



Site Landscape SUSTAINABILITY

Perkins Landscape Architecture's quick guide to sustainable design with natives and "Green" rainwater management.



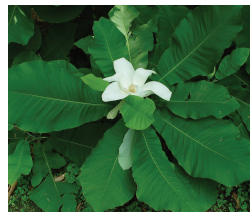
Coreopsis



Pink Muhly Grass



American Sycamore



Bigleaf Magnolia

Why should you try to use native plants?

Often people charge Designers with the task of designing a zero-maintenance landscape... Unfortunately there is no such thing. However, the use of native plant species and following the principle of "The right plant in the right place" can drastically reduce demands on water, fertilizer, time, and money. Regionally native plants generally need less time, maintenance, love and attention.

Many people are concerned that their property will look weedy and unkempt...

Why should it? Native doesn't have to equal "weedy". Some natives are not the best in an urban environment. But, those are just a portion of the plants commercially available. Many Natives have ornamental qualities. Remember all plants are "native" somewhere in the world.



Alberici Construction Headquarters, St. Louis, MO - LEED Platinum Project -Self-Performed

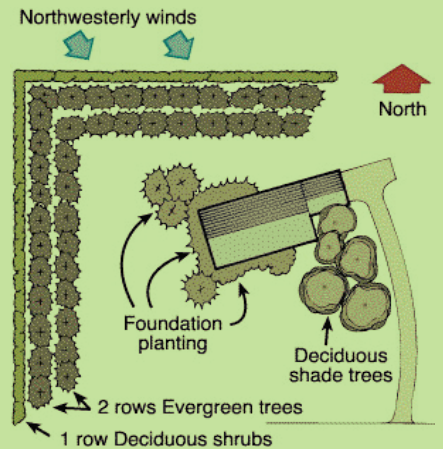


Do These Environmental Factors Impact your Home or Business?

Sun? Wind? Rain?

Consider using these elements in your favor:

- *Use deciduous trees to provide shade & coolness in the summer and allow sunshine in the winter to lower HVAC usage & costs.
- *Plant evergreen trees (Windbreaks) to block cool winter winds & create still air zones.
- *Capture rain water to irrigate & flush toilets, etc.
- *Solar and Wind Power are becoming popular sources of electricity for individuals and businesses.



Courtesy of University of Missouri

Rainwater Management:

Rain is a free resource - consider how to make it work for you? How do you take care of it once you have it?

Harvesting:

1. Above/Underground Storage options:
 - Rain Barrels/Cisterns
2. Gray Water Irrigation & Reuse
3. Permeable pavement/open-grid pavement

Treatment:

1. Native Plant Rain Gardens
2. Bio-Filtration Swales

On-line Resources:

www.harvesth2o.com
www.raingardenalliance.org
www.bluegrassraingardenalliance.org

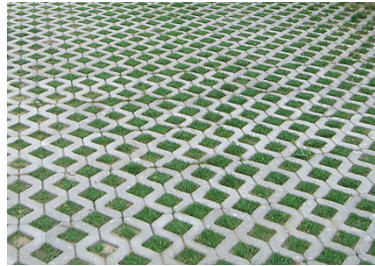


Rain Barrel Ideas...



Rain Gardens:

Courtesy of Bluegrass Rain Garden Alliance



Permeable/Grass Paving Examples:

Reducing the Heat Island Effect:

Heat island effect - "heat island" describes built up areas that are hotter than nearby rural areas

- * Use of more trees & vegetation in appropriate places.
- * Increase shade, select color + reflective paving
- * Permeable, porous paving & grass paving.

Some Simple Ideas to Help Become more Sustainable:

- * Compost - Yard Waste, plant-based kitchen and household wastes, office food waste
(Example: coffee grounds)
- * Plant your own fruit, vegetable, and herb gardens or containerized gardens
- * Plant "edible landscapes"- Mixtures of aesthetic edible plants to supplement groceries and attract/feed wildlife.
- * Utilize rain barrels to irrigate at little or no cost
 - * Install a Rain Garden
- * Consult an ISA Certified Arborist and **plant trees!**

What PLA Can Do For You...

- * Sustainable Design for Most Sites
- * Attractive Design Alternatives - Formal and Non-formal
- * Provide Pavement, Planting, Grading & Drainage Design
- * Provide Tree Selection and Planting Recommendations
- * Rain Garden, Water Harvesting Planning & Design
- * Promote a Healthy Urban Forest in Your Neighborhood



Rosemary



Tomatoes



Creeping Thyme

PERKINS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, LLC

Established in 2011 to provide clients landscape and site solutions through objective and sustainable alternatives to average everyday landscape designs.

PLA prides itself in holding Professional accreditations in the following areas:

- * Registered Landscape Architect - KY #780
- * ISA Certified Arborist - KY-0768A
- * LEED Accredited Professional - Sustainable Designer

'Promoting Sustainable Landscapes through good design.'

Please visit PLA at: www.pla-design.com