



GARDENING

Lincoln Ferris



I HATED WEEDING

MY INAUSPICIOUS INTRO TO GARDENING

While Mom and Dad created flower beds and conifer groupings, we five kids were along for the free labor

INTRO TO PERENNIALS VS ANNUALS

Zinnias, marigolds, and geraniums were cheap; lilies and delphiniums showy; junipers, dwarf pines and conifers easy to maintain

GETTING FANCY

When city sewers replaced septic systems, Dad traded a bottle of scotch for outsized boulders

DEALING WITH SLOPES

Our home was built on dump truck loads of fill - we used railroad ties and rough-hewn concrete to create planting beds and tree wells

THE PLANTS OF 7024 WEXFORD ROAD, EDINA MN



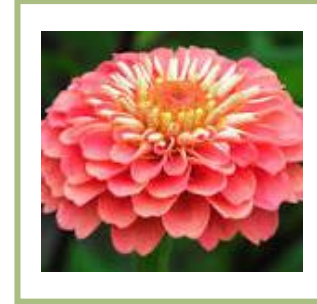
MY TEACHERS

Papa, Gret and Dad



MARIGOLDS

Damn near indestructable



ZINNIAS

Showy



PETUNIAS

Spreading filler



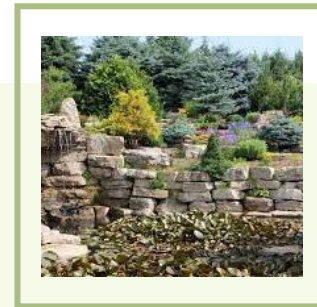
SPREADING JUNIPERS

Year-round anchor



COLORFUL PINES

Visual variety



RETAINING WALLS

Essential framing



MOM – THE INSPIRER

Spreader of the Gardening
Bug



2016

When Margaret and I looked to downsize, we found this opportunity.



2016

The backyard was a blank slate to design our retirement garden.

GARDENING 101



- Learn what you like – it's too much work to try and do what others think your garden should be
- It's not just about colorful blooms – think texture, adjoining shapes & colors, fragrance, framing, seasonality
- Don't worry if you kill something
- Explore, discover, copy good ideas and ask advice

TEXTURE

The “feel” of some plants comes across visually.

Varying your textures helps maintain interest



VARIEGATION

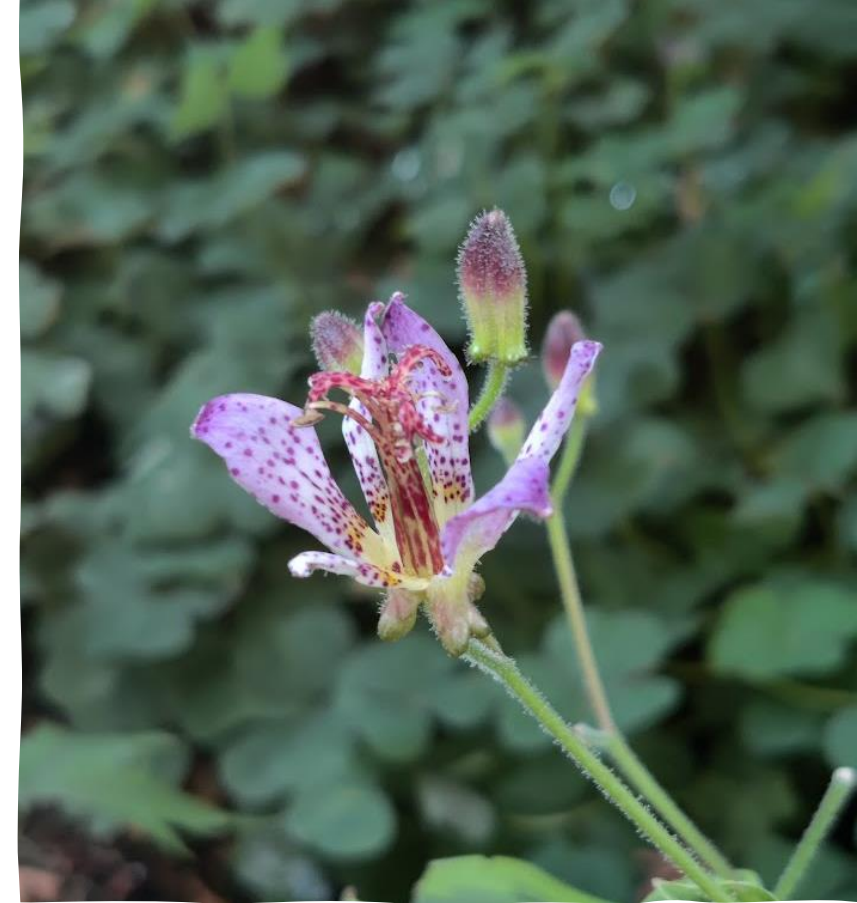
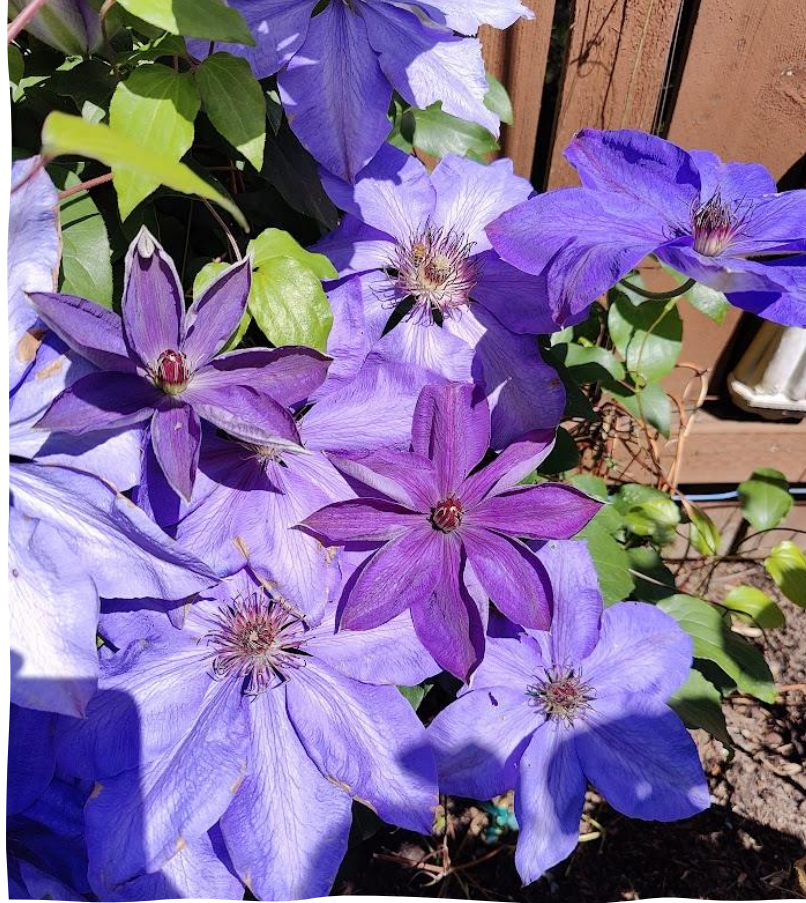
- Many plants or blooms have one primary color.
- Variegated plants bring geometric patterns and contrasting colors to draw the eye.
- Hardy Impatiens and Rock & Roll Rose



SHAPE


- Our mind leads us to expect certain shapes for known objects, such as daffodils.
- Introducing an unexpected shape for a bloom or a leaf pattern can, again, draw attention and entertain you.
- This is a Peruvian Daffodil that blooms in early July, not March or April like most daffodils.





CONTRAST

- Placing contrasting colors together is another subtle means of entertaining the garden visitor
- Contrast can also come in shape or form of plant against its background

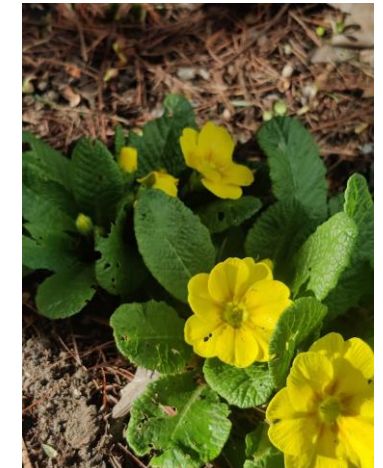
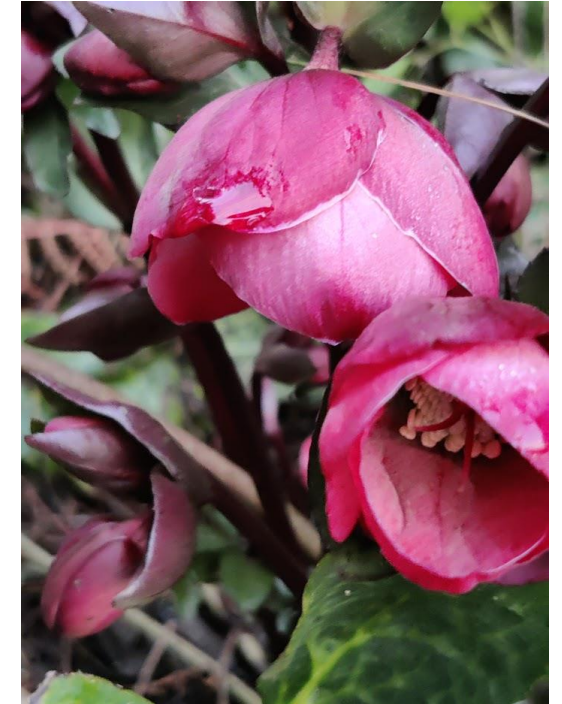


CONTAINERS

Containers are more than just pots. Think pottery sconces, hanging baskets, and living wreaths.

SEASONALITY

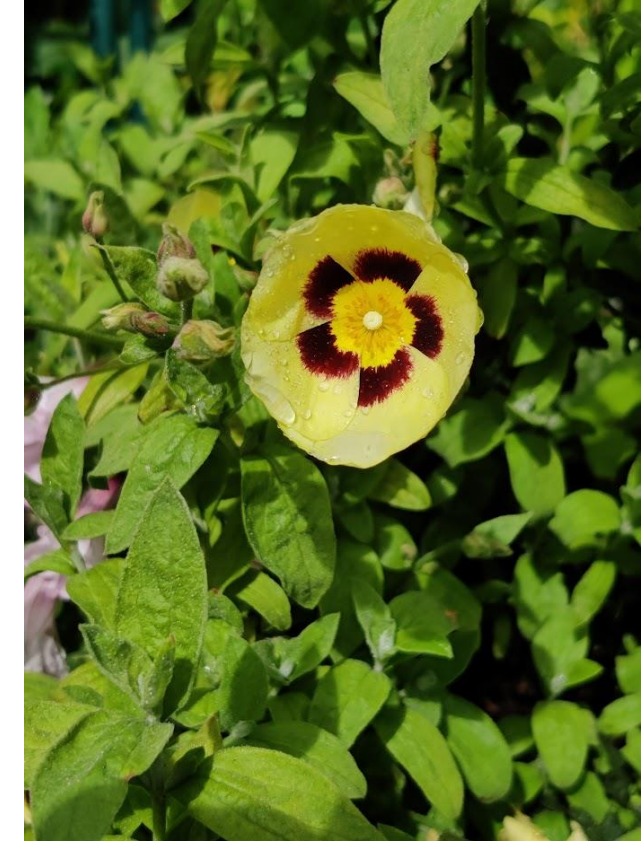
- Planning your selection of perennials, bulbs and annuals for a continuous display of color is part of the fun.
- January to March: Hellebore, Galanthus, Daffodil, Muscari and Primrose can naturalize and bring you early color, year after year





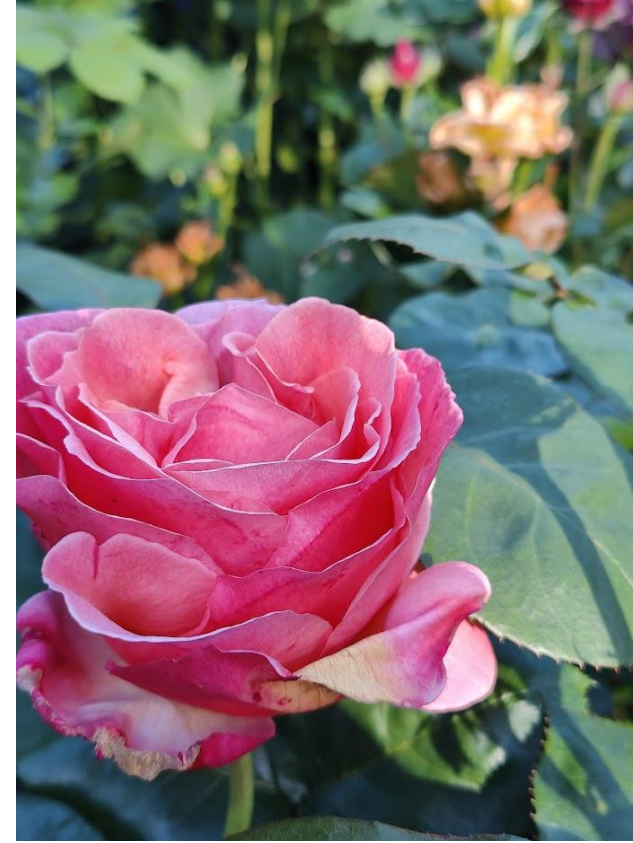
SEASONALITY

- Spring bulbs require Fall planting and summer ordering. Color options to suit any taste or desired palate
- Epimedium, Tulip, Trillium, and Quince are March to April bloomers



SEASONALITY

- Late Spring to Summer offers the challenge of maintaining blooms from the deluge that was May/June to the drought conditions of late July to August
- Columbine, Lewisia, Iris, Halimolobos



SEASONALITY

- June to July is the peak season for roses, but your growing season starts in March with pruning and disease control
- Choosing your roses balances visual appeal, fragrance, growth habits and disease resistance.
- Double Delight, Jude the Obscure, Dark Knight, and Paul Shirville Roses



SEASONALITY

- August to September requires allocating space for plants that take time to mature, leaving gaps in your garden beds.
- Late summer is the peak for flowers to cut and display in your home.
- Hydrangea Golden Crane, Cosmos and Black Knight Hollyhock



FRAGRANCE

PLANT FOR A CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Fragrance is too often overlooked in designing a garden, but it's a key to your sensory impressions of a garden

Think about where a visitor will encounter your plantings and place appropriately

In winter, the recesses of the garden are ignored, but your entryway is not.

SUMMER SWEET PEAS

One of our first decisions in 2016 was to plant sweet peas at each fence post, providing a summer lure for visitors to stop, enjoy the odor and take time to explore.

We planted Daphne Odora and Edgeworthia Chrysantha at the front door – January to February fragrance to welcome guests

FRAMING

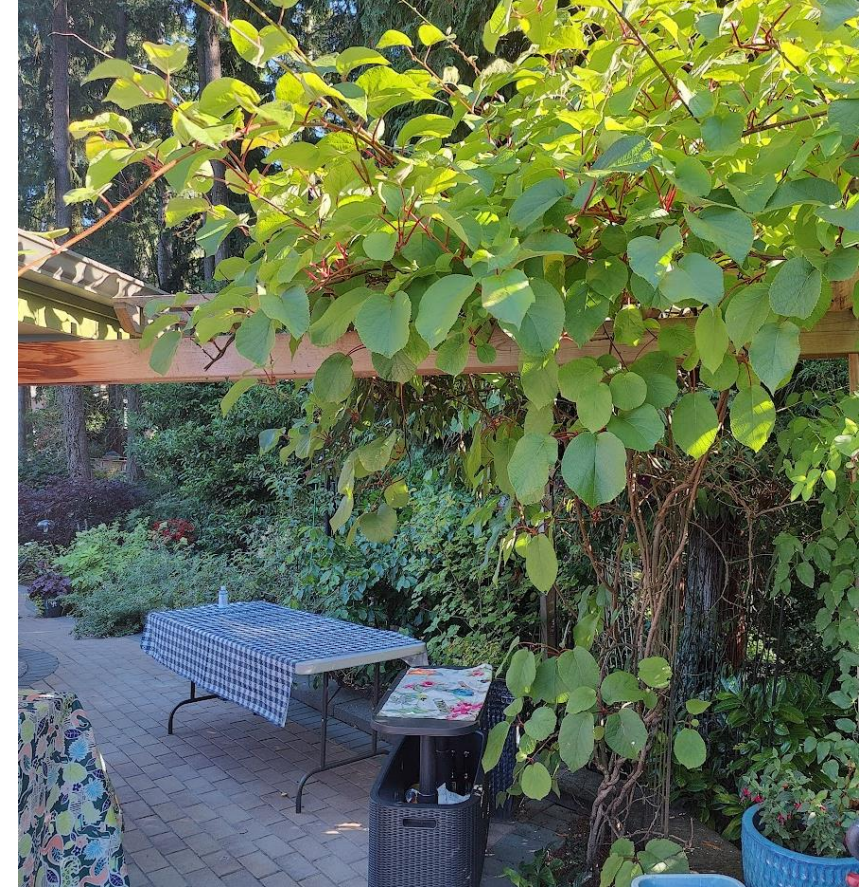
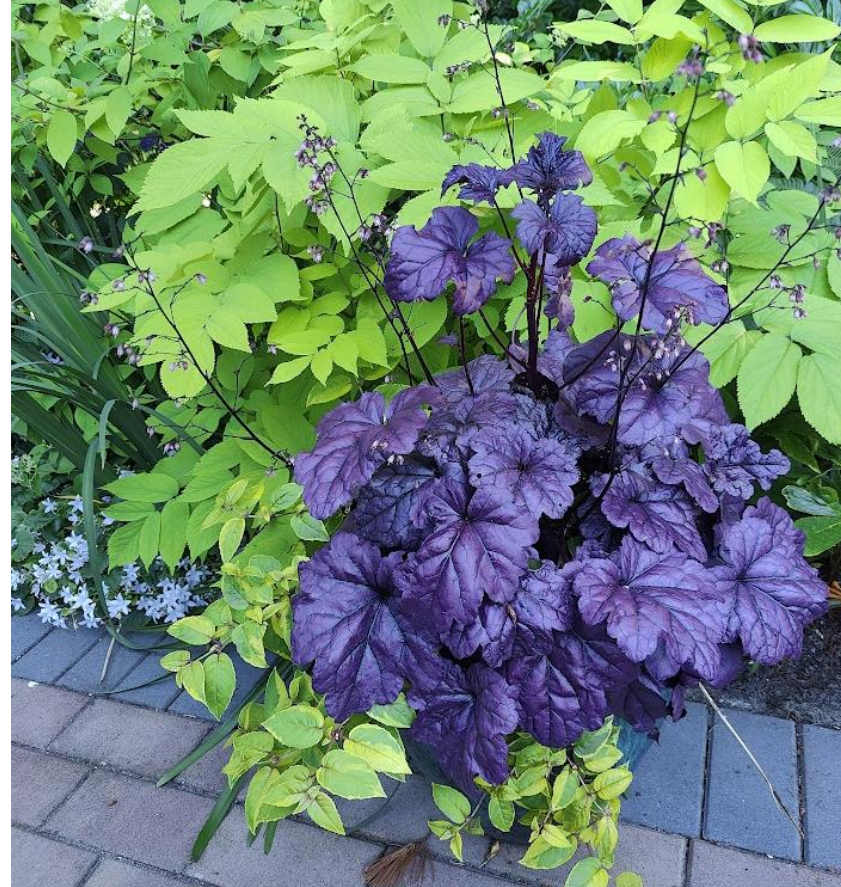
Think about where your garden will be viewed from & chose plants to frame the view. Approach your pots with the same mindset – how to use height, color palette and leaf texture to compose the visitor’s mental picture



FRAMING

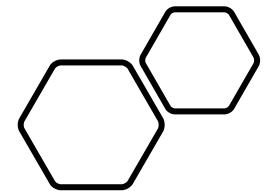
The reverse view looking towards an archway supporting a fragrant Star Jasmine vine. Goldflame Honeysuckle grows along the fence and Spider Web Fatsia plants are in the two large blue pots.

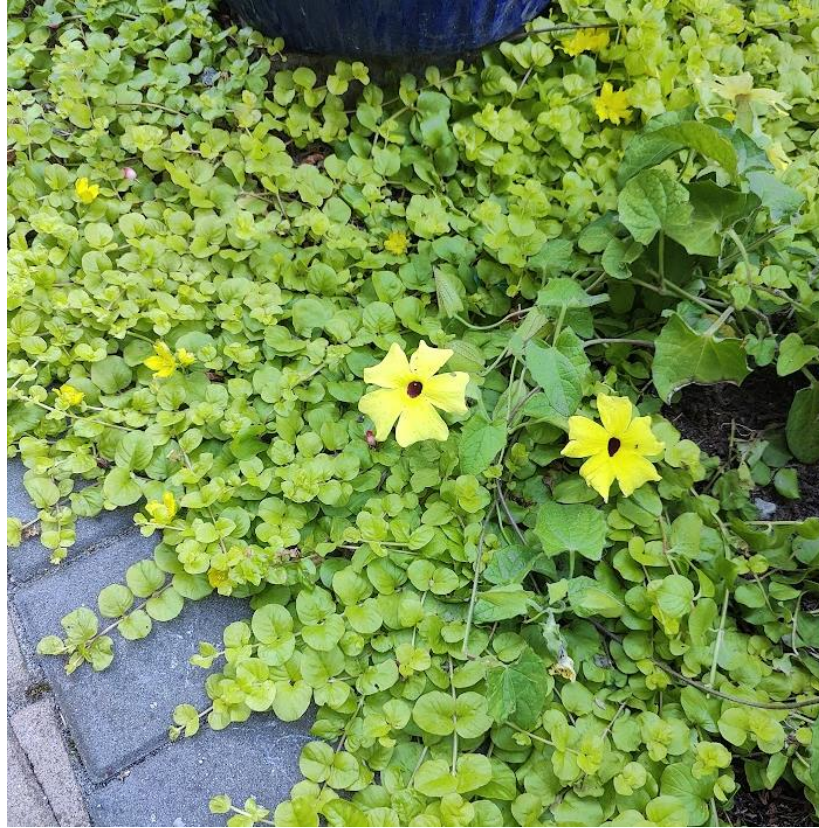




FRAMING

- More examples of intermixing hardscape, vines, color and texture to give a memorable impression of the garden. Kiwi vine over the arch.





GROUNDCOVERS

- Whether for edging, filling in hard to grow spaces or providing a backdrop, groundcovers can be your best friend. Lamium, Lysimachia and Pratia



INTERMIXING

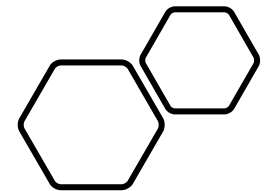
- Vines and lilies can be grown to intertwine with featured plants.
- Pink upright lilies have the height to match our Miss Molly Buddlea; Thomas Strawford Clematis climbing the Lion's Mane Maple Tree





READ THE LABEL

- When selecting plants, be sure to check its mature width and height; shade vs. full sun, soil preferences, etc.
- This Rodgersia started 7 years ago. April on right, July on left. It's six feet across in just eight weeks at maturity.



**PROBLEM –
WHAT THE
HECK IS
THAT
GROWING
IN MY
GARDEN?**

**GET TO KNOW YOUR LOCAL
NURSERY**

Wells Medina, Sky and Swansons are great, but try our local specialty nurseries as well. Far Reaches Farm, Go Natives Nursery, Antique Rose Farm, Cascadia Iris Gardens

ONLINE PLANT ID APPS

Plantsnap
LeafSnap
PictureThis

GARDEN GROUPS

NW Perennial Alliance
NW Garden Societies & Clubs
Seattle Garden Club

VISIT THE EXPERTS

Center for Urban Horticulture
Bellevue Botanical Gardens
Seattle Arboretum
Edmonds, S. Seattle and Lake WA Colleges' Horticulture Programs.

Master Gardeners, WSU
Re
Extension

**TAKE A PICTURE AND
SEARCH ON-LINE**

LIGHTING

- There are inexpensive options – these solar lights were \$10 apiece at Safeway



TEXTURES IN LIGHTING

- Appearances can change with light and shade as the sun passes east to west thru the day.

FAVORITES

Baptisia Lemon Meringue



FAVORITES

Tulip Spring Green



FAVORITES

Rodgersia



FAVORITES

Lobelia Cardinalis



FAVORITES

White Nicotiana



THANK YOU

Lincoln Ferris

425-766-7346

615 N. 180th, Shoreline

lincolnferris@gmail.com