

Choosing the Right Plant for the Right Place



**Backyard Landscaping Miniseries,
Columbia, South Carolina**

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Presented by
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Landscape Architect



FUSS & O'NEILL
Disciplines to Deliver

Location Location Location!

Zone – Both Hardiness & Heat
Exposure – sun and wind a factor
Soils – Sand, Silt, Clay, Organic Matter

Wet to Dry



Acid to Alkaline

Gerbers love
Lime!

Friable to Compacted

Windswept to Courtyard

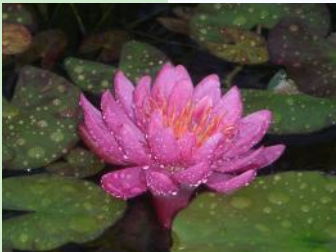


Understanding your site location!

Water Gardens vs Rain Gardens



**Japanese Garden with
Recirculating Water**

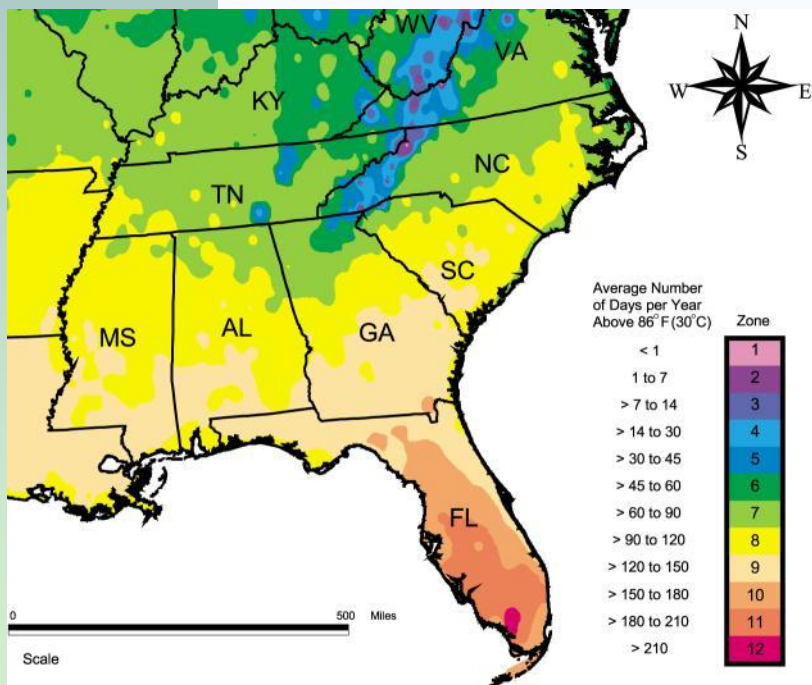


**Rain Garden with
Storm Water ONLY**

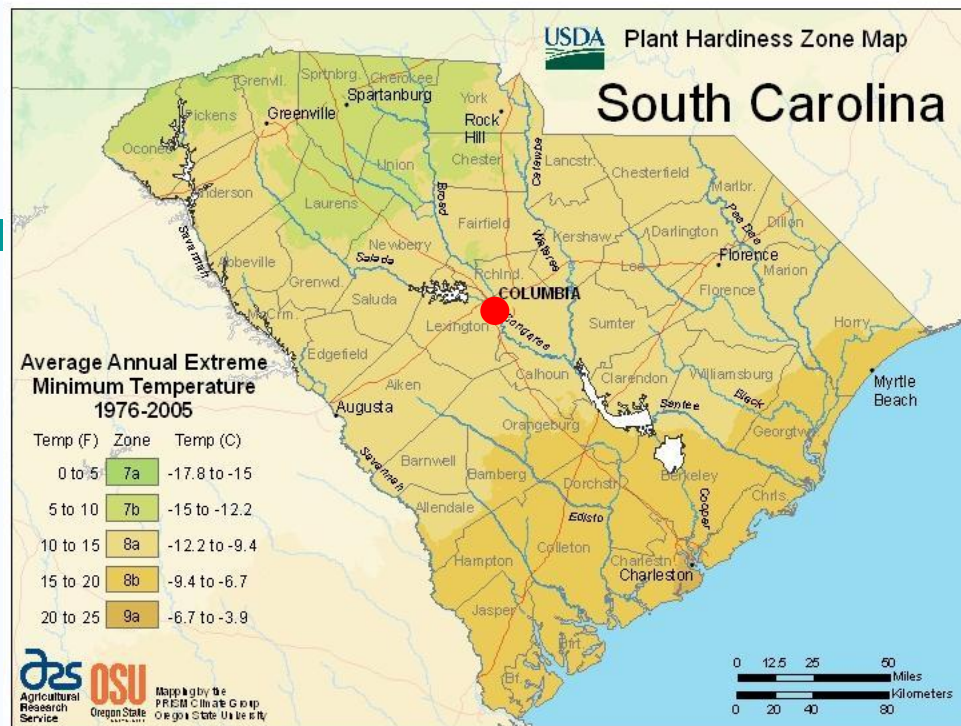


Zone Maps

■ **Columbia SC**
8a Hardiness
8 Heat (9 Urban)



American Horticultural Society
Plant Heat-Zone Map



Sago Palm and Pindo Palm

Sun – Shade... Don't forget Reflected Heat!

- Overstory Shade differs from Building Shade
Root competition adds to challenge.



Old Growth
Forest
Athens, GA



Euphorbia

Lady Jane Tulip
Species Tulip that Loves to Bake

- True 'Full' sun in SC
can be brutal! Especially
on the west side of
buildings near paving.

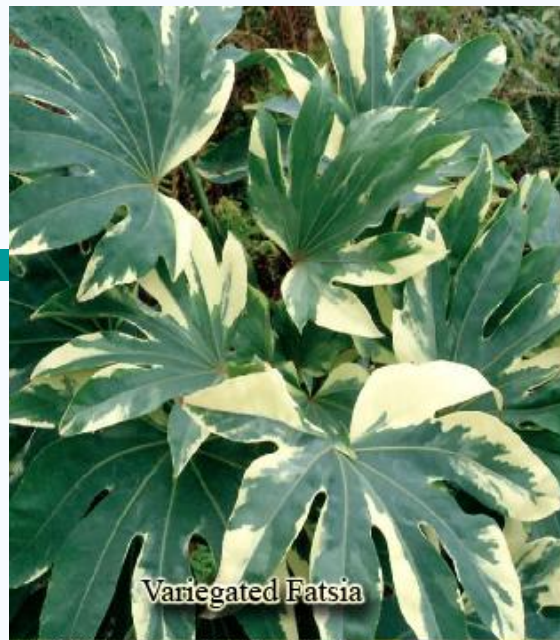


Shade Tolerance



DRY Ruscus - Butcher's Broom

SHADE Nandina - Yellow Berry



Variegated Fatsia



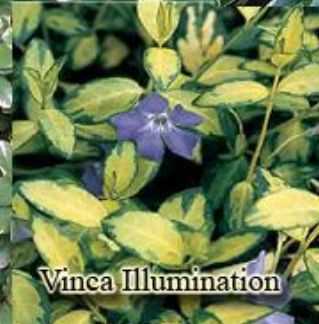
Aucuba - Gold Dust Plant



Variegated Daphne



Variegated Pittosporum



Vinca Illumination



Variegated Liriope



Christmas Fern



Autumn Fern

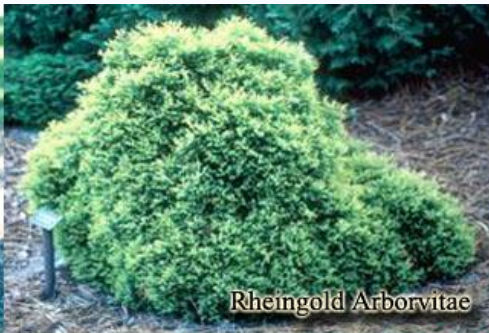


Variegated Aspidistra

Western Exposure – North vs South



Fat Albert Blue Spruce



Rheingold Arborvitae



Jap. Garden Juniper



Blue Star Juniper



Dwarf Alberta Spruce



Silver Feather Maiden Grass



Feather Reed Grass



Dwarf Fountain Grass



PJM Rhododendron



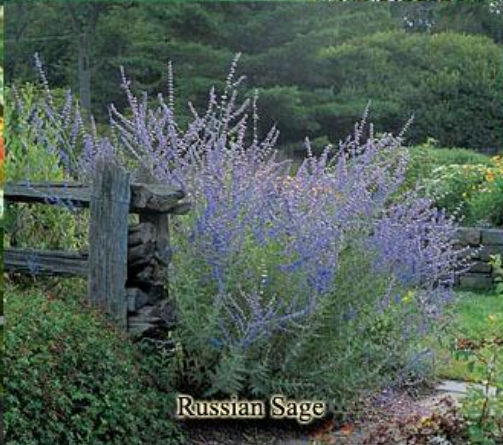
Yakusimanum Rhody



Magic Carpet Spirea



Euphorbia polychroma



Russian Sage



Double Knock Out Rose



Gold Sword Yucca

Western Exposure – north vs SOUTH

Hint: look for thick, silver leaves or fuzzy texture



Palmetto



Lantana



Mexican Sage



Yucca rostrata



Hollywood Juniper



Purple Queen



Crinum bulbospermum



Knock Out Rose



Teucrium azureum

Plant Size – Unless you're Pearl Fryar... Pruning should be for Form, not ultimate Height!



- Large Shade Trees – Deciduous and Evergreen
East/West shade/look for open branching if lawn desired
- Small Ornamental Trees (including Dwarf Fruit)
some of most appropriate for small lots
- Large Shrubs (can often be pruned up into tree)
try to avoid constant clipping tops off/creating yard waste
- Small Shrubs ('slow growing' can still get big!)
and remember – EVERYthing Starts small
- Groundcovers, Perennials, Bulbs and
Ornamental Grasses
- Lawn – actually one of easiest to maintain:
mow often and leave clippings for nutrients,
trade in that gas powered mower and go electric!



Over-planting leads to eventual thinning...

Ornamental Grasses – Size Matters!



Variegated
Arundo
12-16' Tall!

Liriope 12-18"



Miscanthus Cabaret 5- 6'



Muhly Grass 3-4'

Preserve your TREES!

- Most valuable part of your property!
- Shading = Cooling
- Oxygen
- Moisture
- Stormwater Reduction
- Neighborhood Character
- Stress Reduction/Community Beautification
- Crime Prevention/Recreational Improvements
- Charleston Study found every \$1 spent on care & maintenance paid back \$1.35 in benefits



Pest & Disease Resistance

- First and foremost – a healthy plant in **LIVING** soil fights most diseases on its own!
- Native plants are especially adapted to local rainfall, soils and environmental conditions.



Keep fussy plants in pots if you Must have them.
And remember not all bugs are BAD!



DRY Cedar Varieties - Native need not be Boring!

Red Cedar



Grey Owl



Taylor



Brodie



Skyrocket



White Cedar



Heatherbun



Red Star



Winter Wonder



WET

Selected Native Shrubs

American Beautyberry



Lactea – Bok Tower



Welsh's Pink



dich. "Duet"



Yaupon Holly (Compact or Weeping)



Virginia Sweetspire



Henry's Garnet



'Weeds' – roots/seeds



- Boone Gladiola
- Giant Red Canna
- Spiderwort



Kudzu



Vines.... Friend or Foe?



Honeysuckle: *Lonicera sempervirens*



Clematis
vs
Clematis

Wisteria:
Asian
vs
Native



Bulbs – Annuals vs Perennials

ANNUAL



A word on Annuals



Cardoon - Biennial



Coleus –
great from
cuttings
each year

Morning
Glory
Re-seeder



Trees for tough conditions

Red Cedar



Serviceberry



River Birch



Amer. Hornbeam



Redbud



Fringetree



Dogwood



Amer. Holly



Sassafras



Mayhaw



Sweetbay Magnolia



Blackgum



White Cedar



Hackberry



Bald Cypress



Highly Adaptable Shrubs

Chokeberry



Groundsel



Buttonbush



Summersweet



St. Johnswort



Possumhaw



Indigo Bush



Sweetspire



Spicebush



Wax myrtle



Swamp Azalea



Carolina Rose



Dwarf



Palmetto

Elderberry



Viburnum



Grasses & Perennials tolerant of Moist conditions

Bluestem Swamp Milkweed Tussock Sedge Turtlehead Gay-feather Joe Pye Weed



Coral Bells

Texas Star

Rose Mallow

Cardinal Flower

Lobelia

Loosestrife



Beebalm

Sensitive Fern

Solomon's Seal

Mexican Petunia

Ironweed



Grasses & Perennials - Drought Hardy once Established

Butterfly Milkweed New England Aster

Canna Varieties

River Oats



Stella D'Oro Daylily Blue Mist Flower

Muhly Grass

Heavy Metal

Shenandoah



Switch grass Obedient Plant Coneflower Little Bluestem Spiderwort Red Sweet Kate



Plants for Fragrance!

Old Man's Beard

Sweetbay

Azalea viscosum

Summersweet Clethra



Hayscented Fern

Ginger

Paperwhites



Sweet Olive

Tough Ground Covers



River Oats



Cast Iron Plant



Vinca major



Liriope Peedee Ingot



Creeping Phlox



Trailing Lantana

Design Rule #1 - Clean perimeter with well defined edges makes planting look intentional



...messy and untended looks threatening.



While the intent may be good...

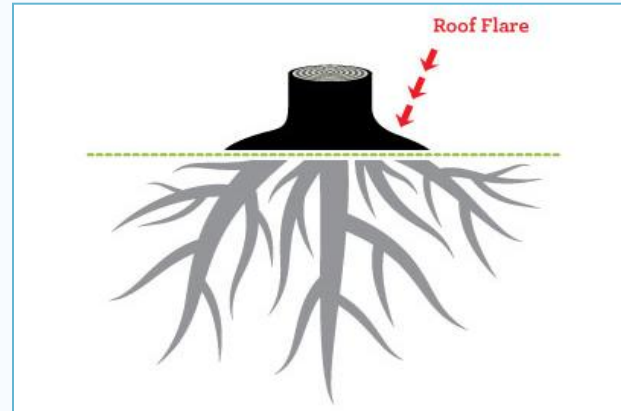


...this will be easier to accept.



Mulched Beds

- **Help retain moisture and add organic matter**
(How to have a Green Thumb without an Aching Back by Ruth Stout)
- **Keep edges neat (use runners to fill in gaps in lawn)**
- **Do NOT use weed mat under organic mulch**
- **ANY mulch inhibits germination, but some may contain weed seed so be careful...**
- **Do NOT mound mulch against the bark of any tree or shrub – leading cause of rot and death!**



QUESTIONS?

Choosing the Right Plant for the Right Place!

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