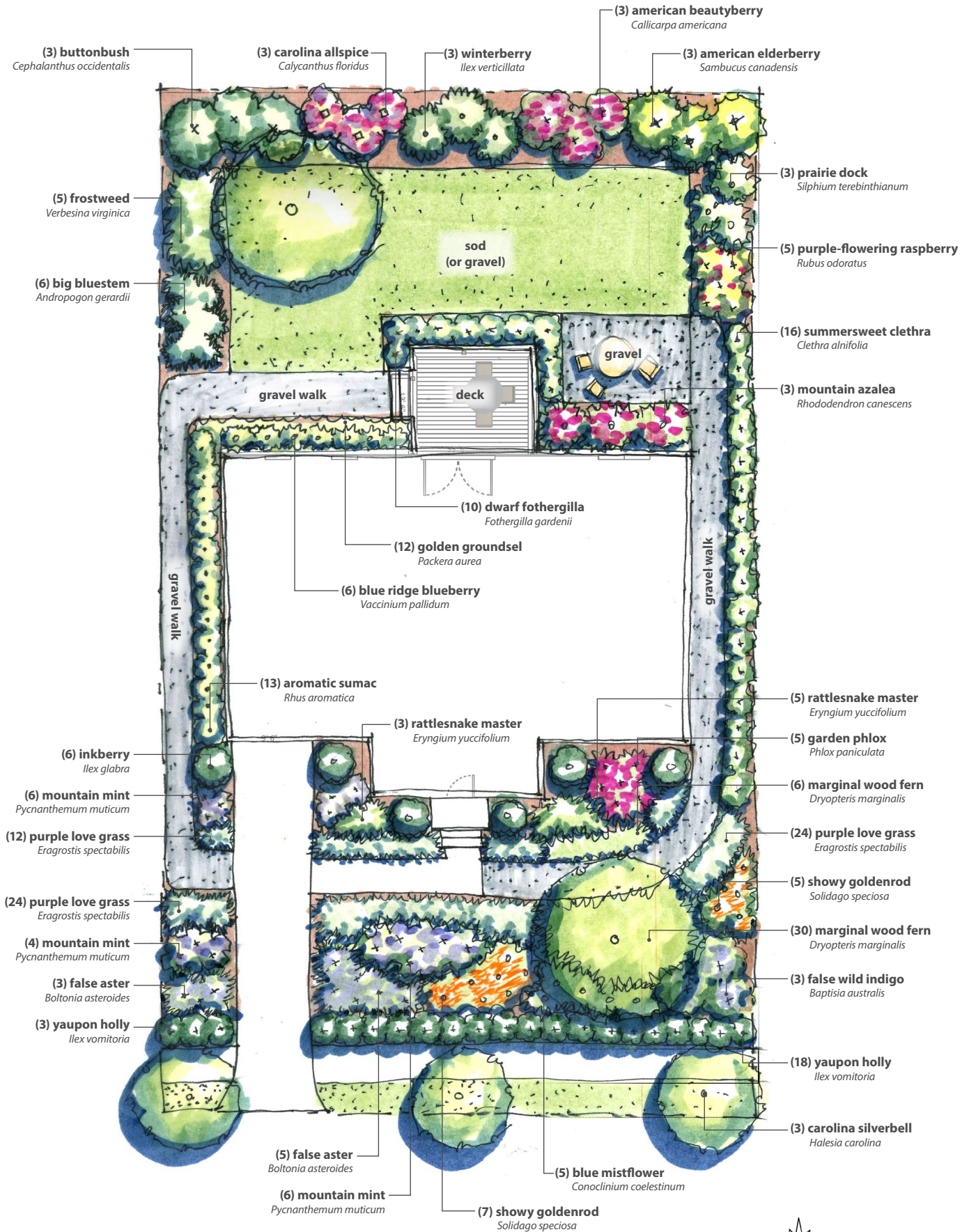


wild ones native garden design: chattanooga

by caleb melchior | summer 2020



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scale: 1" = 10'

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SITE ANALYSIS

Wait to do anything big until you've had a chance to observe your garden for a few months - ideally a year. Walk it and watch out your windows to see how the light shifts over the seasons. You'll also be able to identify any nearby eyesores or views you want to frame. Keep an eye out for downspouts and any areas where water pools.

Work with your local extension agency to get a soil test. That'll let you know if your soil is generally acid or limey. In Chattanooga, undisturbed soils are usually acidic - while disturbed urban soils tend to be more basic. The pH (level of acid or base) will affect which plant species thrive in your garden. The species shown in this plan tend to prefer slightly more acidic soils, typical of the Chattanooga area, but will still grow in somewhat basic conditions. In the Chattanooga area, pine needles or composted leaf mulch are the best mulches - slowly breaking down into the soil. You can also use a crushed gravel mulch, but be aware that limestone-derived gravels can make the soil more basic.

PHASING

Start with larger investment projects that will have a big impact. Plant trees and shrubs to get them growing and established. The hedgerow along the back property lines and street trees/hedge out front are an excellent place to get started. They'll also be easy to maintain and get established. A second phase would be to add the shrubs along the foundations, as well as the gravel terrace and paths wrapping the house. Finally, get rid of that front lawn and let the perennials go free!

PLANT LIST:

Front Garden

(3) carolina silverbell *Halesia carolina*

(21) yaupon holly *Ilex vomitoria*

(6) inkberry *Ilex glabra*

(3) false wild indigo *Baptisia australis*

(8) false aster *Boltonia asteroides*

(5) blue mistflower *Conoclinium coelestinum*

(36) marginal wood fern *Dryopteris marginalis*

(36) purple love grass *Eragrostis spectabilis*

(8) rattlesnake master *Eryngium yuccifolium*

(5) garden phlox *Phlox paniculata*

(16) mountain mint *Pycnanthemum muticum*

(12) showy goldenrod *Solidago speciosa*

SIDE GARDENS

(16) summersweet clethra *Clethra alnifolia*

(13) aromatic sumac *Rhus aromatica*

BACK GARDEN

(6) big bluestem *Andropogon gerardii*

(10) dwarf fothergilla *Fothergilla gardenii*

(12) golden groundsel *Packera aurea*

(3) mountain azalea *Rhododendron canescens*

(5) purple-flowering raspberry *Rubus odoratus*

(3) prairie dock *Silphium terebinthianum*

(6) blue ridge blueberry *Vaccinium pallidum*

(5) frostweed *Verbesina virginica*

BACK HEDGEROW

(3) american beautyberry *Callicarpa americana*

(3) carolina allspice *Calycanthus floridus*

(3) buttonbush *Cephalanthus occidentalis*

(3) winterberry *Ilex verticillata*

(3) american elderberry *Sambucus canadensis*