



Chain Bridge Native Landscapes
mclean, virginia * 703-867-6979 * www.chainbridgenativelandscapes.com

**Immanuel Church on the Hill
Slope and Fairchild Rain Gardens
3606 Seminary Road
Alexandria, Virginia**

Garden Guide, Landscape Plan, Installed Plant List

June 2021



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NEW GARDEN/CONSERVATION LANDSCAPE GUIDE

Congratulations! Your new garden is a living conservation landscape that provides benefits to our ecosystem, including habitat creation, enhanced biodiversity, retention of stormwater on-site, and erosion control. Your newly established garden or conservation landscape will continue to evolve over time, looking its best after a few years as the roots of your new plants settle in and benefit from the soil amendment that was added upon installation. Your garden has been mulched with leaf compost which helps retain soil moisture and prevents weeds. CBNL gardens and conservation landscapes typically include a dense ground layer as a weed suppression strategy. This ground layer will take some time to fill in and cover the ground.

The following guidelines will help your garden get off to a good start and continue to flourish and support the ecosystem.

Watering: Water your new garden once every three days for the first month following installation and then weekly during the initial growing season, depending on rainfall. Watch water flows following large storms and adjust any displaced mulch while your garden is settling in. After the initial establishment period, plants need about 1.5 inches of water a week. When watering, less frequent yet deep watering (one or two times a week or daily misting) encourages stronger root systems and discourages weeds. Be careful not to overwater, which can also cause problems. In general, the morning is the best time of day to water your garden.

Maintenance: A sustainable conservation landscaping maintenance plan involves 1) regular hand weeding, 2) fall cleanup, and 3) deep spring cleanup and mulching (if necessary). This approach should not require any fertilizer applications, which are considered a major source of pollution to our waterways. Conservation landscapes that follow the maintenance steps listed below generally do not require the use of any pesticides and fertilizers.

- 1) **Weeding:** Learn to identify the most common invasive weeds that tend to grow in your garden and manually remove them. Hiring a maintenance helper to assist with manual weeding two or three times during the growing season can be very beneficial.
- 2) **Fall Cleanup:** The optimal sustainable fall maintenance program involves shredding and redistributing healthy (not diseased) fallen leaves to provide nourishment and protection to the ground over winter. Herbaceous plant and grass material should be left standing throughout the winter - this is naturally attractive and provides important habitat for beneficial insects.
- 3) **Deep Spring Cleanup and Mulching:** Early spring is when the deep garden cleanup occurs – late February to late March. Cut back and remove herbaceous perennials and dead growth as well remaining unwanted fallen leaves. Add compost if desired. Mulch with shredded leaves or leaf compost if necessary and desired.

Questions? Don't hesitate to reach out and email or text with any questions! I can be reached at barbara@chainbridgenativelandscapes.com or 703-867-6979.



CHAIN BRIDGE NATIVE LANDSCAPES

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As Installed

Immanuel Church on the Hill
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FAIRCHILD RAIN GARDEN AREA INSTALLED PLANTS

Woody Plants



Cephalanthus occidentalis (Rain Garden)

Common Name: Buttonbush

Buttonbush has white puffball flowers that appear in mid to late summer, attracting butterflies and other pollinators. The blooms are followed by red mace shaped fruit and burgundy foliage in the fall, providing food for wildlife as well as visual interest. *Cephalanthus* is very wet site tolerant so it is an excellent bog, bioswale or rain garden shrub.



Height: 4-10 Feet

Spread: 4-10 Feet

Zone: 4



Cornus amomum (Beside shed)

Common Name: Silky Dogwood

Medium-sized deciduous shrub that is typically found in moist lowland areas, swamp borders, floodplains, shrub wetlands, and along streams and ponds in Eastern North America (New Foundland to Ontario south to Missouri, Mississippi and Florida).



Height: 6-12 Feet

Spread: 6-7 Feet

Zone: 4



Ilex glabra 'Shamrock' (Rain Garden)

Common Name: Inkberry

'Shamrock' Inkberry is a compact upright form of *Ilex glabra* with small glossy leaves. It is wet site tolerant and great for evergreen hedges.



Height: 4 Feet

Spread: 3 Feet

Zone: 4



Itea virginica Little Henry®

Common Name: Sweetspire

Little Henry® ('Sprich') Sweetspire has fragrant white flowers in June and burgundy-scarlet fall foliage. *Itea virginica* Little Henry® was introduced by Richard Feist. It is also wet site tolerant.



Height: 4 Feet

Spread: 5 Feet

Zone: 5



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Magnolia virginiana

Common Name: Sweetbay Magnolia

Sweetbay Magnolia has fragrant white flowers starting in June that will bloom for much of the summer. In fall it has showy red fruit with orange seeds. *Magnolia virginiana* is also wet site tolerant, and is an important food source for the Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly larvae.



Height: 20 Feet

Spread: 15 Feet

Zone: 5

Perennials and Grasses



Asclepias incarnata (Rain Garden)

Common Name: Swamp Milkweed

Swamp Milkweed is a great addition to wet site gardens, with fragrant white-to-pink milkweed flowers appearing in July and August. The flat cymes are followed by interesting seed pods. *Asclepias incarnata* is an important Monarch butterfly food source, and it tolerates dry sites as well as wet conditions.



Height: 36 Inches

Spread: 24 Inches

Zone: 3



Asclepias tuberosa (Pollinator Garden area)

Common Name: Butterfly Weed

Lovely orange and yellow flowers in June and July, followed by small milkweed pods. Butterfly Weed is an important food source for Monarch butterflies in particular. Must have dry site, seeds well on sunny slopes or gravelly sites.



Height: 24 Inches

Spread: 24 Inches

Zone: 3



Aster oblongifolius (Pollinator Garden area)

Common Name: Aromatic Aster

Masses of delicate clear blue flowers appear on Aromatic Aster in September and October. (New name is *Symphytum oblongifolium*).



Height: 36 Inches

Spread: 36 Inches

Zone: 3



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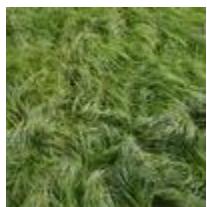
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Carex grayi ‘New Moon Mighty’ (Rain Garden)

Common Name: Grays sedge

Carex grayi ‘New Moon Mighty’ is a cool season grass with semi-evergreen light green, grass-like foliage. Interesting spiked seed heads, which are larger on New Moon Mighty, develop and remain in the winter. The narrow leaves are shiny, upright and are usually semi-evergreen. In early summer greenish spherical flower spikes are held above the graceful shaggy foliage. The unique flowers resemble a starburst even after they transition into warm brown seed clusters. This sedge prospers in part sun to part shade in moist or wet soils. Plants tolerate full sun if abundant moisture is present. This sedge is up to 2.5' tall with a 2' spread. **MAINTENANCE NOTES:** *Mow once in early spring.*



Carex socialis (Near walkway)

Common Name: Social sedge, low woodland sedge

Carex socialis is a rhizomatous perennial sedge that forms dense tufts of narrow foliage. **MAINTENANCE NOTES:** *Mow once in early spring.*



Chasmanthium latifolium (Behind shed)

Common Name: Northern Sea oats

Clump forming perennial warm season grass. In spring several slender unbranched culms rise from the underground rhizomes or elongate from winter rosettes. The culms bear light green spear shaped leaf blades. The culms terminate in a panicle of flat drooping spikelets that are reminiscent of sea oats. The individual spikelets are about 1" long and very mobile due to their slender supporting stalks. This warm season grass thrives in partial sun and moist soil. Plants attain 3-4' height with a 2-3' spread. **MAINTENANCE NOTES:** *Cut down in early spring.*



Coreopsis verticillata (Pollinator Garden area)

Common Name: Threadleaf Tickseed

Threadleaf Tickseed has gold flowers, an upright habit, and forms a large vigorous mat eventually. Blooms June to August, especially if deadheaded.



Height: 18 Inches

Spread: 24 Inches

Zone: 5



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Echinacea purpurea 'Magnus' (Pollinator Garden area)

Common Name: Purple Coneflower

'Magnus' Purple Coneflower has pink flowers in June and July. The dried seeds feed Goldfinches in the fall.



Eupatorium dubium 'Baby Joe' (Pollinator Garden area)

Common Name: Joe Pye Weed

Eupatorium 'Baby Joe' is the shortest of the Joe Pye Weeds and the beautiful, profuse clusters of mauve pink flowers show that it has not sacrificed flower-power for reduced height. It performs well in both wet and regular sites, and blooms from July through August. Introduced by Future Plants.



Juncus effusus (Near river rock swale)

Common Name: Common Rush

Common Rush is a wonderful wet site plant, with deep green spaghetti-shaped leaves that stand stiffly upright. The ivory-white flowers appearing in summer are not showy, but they make an interesting contrast to the unusual foliage, and their seeds produce food for many small birds. Juncus effusus is an attractive upright element for ponds, rain gardens and swampy areas, especially since it is evergreen. **MAINTENANCE NOTES:** *Cut down in early spring.*



Height: 36 Inches

Spread: 24 Inches

Zone: 4

Height: 36 Inches

Spread: 18 Inches

Zone: 4

Height: 30 Inches

Spread: 16 Inches

Zone: 3



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Lobelia cardinalis (Rain Garden)

Common Name: Cardinal Flower

The scarlet flowers of Cardinal flower appear in August and September. Lobelia cardinalis is wet site loving and attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. Cardinal Flower seeds itself beautifully in wetlands.



Height: 36 Inches

Spread: 12 Inches

Zone: 3



Iris versicolor (Pollinator Garden area)

Common Name: Blue Flag Iris

Blue Flag Iris blooms in May and June with beautiful blue-violet flowers that have yellow throats. Although it will grow happily in regular gardens, it is indispensable for bog gardens, wet meadows and streamsides. Iris versicolor's nutrient filtering ability makes it particularly useful in retention basins and bioswales.



Height: 36 Inches

Spread: 24 Inches

Zone: 2



Packera (Senecio) aurea (Near river rock swale)

Common Name: Golden Groundsel

Clumps of yellow daisies are held on sturdy stems above green pinnate leaves in April and May. Very wet site tolerant so good in bogs and around streams and ponds.



Height: 24 Inches

Spread: 18 Inches

Zone: 4



Pycnanthemum muticum (Pollinator Garden area)

Common Name: Mountain Mint

As the summer advances the new leaves of Mountain Mint take on a silvery-white coloration to the point where they look like small white Poinsettias. The small pink flowers are a great butterfly attractant, and the foliage is deliciously aromatic.



Height: 36 Inches

Spread: 36 Inches

Zone: 4



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Rudbeckia fulgida var. fulgida (Pollinator Garden area)

Common Name: Black-Eyed Susan

The yellow flowers of Black-Eyed Susan are later blooming than R. 'Goldsturm', extending the Black-Eyed Susan period up until frost. More wild and natural looking than the cultivars.

Rudbeckia fulgida var. fulgida seeds vigorously, and makes a wonderful filler for natural areas.

Birds depend on the seeds for winter food.



Height: 24 Inches

Spread: 24 Inches

Zone: 3



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SLOPE AREA

Woody Plants



Clethra alnifolia 'Ruby Spice'

Common Name: Summersweet

'Ruby Spice' Summersweet has very fragrant dark pink flowers in June and July. It is both wet site and salt tolerant. *Clethra alnifolia 'Ruby Spice'* was found by Andy Brand of Broken Arrow Nursery in Connecticut.



Height: 8 Feet

Spread: 4 Feet

Zone: 4



Itea virginica Little Henry®

Common Name: Sweetspire

Little Henry® ('Sprich') Sweetspire has fragrant white flowers in June and burgundy-scarlet fall foliage. *Itea virginica Little Henry®* was introduced by Richard Feist. It is also wet site tolerant.



Height: 4 Feet

Spread: 5 Feet

Zone: 5



Viburnum nudum 'Winterthur'

Common Name: Smooth Witherod

'Winterthur' Smooth Witherod has white flowers, beautiful pink and purple fruit in summer, and burgundy fall color. Selected by Bill Frederick, with his usual impeccable taste. It is also wet site tolerant and deciduous. Needs a pollinator like V. Brandywine™ for best fruit production.



Height: 8 Feet

Spread: 4 Feet

Zone: 5

Perennials, Ferns, Grasses, and Vines



Carex socialis

Common Name: Social sedge, low woodland sedge

Carex socialis is a rhizomatous perennial sedge that forms dense tufts of narrow foliage. **MAINTENANCE NOTES: Mow once in early spring.**



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Dryopteris marginalis

Common Name: Evergreen Wood Fern

Evergreen Wood Fern has dark green, leathery foliage and tolerates relatively dry sites.

Dryopteris marginalis is an evergreen clump that performs well on forest edges.



Height: 18 Inches

Spread: 18 Inches

Zone: 2



Gelsemium sempervirens 'Margarita'

Common Name: Carolina Jessamine

The fragrant yellow trumpet-shaped flowers of 'Margarita' Carolina Jessamine appear in April and May and are more prolific in full sun, although shade tolerant. Foliage is dark glossy green and semi-evergreen.



Packera (Senecio) aurea

Common Name: Golden Groundsel

Clumps of yellow daisies are held on sturdy stems above green pinnate leaves in April and May. Very wet site tolerant so good in bogs and around streams and ponds.



Height: 24 Inches

Spread: 18 Inches

Zone: 4



Polystichum acrostichoides

Common Name: Christmas Fern

Christmas Fern has green, shiny foliage.

Polystichum acrostichoides is an evergreen spreader that looks like a Boston Fern. It hugs the ground in winter.



Height: 18 Inches

Spread: 24 Inches

Zone: 3