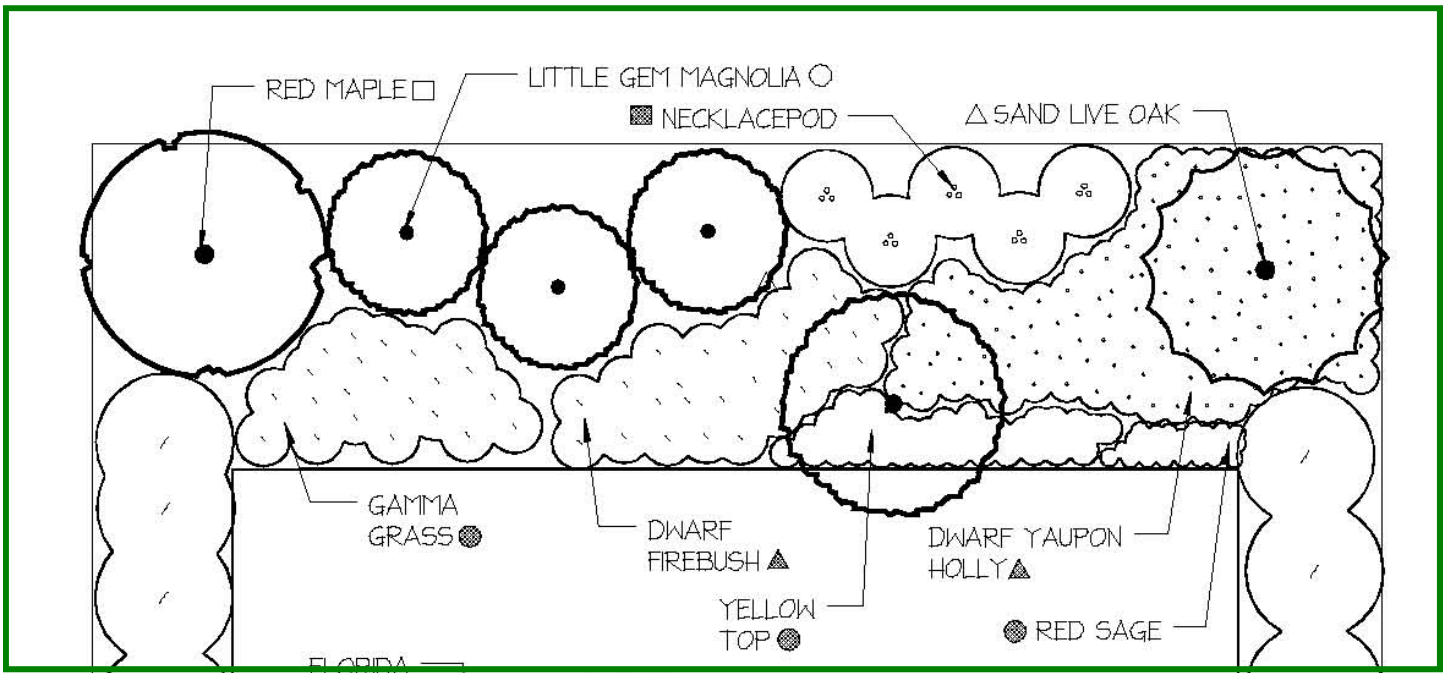
Desired Characteristics

- Shallow roots
- Clumpers
- Vines with spreading growth habit
- Shade tolerant



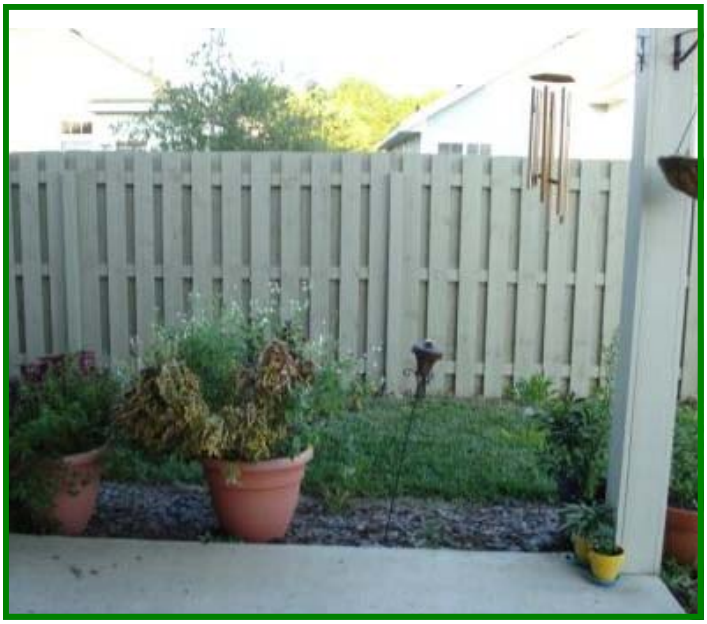
Design Tips

- Use plants that look good with fallen leaves or plants that will hide leaves.
- Install small plants (small root balls) to avoid root damage to both plant and tree.
- Consider the density of the shade from the tree canopy (filtered, or deep shade)
- Don't place small clumping groundcover in single lines (rings) around base of tree, masses are better
- Use a large planted area under tree to balance the canopy mass and protect trunk from mower



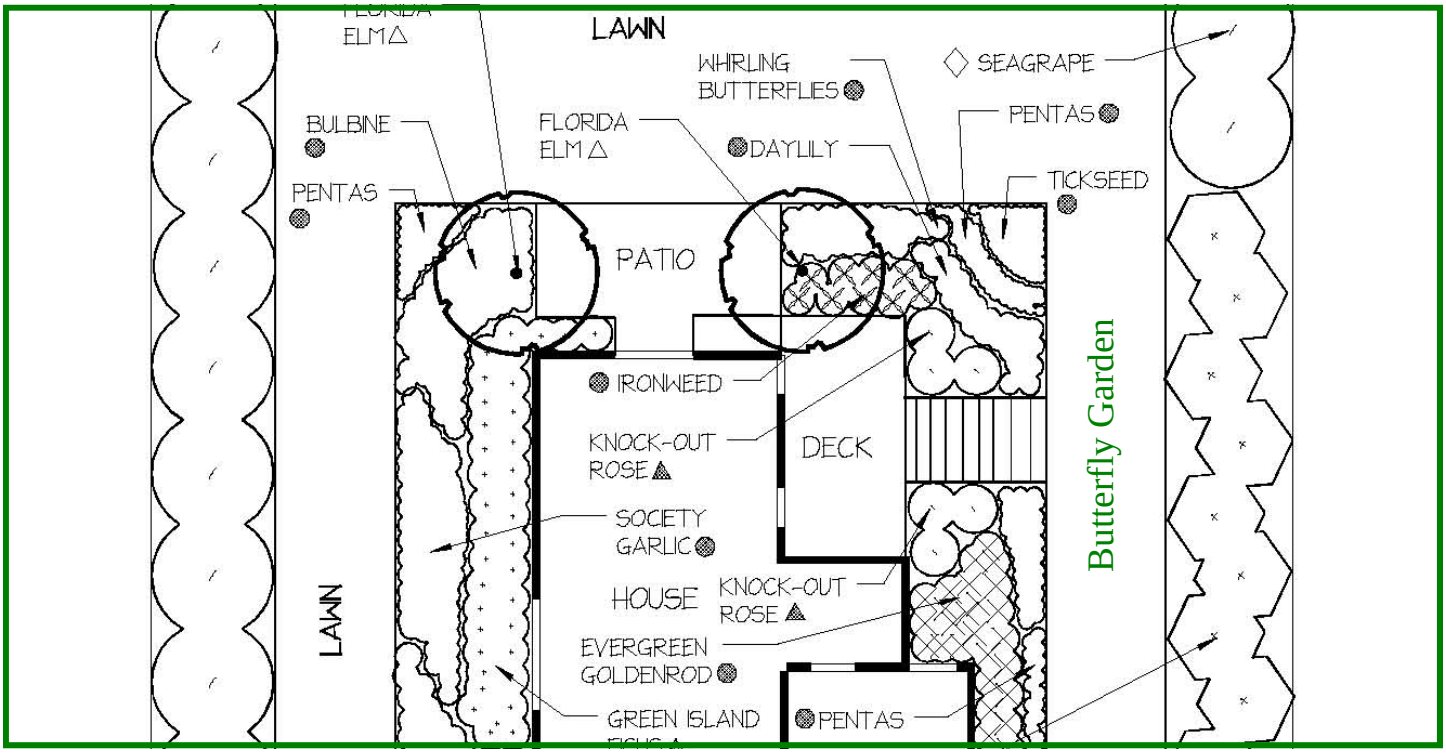
Design Tip Sheet
Group E– Specialty Gardens: Butterfly, Rain, and Water Edge

Before Photo: Left photo: Small side areas by patios and fences are often un-used. Make them more appealing and functional with a specialty garden
Right photo: Sod to the water's edge allows fertilizer, herbicides, and grass clippings to flow into the water



Design Tips

- Butterfly Garden– Butterfly gardens are best next to patios for viewing. Provide host and nectar plants for caterpillars and butterflies. Best colors are reds and yellows
- Water edge– Plant a 10 foot wide maintenance buffer of aquatic and shoreline plants that does not require fertilizer, herbicides or mowing to maintain
- Rain Garden– choose plants that will survive wet and dry conditions



Plant Tables

Recommended Plants for Site Conditions

Plant Tables

Recommended plants for each of the plant groups/site conditions have been organized in a table for easy reference. For example, all the plants that are appropriate for Group A: A1-Front Entries and Patios, A2-Sidewalks and Walkways, and A3-Mailboxes and Utilities, are listed in a separate table labeled Group A.

Plants are organized in the table based on their types: trees, shrubs, groundcover, or vines, on their size: small, medium, or large, and on their sun/shade tolerance. Wild flowers and grasses are listed on a separate table.

Each plant is listed with both botanical name and common name to eliminate confusion between common names in different regions. An asterisk (*) beside a name indicates a native plant for Florida.

The master plan layout for each zone show examples with specific plants for each condition, however, any plant listed on the plant table for that condition is appropriate for use in the planting plan. Choose options from the list based on the sun and shade requirements, the height of windows and fences, the views to be blocked, and the color and
materials of the house. Also consider the Florida-Friendly and general design principles listed on page 3.

The plant tables in this publication list plants for USDA Hardiness Zone 9B only. Tables in companion publications list plants for zones 8A and 8B, 9A, and 10.

The tables are organized in the following order:

Table 1- Group A1, A2, and A3:
Front Entries and Patios**,** Along Sidewalks and Walkways**,** Around Mailboxes and Utilities
Table 2- Group B1 and B2:
Under Windows and Along Walls
Table 3- Group C1 and C2:
Along Property Lines and Fences
Table 4- Group D:
Under Trees
Table 5- Group E:
Specialty Gardens– Rain Gardens, Water Edge, Butterfly Gardens
Table 6- Wildflowers and Grasses

Plant labels from Vera Lea Rinker Native Plant Garden, Stetson University, DeLand, Florida

Group A1, A2, A3- Front Entries/Patios, Sidewalks/Walkways, Mailboxes/Utilities

Characteristics: Low growing and compact, colorful, medium/ coarse texture, bold forms, clean growth habit, unique shape, form size, and or texture, overhead branching, soft foliage, clumping/mounding

	SUN	SHADE
	SHRUBS	
Small	• *Allamanda nerifolia* (Bush Allamanda) • *Euryops* (Bush Daisy) • *Ficus microcarpa* 'Green Island' (Green Island Ficus) • *Hamelia patens* 'Nana' (Dwarf Firebush) • *Ilex vomitoria* 'Nana' (Dwarf Yaupon Holly) * • *Pittosporum tobira* 'Wheeler's Dwarf' (Dwarf Podocarpus) • *Podocarpus* 'Pringles' (Dwarf Podocarpus) • *Rhaphiolepis indica* (Dwarf Indian Hawthorne) • *Rosa spp.* (Knock Out Rose) • *Vaccinium darrowii* (Darwin's Blueberry) * • *Viburnum obovatum* 'Densa' (Dwarf Walter's Viburnum) *	• *Ficus microcarpa* 'Green Island' (Green Island Ficus) • *Ilex vomitoria* (Dwarf Yaupon Holly) * • *Philodendron* 'Xanadu' (Xanadu) • *Pittosporum tobira* 'Wheeler's Dwarf' (Dwarf Podocarpus) • *Podocarpus* 'Pringles' (Dwarf Podocarpus) • *Psychotria nervosa* 'Nana' (Dwarf Coffee) * • *Rhaphiolepis indica* (Dwarf Indian Hawthorne) • *Sabal minor* *
Medium	• *Argusia gnaphalodes* (Sea Lavender) * • *Capparis cynophallophora* (Jamaican Capper) * • *Lyonia ferruginea* (Rusty Lyonia) * • *Myrcianthes fragrans* 'Compacta' (Dwarf Simpson's Stopper) * • *Myrica cerifera* 'Pumila' (Dwarf Wax Myrtle) * • *Pittosporum tobira* (Pittosporum) • *Senna mexicana* 'Chapmanii' (Bahama Cassia) * • *Sophora tomentosa* (Necklacepod) * • *Suriana maritima* (Bay Cedar) *	• *Ilex opaca* 'Burfordii Compacta' (Dwarf Burford Holly) • *Myrcianthes fragrans* 'Compacta' (Dwarf Simpson's Stopper) * • *Philodendron* 'Selloum' (Split-leaf Philodendron) • *Philodendron* 'Xanadu' (Xanadu) • *Pittosporum tobira* • *Podocarpus macrophyllus* (Podocarpus) • *Rhaphiolepsis indica* (Indian Hawthorne)

Group A1, A2, A3- Front Entries/Patios, Sidewalks/Walkways, Mailboxes/Utilities

GROUNDCOVERS

- *Agapanthus spp.* (Lily of the Nile)
- *Aptenia cordifolia* (Baby Sun Rose)
- *Arachis glabrata* (Perennial Peanut)
- *Bulbine spp.* S/W
- *Dietes vegeta* (African Iris)
- *Ernodea littoralis* (Beach Creeper) *
- *Evolvulus* (Blue Daze)
- *Gaillardia pulchella* (Blanket Flower) *
- *Helianthus debilis* (Beach Sunflower) *
- *Hemerocallis spp.* (Daylily)
- *Ipomoea imperati* (Beach Morning Glory) *
- *Iva imbricata* (Beach Elder) *
- *Licania michauxii* (Gopher Apple) *
- *Liriope muscari* (Monkey Grass)
- *Mimosa strigillosa* (Sunshine Mimosa) *
- *Ophoipogon japonica (Mondo Grass)*
- *Phyla nodiflora* (Fogfruit) *
- *Salvia misella* (Creeping Sage) *
- *Sesuvium portulacastrum* (Seaside Purslane) *
- *Tulbaghia vioilacea* (Society Garlic)
- *Zamia floridana* (Coontie) *

- *Ajuga reptans* (Ajuga)
- *Crytomium falcatum* (Holly Fern) *
- *Dianella tasmanica* (Flax Lily)
- *Dietes vegeta* (African Iris)
- *Liriope muscari* (Monkey Grass)
- *Mitchella repens* (Partridge Berry)*
- *Ophoipogon japonica* (Mondo Grass)
- *Osmunda cinnamomea* (Cinnamon Fern)*
- *Woodwardia areolata* (Netted Chain Fern) *
- *Zamia floridana* (Coontie) *

*Also see table of wildflowers and ornamental grasses

Group A1, A2, A3- Front Entries/Patios, Sidewalks/Walkways, Mailboxes/Utilities		
SPECIMEN TREES		
Small	• *Chionanthus virginicus* (Fringe Tree) * • *Ilex* 'Nelly Stevens' (Nelly Stevens Holly) • *Ilex opaca* 'Arenicola' (Scrub Holly) * • *Ilex vomitoria* 'Pendula' (Weeping Yaupon Holly) * • *Ilex vomitoria* (Yaupon Holly) * • *Ilex x attenuata* 'Savannah' (Savannah Holly) • *Jatropha integrima* (Jatropha) • *Ligustrum japonicum* (Privet) • *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Little Gem' (Little Gem Magnolia) • *Myrica cerifera* (Wax Myrtle) * • *Myricanthes fragrans* (Simpson's Stopper) * • *Prunus umbellata* (Flatwoods Plum) * • *Pseudophoenix sargentii* (Buccaneer Palm) * • *Rhaphiolepis* 'Majestic Beauty' (Majestic Beauty Indian Hawthorne) • *Viburnum obovatum* (Walter's Viburnum) *	• *Carya floridana* (Scrub Hickory) * • *Halesia diptera* (Silverbell) * • *Ilex* 'Nelly Stevens' (Nelly Stevens Holly) • *Ilex cassine* (Dahoon Holly) * • *Ilex opaca* 'Arenicola' (Scrub Holly) * • *Ilex vomitoria* (Yaupon Holly) * • *Ilex vomitoria* 'Pendula ' (Weeping Yaupon Holly) * • *Ilex x attenuata* 'Savannah' (Savannah Holly) * • *Ligustrum japonicum* (Privet) • *Myricanthes fragrans* (Simpson's Stopper) * • *Rhaphiolepis* 'Majestic Beauty' (Majestic Beauty Indian Hawthorne)
Medium	• *Chionanthus virginicus* (Fringe Tree) * • *Conocarpus erectus* 'Sericeus' (Silver Buttonwood) * • *Gordonia lasianthus* (Loblolly Bay) * • *Ilex cassine* (Dahoon Holly)* • *Juniperus virginiana* (Red Cedar) * • *Morus rubra* (Mulberry) * • *Parkinsonia aculeata* (Jerusalem Thorn) • *Pinus elliottii* 'Densa' (South Florida Slash Pine) * • *Quercus geminata* (Sand Live Oak) * • *Tabebuia argentea* (Yellow Trumpet Tree) • *Ulmus alata* (Winged Elm) * • *Ulmus americana* 'Floridana' (Florida Elm) *	• *Chionanthus virginicus* (Fringe Tree) * • *Gordonia lasianthus* (Loblolly Bay) * • *Ilex cassine* (Dahoon Holly) • *Magnolia virginiana* 'Silver Mist (Sweet Bay) *

Group A1, A2, A3- Front Entries/Patios, Sidewalks/Walkways, Mailboxes/Utilities		
SPECIMEN TREE		
Large	• *Acer rubrum* (Red Maple) * • *Carya floridana* (Scrub Hickory) * • *Magnolia grandiflora* (Southern Magnolia) * • *Pinus elliottii* (South Florida Slash Pine). * • *Quercus shumardii* (Shumard Oak) * • *Quercus virginianna* (Live Oak) * • *Ulmus americana* (American Elm) *	

Group B1 and B2 – Under Windows and Along Walls

Characteristics: medium/ tall shrubs, soft/ fine texture, loose foliage, flexible branches, no thorns, easy to trim

	SUN	SHADE
	SHRUBS	
Medium	• *Ardisia escallonioides* (Marlberry) * • *Argusia gnaphalodes* (Sea Lavender) * • *Callicarpa americana* (Beautyberry)* • *Capparis cynophallophora* (Jamaican Caper) * • *Erythrina herbacea* (Coral Bean) * • *Eugenia foetida* (Stopper) * • *Euryops* (Bush Daisy) • *Forestiera segregata* (Florida Privet) * • *Gossypium hirsutum* (Cotton)* • *Hamelia patens* 'Compacta' (Dwarf Firebush) • *Ilex vomitoria* 'Nana' (Dwarf Holly) * • *Lycium carolinianum* (Christmasberry) * • *Lyonia ferruginea* (Rusty Lyonia) * • *Myrcianthes fragrans* 'Compacta' (Dwarf Simpson's Stopper) * • *Myrica cerifera* 'Pumila' (Dwarf Wax Myrtle) * • *Podocarpus* 'Pringles' (Pringles Podocarpus) • *Psychotria sulzneri* (Shiny Coffee)* • *Rapanea punctata* (Myrisine) * • *Rhaphiolepis indica* (Indian Hawthorn) • *Rosa spp.* 'Knock Out' (Knock out Rose) • *Senna mexicana* 'Chapmanii' (Bahama Cassia) * • *Sophora tomentosa* (Necklace Pod) * • *Suriana maritima* (Bay Cedar)* • *Vaccinium darrowii* (Darwin's Blueberry) * • *Viburnum obovatum* 'Densa' (Dwarf Walters Viburnum) *	• *Ardisia escallonioides* (Marlberry) * • *Callicarpa americana* (Beautyberry) * • *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (Buttonbush) * • *Erythrina herbacea* (Coral Bean) * • *Hamelia patens* 'Nana' (Dwarf Firebush) • *Illicium parviflorum* (Anise) * • *Itea virginica* (Sweet Spire) * • *Myrcianthes fragrans* 'Compacta' (Dwarf Simpson's Stopper) * • *Podocarpus* 'Pringles' (Pringles Podocarpus) • *Rapanea punctata* (Myrisine) * • *Rhaphiolepis indica* (Indian Hawthorn)

Group B1 and B2 – Under Windows and Along Walls		
Characteristics: medium/ tall shrubs, soft/ fine texture, loose foliage, flexible branches, no thorns, easy to trim		
	SUN	**SHADE**
SHRUBS		
Tall	• *Capparis cynophallophora* (Jamaican Caper) * • *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (Buttonbush) * • *Coccoloba uvifera* (Seagrape) * • *Hamelia patens* (Firebush) * • *Illicium parviflorum* (Anise) * • *Ligustrum japonicum* (Privet) • *Myrcianthes fragrans* (Simpson's Stopper) * • *Myrica cerifera* (Wax Myrtle) * • *Podocarpus macrophyllus* (Podocarpus Maki) • *Vaccinium arboreum* (Sparkleberry) * • *Viburnum odoratissimum* (Sweet Viburnum) • *Viburnum suspensum* (Sandankwa Viburnum)	• *Ardisia escallonioides* (Marlberry) * • *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (Buttonbush) * • *Hamelia patens* (Firebush) * • *Illicium parviflorum* (Anise) * • *Ligustrum japonicum* (Privet) • *Myrcianthes fragrans* (Simpson's Stopper) * • *Podocarpus macrophyllus* (Podocarpus Maki) • *Psychotria bahamensis* (Bahama Coffee) * • *Viburnum odoratissimum* (Sweet Viburnum) • *Viburnum suspensum* (Sandankwa Viburnum)

Group C1 and C2- Along Property Lines and Fences

Characteristics: dense foliage, upright form, evergreen, sturdy, fast-growing

	SUN	SHADE
SHRUBS		
Medium	• *Allamanda nerifolia* (Bush Allamanda) * • *Eugenia foetida* (Stopper) * • *Ilex burfordii* (Buford's Holly) • *Podocarpus* 'Pringles' (Pringles Podocarpus)	• *Callicarpa americana* (Beautyberry) * • *Podocarpus* 'Pringles' (Pringles Podocarpus) • *Psychotria nervosa* (Wild Coffee) * • *Ranapea punctata* (Myrsine) *
Tall	• *Chrysobalanus icaco* (Cocoplum)* • *Coccoloba uvifera* (Seagrape) * • *Forestiera segregata* (Florida Privet) * • *Ilex vomitoria* (Yaupon Holly) * • *Illicium parviflorum* (Anise) * • *Ligustrum japonicum* (Privet) • *Myrcianthes fragrans* (Simpson's Stopper) * • *Myrica cerifera* (Wax Myrtle) * • *Podocarpus* gracillior (Fern-leaf Podocarpus) • *Podocarpus microphyllus* (Podocarpus Maki) • *Viburnum obovatum* (Walter's Viburnum) * • *Viburnum odoratissimum* (Sweet Viburnum) • *Viburnum suspensum* (Sandankwa Viburnum)	• *Agarista populifolia* (Pipestem) * • *Ardisia escallonoides* (Marlberry) * • *Illicium parviflorum* (Anise) * • *Ligustrum japonicum* (Privet) • *Myrcianthes fragrans* (Simpson's Stopper) * • *Podocarpus gracillior* (Fern Leaf Podocarpus) • *Podocarpus microphyllus* (Maki Podocarpus) • *Viburnum odoratissimum* (Sweet Viburnum) • *Viburnum suspensum* (Sandankwa Viburnum)
Vine		
	• *Bignonia capreolata* (Cross Vine) * • *Campsis radicans* (Red Trumpet Vine) * • *Lonicera sempervirens* (Coral Honeysuckle) * • *Pandorea jasminoides* (Pandorea Vine) • *Pentalinon luteum* (Native Allamanda Vine)*	• *Bignonia capreolata* (Cross Vine) * • *Campsis radicans* (Red Trumpet Vine) * • *Lonicera sempervirens* (Coral Honeysuckle) *

Group D- Under Trees

Characteristics: shallow roots, vines/spreading

SUN	SHADE
Groundcover	
• *Agapanthus spp.* (Lily of the Nile) • *Aptenia cordifolia* (Baby Sun Rose) • *Arachis glabrata* (Perennial Peanut) • *Bulbine spp.* • *Dietes iriodes* (African Iris) • *Ernodea littoralis* (Beach Creeper) * • *Evoluvlous* (Blue Daze) • *Gaillardia pulchella* (Blanket Flower) * • *Helianthus debilis* (Dune Sunflower) * • *Hemerocallis spp.* (Daylily) • *Ipomoea imperati* (Beach Morning Glory) * • *Ipomoea pes-caprae* (Railroad Vine) * • *Iva imbricate* (Beach Elder) * • *Licania michauxii* (Gopher Apple) * • *Mimosa strigillosa* (Sunshine Mimosa) * • *Phyla nodiflora* (Matchweed) * • *Salvia misella* (Creeping Sage) * • *Sesuvium portulacastrum* (Seaside Purslane) * • *Tulbaghia violacea* (Society Garlic)	• *Ajuga reptans* (Ajuga) • *Blechnum serrulatum* (Swamp Fern) * • *Crytomium falcatum* (Holly Fern) • *Dianella tasmanica* (Flax Lily) • *Liriope muscari* (Monkey Grass) • *Mitchella repens* (Partridgeberry) * • *Ophiopogon japonica* (Mondo grass) • *Osmunda cinnamomea* (Cinnamon Fern) * • *Trachelospermum asiaticum* (Asiatic Jasmine) • *Woodwardia areolata* (Netted Chain fern) *
Vines	
• *Bignonia capreolata* (Cross Vine) * • *Campsis radicans* (Trumpet Vine) * • *Lonicera sempervirens* (Coral honeysuckle) * • *Passiflora incarnata* (Passion Flower) * • *Pentalinon luteum* (Yellow Mandevilla) * • *Symphyotrichum carolinianum* (Climbing Aster) *	• *Bignonia capreolata* (Trumpet Vine) * • *Campsis radicans* (Cross Vine) * • *Lonicera sempervirens* (Coral honeysuckle) * • *Passiflora incarnata* (Passion Flower) *

Group E- Specialty Gardens- Rain Gardens/Downspouts		
Characteristics: wet feet, small size, groundcover, clumping, water movement		
	SUN	**SHADE**
	Groundcovers	
	• *Arachis glabrata (*Perennial Peanut) • *Hymenocalis* (Spider Lily) * • *Phyla nodiflora* (Fogfruit) * • *Sisyrinchium angustifolium* (Blue Eyed Grass) * • *Spartina bakeri* (Sand Cordgrass) * • *Spartina patens* (Salt Marsh Cordgrass) * • *Tulbaghia violacea* (Society Garlic)	• *Hymenocallis* (Spider Lily)*
	*Also see table of wildflowers and ornamental grasses	

Group E- Specialty Gardens– Water edge		
Characteristics: wet feet, small size, groundcover, clumping, water movement		
	SUN	**SHADE**
	Groundcovers	
	• *Arachis glabrata (*Perennial Peanut) • *Hymenocalis* (Spider Lily) * • *Phyla nodiflora* (Fogfruit) * • *Sisyrinchium angustifolium* (Blue Eyed Grass) * • *Spartina bakeri* (Sand Cordgrass) * • *Spartina patens* (Salt Marsh Cordgrass) * • *Tulbaghia violacea* (Society Garlic)	• *Hymenocallis* (Spider Lily)*
	*Also see table of wildflowers and ornamental grasses	

Group E- Specialty Gardens- Butterfly

Characteristics: Host and nectar plants

SUN	SHADE
• *Ageratum littoralis* (Beach Mistflower) * • *Ardisia escallonioides* (Marlberry) * • *Asclepias perennis* (Swamp Milkweed)* • *Asclepias tuberosa* (Milkweed)* • *Berlandiera subacaulis* (Green Eyes) * • *Capparis cynophallophora* (Jamaican Capper) * • *Carphephorus corymbosus* (Deer Tongue) • *Coreopsis leavenworthii* (Tickseed) * • *Eugenia foetida* (Stopper) * • *Flaveria linearis* (Yellow Top) * • *Gaura angustifolia* • *Hamelia patens* 'Nana' (Dwarf Firebush) • *Liatris spp* (Blazing Star) * • *Monarda punctata* (Dotted Horsemint) * • *Passiflora incarnata* (Passion flower Vine) • *Passiflora suberosa* (Corky-stemmed Passion flower Vine)* • *Pentas lanceolata* (Pentas) • *Phyla nodiflora* (Fogfruit) * • *Psychotria nervosa* (Wild Coffee) * • *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-Eyed Susan) * • *Salvia coccinea* (Red Sage) * • *Senna mexicana* 'Chapmanii' (Bahama Cassia) * • *Serenoa repens* (Saw Palmetto) * • *Solidago sempervirens* (Golden Rod)* • *Solidago stricta* (Goldenrod) * • *Sophora tomentosa* (Necklace Pod) * • *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis* (Porterweed) * • *Vaccinium arboreum* (Sparkleberry) * • *Vaccinium darrowii* (Darwin's Blueberry) * • *Veronia angustifolia* (Ironweed) * • *Zamia pumila* (Coontie)*	• *Ardisia escallonioides* (Marlberry) * • *Psychotria nervosa* (Wild Coffee) * • *Serenoa repens* (Saw Palmetto) * • *Vaccinium arboreum* (Sparkleberry) * • *Zamia pumila* (Coontie) *

Wildflowers and Ornamental Grasses	
Sun	**Shade**
• *Ageratum littoralis* (Beach Mistflower) * • *Asclepias perennis* (Swamp Milkweed)* • *Asclepias tuberosa* (Milkweed)* • *Berlandiera subacaulis* (Green Eyes) * • *Eragrostis elliottii* (Love grass) * • *Eragrostis spectabilis* (Purple Love Grass) * • *Gaura angustifolia* • *Liatris spp* (Blazing Star) * • *Monarda punctata* (Dotted Horsemint) * • *Pentas lanceolata* (Pentas) • *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-Eyed Susan) * • *Salvia coccinea* (Red Sage) * • *Sorghastrum secundum* (Lopsided Indian Grass) * • *Spartina bakeri* (Sand Cordgrass) * • *Tripsacum dactyloides* (Gamma Grass) * • *Tripsacum floridanum* (Fakahatchee Grass) * • *Uniola paniculata* (Sea Oats) *	

Irrigation Recommendations

First Two Weeks

Saturate root balls and surrounding 1” of soil of each new plant. Saturation can be determined by digging a test hole (next to the planted area) that is the same depth and diameter as the plant’s root ball. Note the amount of water required to saturate the test hole. This will provide an estimation of the amount of water needed per plant each day. Determine if the plants are overwatered by digging a hole next to the root ball about half of the rootball’s depth, 2 to 3 hours after watering. If water flows between fingers when soil is squeezed, too much water was applied. If the soil is dry, more water is needed. If the soil holds together in clods, enough water has been applied.

Next 4-5 Months

For trees and shrubs with less then 2” diameter trunks/canes, continue the above routine daily for 2 more weeks, every other day for 2 months, then twice weekly. Trees and shrubs with 2” to 4” diameter trunks/canes will need water daily for a month, every other day for 3 months, then weekly. Trees and shrubs with trunks/canes over 4” diameter need daily irrigation for 6 weeks, every other day for 5 months, and then weekly.

Temporary Irrigation

After 4 months plants should be established. Temporary irrigation will be necessary only during periods of drought. Drip irrigation and soaker hoses can be installed by homeowners and used as irrigation sources during dry periods. Hand watering is also a simple irrigation method. During drought water trees and shrubs 2 to 3 times per week.

Note: This information was adapted from EDIS publication ENH857, Irrigating Landscape Plants during Establishment, which can be found at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/EP113.

Rain Barrels

Rain barrels are a simple and convenient method for collecting rain water from the roof to be used for irrigation. The amount of captured water will depend on the size of the roof, the size of the barrel and the amount of rainfall. A rain barrel can be used with a roof with or without a gutter. If you don’t have a gutter system you may be able to collect water that flows from the valleys of the roof. Remove the top of the barrel and use a screen cover to keep debris out of the barrel. If you have a gutter system it is best to put a downspout extender through the top of the barrel. To determine the size of the barrel use the general rule of thumb that 1” of rain on 1,000 sq. ft. of roof will yield approximately 600 gallons. If possible, elevate the rain barrel on a stand to improve water pressure for the outflow. Tanks should be cleaned out about once a year and the water should be used only for irrigation of landscape plants– do not use to irrigate edible plants. To learn more about capturing rainwater see *Rain Barrels: A Homeowner’s Guide*, Southwest Florida Water Management District, http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/publications/files/rain_barrels_guide.pdf.

This photo shows the use of a temporary, above ground irrigation system

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