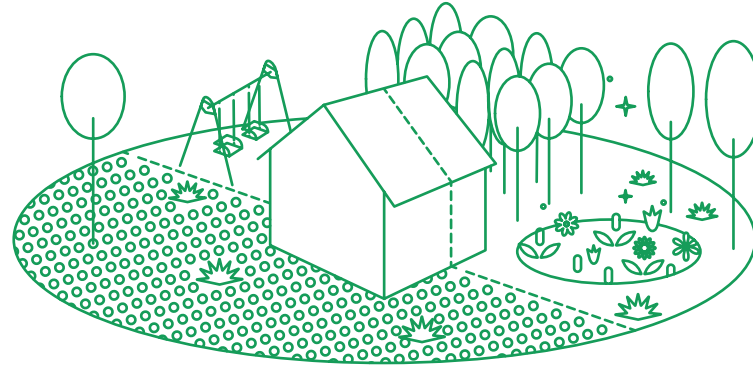




vacancy to vibrancy



Table of Contents



01	MEET THE TEAM
05	VACANCY IN ST. LOUIS
07	PART I: HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE
13	PART II: BUYING & OWNING A LOT
21	PART III: GETTING STARTED
43	PART IV: SAMPLE PROJECT TYPES
63	MAP OF LOCAL PROJECT EXAMPLES
67	APPENDIX A: ST. LOUIS RESOURCES
73	APPENDIX B: GARDEN MAINTENANCE
75	APPENDIX C: A PLANTING GUIDE
77	APPENDIX D: MISSOURI NATIVES

FUNDING

Funding for the design and printing of this guide was provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The concept and content for this guide was developed by members of the Alternative Reuse Subgroup of the St. Louis Vacancy Collaborative's Reinvestment & Reuse Working Group, including staff of the Vacancy Collaborative and Green City Coalition.

The Alternative Reuse Subgroup would like to particularly thank the following people for their contributions of time and expertise: Andy Clubb, Brooke Bulmash, Elizabeth Ward, Josh Ward, L. Irene Compadre, Laura Ginn, Lilly Murphy, Michael Powell, Shavette Wayne-Jones, Tara Aubuchon, Tracy Boaz, Trenton Ellis, and Xandi Barrett..



Courtesy of Richard Reilly

Meet the Team

A COMMUNITY GUIDE TO REVITALIZING ST. LOUIS' VACANT LOTS stlvacancy.com/lot-toolkit

This resource guide was developed as a tool for neighbors and community organizations interested in revitalizing a vacant lot in the City of St. Louis. While each vacant property presents an opportunity for community-led reinvestment, even small investments can feel as difficult to navigate as large-scale developments.

This Guide contains project descriptions, site plans, budgets, worksheets, lists of tools, local resources—everything needed to hit the ground running with a successful revitalization project. The resources were compiled or created by more than a dozen contributors as a joint project of the Vacancy Collaborative and Green City Coalition.

STL VACANCY COLLABORATIVE stlvacancy.com

The Vacancy Collaborative is a coalition of community representatives, private and nonprofit stakeholders, and City agencies, committed to reducing vacant property in the City of St. Louis. Reducing the negative impact of vacancy is a complex puzzle that requires coordination to achieve a shared vision. The Vacancy Collaborative is not a stand-alone entity—it was created to coordinate existing vacancy efforts under one umbrella, and to support the public and private sectors in working together toward comprehensive solutions.

The Reinvestment & Reuse Working Group, one of six collaborative working groups, focuses on identifying and promoting financial and sustainable solutions to equitably reinvest in vacant property. Topics include small contractor and rehabber development, financial reinvestment tools and historic preservation, and alternative land uses like those presented in this guide.



Meet the Team

GREEN CITY COALITION

greencitycoalition.org

Green City Coalition (GCC) is an initiative of city and state agencies, community organizations, and neighbors working collaboratively to develop and conserve green spaces that promote healthy, vibrant and engaged St. Louis neighborhoods.

GCC has cooperative agreements with the Missouri Department of Conservation, City of St. Louis, St. Louis Development Corporation, Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, and Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation, with additional members varying by neighborhood, program, or project.

ARBOLOPE STUDIO

arbolopeco.com

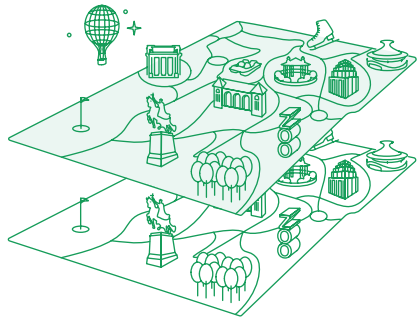
Arbолоpe Studio is an award-winning Landscape Architecture, Urban Design and Public Art practice based in St. Louis, Missouri, focused on creating innovative and impactful landscapes that balance high-quality design, social equity, and environmental resilience.

Arbолоpe works with a variety of local, national and international clients including universities, institutions, corporations, and communities - at scales ranging from intimate parklets to large urban plans.

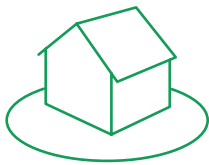


Vacancy in St. Louis

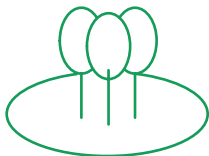
THE CHALLENGE OF VACANCY



THE AMOUNT OF VACANT PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS IS EQUAL TO TWO FOREST PARKS COMBINED



10,000 VACANT BUILDINGS



14,000 VACANT LOTS

The City of St. Louis has a serious vacancy challenge, with nearly 25,000 vacant and abandoned properties. Since 1950, when our population reached its historic high of 850,000 people, we have experienced a 63% decline, resulting in one of the highest rates of vacancy in the nation. The land cover of vacant properties in the City is equal to nearly two Forest Parks.

Traditionally, when we think of vacant properties in our city, we think of our historic brick buildings, wishing someone would rehab them. But most of our vacant properties (57%) are vacant lots—open parcels of land that usher in their own host of problems for nearby residents. When vacant lots are abandoned or poorly maintained, they attract illegal dumping and violent crime, suppress community pride, and place added burdens on City departments and nearby residents.

The prevalence of vacant and abandoned properties today can represent a significant opportunity to reinvest in the future of our neighborhoods. Collaborative efforts to develop solutions are helping to reveal our past mistakes, rebuild relationships and trust, and create new forms of equitable reinvestment. The complex challenge of vacancy in St. Louis can only be addressed through a collective effort and a large toolbox. Just one of the tools in our toolbox is the temporary and permanent reuse of vacant lots as community open spaces.

Why Community Green Spaces?

A COMMUNITY GREEN SPACE IS...

A community green space is any intentional open space maintained for community use. It can be a venue for exercise and physical activity, for relaxation and stress reduction, for growing and sharing food, for experiencing arts and entertainment, for interacting with nature, or any number of combinations.

GREENING THE CITY

Greening projects can be relatively cost-effective and quick interventions that provide a variety of social, environmental, and economic benefits. These community benefits can be realized with any range of investment, from routine mowing to production agriculture. Greening projects are adaptable to your budget, your capacity, and your level of experience. Every project, no matter how small, makes a difference in your neighborhood.

Increased access to green spaces can reduce stress, anxiety and even crime; prevent illegal dumping; encourage social interactions; increase property values; and improve physical and mental health. Green spaces may help catalyze additional development, and they can increase a community's ability to withstand the impacts of climate change, like increasing and intensifying storm events.

The benefits are wide-ranging, and are best realized through active local design and use. A community greening project should be led by residents and designed to meet the interests and priorities of the surrounding community. No matter your use, your green space should reflect your community, aim to meet your collective aspirations, and provide a welcoming environment for all neighbors to interact.



How to Use this Guide

How to Use this Guide

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE

Vacant lot revitalization projects can provide social, economic, and health benefits to communities dealing with vacant properties, but they can also be difficult to get started and to sustain. This guide was developed to help neighbors make informed plans, and to weigh the potential of a project with the reality of any additional burdens—from the investment of your time and energy to property acquisition and ownership.

To consider all potential opportunities and challenges with a reuse project, we encourage users to move through the sections in order. Some sections, however, are designed as worksheets or resources that can be extracted, copied, shared, and reused.

PART I

Review the history of vacancy in St. Louis, the challenges and opportunities that come with vacant and abandoned properties, and the benefit potential of community-led revitalization projects.

PART II

Discover information and resources related to lot ownership, including considerations of permitting and insurance requirements.

Vacant Lot Acquisition in the City of St. Louis lists online tools available for determining property ownership, and resources related to property purchasing.

The Land Reutilization Authority of the City of St. Louis (LRA) provides information about the city's land bank, purchase options, and available programs like Mow-To-Own and Garden Leases.



How to Use this Guide

PART III

Find worksheets designed to guide you through establishing your project team, selecting a location, designing your new community space, and developing timelines and budgets.

- Use the *Build Your Team*, *Review Your Team Assets*, *Determine Your Community Priorities*, *Locate Neighborhood Hubs*, and *Make Connections* worksheets to help your team find your common goal, and to consider the skills and interests each member brings to the project.
- Review your nearby assets, challenges, and available vacant lots with the *Site Conditions* and *Sketch Your Lot* worksheets.
- Use the *Project Selection* worksheet to guide your team through picking the project that best fits your site and your group's interests, capacity, and priorities.
- Set short-term goals and estimate costs with the *Create A Roadmap For Success* and *Establish A Timeline & Budget* worksheets.

PART IV

Read descriptions of ten different example projects that can be used in converting a vacant lot to a vibrant asset, including key steps, lists of tools and materials, diagrams or renderings, and local resources.

APPENDIX A: ST. LOUIS RESOURCES

Lists local organizations and resources that can provide assistance in the form of tools, services, and information.

APPENDIX B: MISSOURI NATIVES

The native plants in this Appendix are listed according to their common pollinators, color, and relative size, so that you can map out your garden on paper before heading out to the lot.

APPENDIX C: PLANTING GUIDE

Never done any planting before? Have no fear, this simple step-by-step guide will have you gardening like a pro in no time.

APPENDIX D: GARDEN MAINTENANCE

A garden, like other living things, needs regular care. This Appendix lists easy tips on keeping your newly beautified lot healthy and happy.





Buying & Owning A Lot

Background Information

EVERY LOT HAS AN OWNER

Vacant lots in the City of St. Louis can be owned either by the City’s land bank (publicly owned) or by an individual, business, or other entity (privately owned). How one comes to acquire a vacant lot will depend on whether the lot is privately or publicly owned.

DETERMINING THE CURRENT OWNER

To search for a vacant lot and determine its ownership, use the Vacant Property Explorer. stlvacancy.com/explorer

If a vacant lot is publicly owned, it is under the stewardship of the Land Reutilization Authority of the City of St. Louis (LRA). The steps for purchasing a lot from LRA are outlined on Page 17.

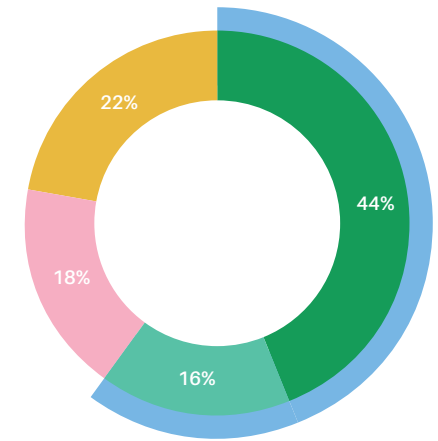
If the lot is privately owned, steps will need to be taken to contact the current owner.

THE LAND REUTILIZATION AUTHORITY

In 1971, to combat the increasing challenge of abandoned properties, the City of St. Louis established the first land bank in the United States, the Land Reutilization Authority (LRA). LRA is a nonprofit organization with the mission of receiving and holding vacant and abandoned tax-foreclosed properties until new private owners can purchase the properties and return them to productive use.

WHO OWNS ST. LOUIS VACANT PROPERTY?

- Privately Owned Vacant Buildings
- Privately Owned Vacant Lots
- LRA Owned Buildings & Lots
- LRA Owned Lots
- LRA Owned Buildings



VACANT PROPERTY EXPLORER

stlvacancy.com/explorer

Use this interactive map of all vacant properties to find ownership information and more.

LRA PROPERTY SEARCH

stlouis-mo.gov/sldc/real-estate/

Visit the LRA Property Search to find information on LRA-owned properties.

If you see a property on the Explorer that is owned by LRA but it does not appear in the LRA-Owned Property Search, it may be held for pending offers or sales, during title or lien work, or because of an existing lease – contact the LRA.

Acquiring a Lot in St. Louis

PURCHASE A SIDE LOT

stlouis-mo.gov/slhc/real-estate/

ELIGIBLE LOTS

Lots up to 30 feet frontage (the width of the parcel facing the street) and under certain circumstances up to 50 feet frontage, to be sold as additional side yard to the owner of an adjacent residential property. You can find frontage for a specific lot on the LRA-Owned Property Search.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must own the adjacent property, have paid all taxes on properties owned in the city, and have no outstanding code violations on those properties.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants must complete the following required documents:

- The Offer Checklist
- LRA Offer to Purchase

FEES

A \$25.00 non-refundable processing fee is required when making an offer.

MOW TO OWN

stlouis-mo.gov/slhc/real-estate/

Residents may take ownership of a vacant lot that is located next to an occupied residential or commercial property that they own, for a nominal fee. Participants must agree to continually maintain the lot for 2 years.

ELIGIBLE LOTS

A Lot may not exceed 40 feet frontage and must be the property of the LRA for a minimum of three years.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must own the adjacent property, have paid all taxes on properties owned in the city, and have no outstanding code violations on those properties.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Download the Mow-To-Own application online or pick up an application in the LRA office at 1520 Market St., Suite 2000.

FEES

A \$25.00 nonrefundable processing fee is required when making an offer, followed by a \$100 fee, at closing, after the 2-year period.



Acquiring a Lot in St. Louis

GARDEN LEASE

stlouis-mo.gov/sldc/real-estate/

Residents may lease LRA lots for up to a five year period to create vegetable and/or flower gardens.

ELIGIBLE LOTS

Lots that are not currently planned for development are eligible.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Available to individuals, neighborhood associations, and community organizations. Lessee is responsible for maintenance and liability insurance.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Download the Garden Lease Application and submit completed form to the St. Louis Development Corporation.

FEEES

\$1.00 per year (\$5.00 for the five year lease).



Other Considerations

INSURANCE

General liability insurance is recommended for all project sites, and event insurance may be necessary for large public gatherings. Reach out to an insurance agent for quotes and recommendations.

If you lease a vacant lot through the LRA's Garden Lease program, you are required to obtain general liability insurance in an amount not less than \$300,000.00.

PERMITTING

Permits can be required for everything from sign installation to fencing, sheds, and events. Be sure to contact the Building Division to determine if your project will need permits for: Construction (earth moving, fencing, sheds, playgrounds, large signage, etc.), Occupancy (business operations), or Events (large public or special events.)

Contact the St. Louis City Building Division's Permit Section to find out more.

CITY CODES

Once you own a lot you'll need to ensure that you keep it up to the City Code and prevent overgrowth, cleanup trash, and keep the site clean. For more information, contact the St. Louis City Building Division.



1

Getting Started

Determine Community Priorities

Discuss the project with your neighbors. What are your hopes and aspirations for this project? To create a new gathering space? Provide habitat for pollinators? To grow food? Prevent dumping? Identifying your motivations will help guide the direction of the project.

NAME	PRIMARY INTEREST

Locate Neighborhood Hubs

Identify active neighborhood hubs and institutions to connect with. These hubs could include public gathering spaces, such as parks, bus stops, and community gardens, businesses, places of worship, non-profit organizations, schools, etc.

HUBS & INSTITUTIONS	CONTACT INFORMATION

Make Connections

Use this space to create a concept or bubble map, connecting people, ideas, hubs, and insitutions in your community. How are you and your future project connected to the people and places around it?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for the user to create a concept or bubble map connecting people, ideas, hubs, and institutions in their community.

Assess Your Site Conditions

1. TAKE INVENTORY

Take inventory of your lot. What are the site conditions of your lot?

Take inventory of your neighborhood. What does your neighborhood need?

2. CHOOSE YOUR PROJECT SITE

Sketch a diagram of your lot's features on pages 33-34.

Note areas of your lot that may be good candidates for transformation.

SOIL QUALITY

Soil that is healthier tends to have a darker color and lots of plant life. On the other hand, contaminated, nutrient-poor soil may be gray in color with little plant growth. Soil can be sent to a lab to be tested, or purchase your own soil-test kit.



SLOPE

Low areas that retain water are perfect for rain gardens, while flat areas are great gathering spaces.

WATER ACCESS

Determine whether your project will need water access for irrigation or programming. If you think it will, consider the following:

- Get access to an outdoor spigot
- Request that the Water and Sewer Authority installs a water meter on your lot
- Do a simple *percolation test* to see how well the soil can absorb water
- Avoid planting lawn grass. Due to its short root-system, most lawn grass doesn't have a large capacity for holding water and will require additional irrigation.

SUN EXPOSURE

Different plants require different amounts of sunlight—and not all parts of a lot are the same. Look for how trees, fences, and adjacent buildings cast shadows throughout the day.



FULL SUN

Receives direct sunlight for at least 6 hours or more each day, including some or all of the midday hours.



PART SUN

May receive sunlight during parts of the day, and can tolerate midday sun.



FULL SHADE

No direct sunlight on the ground.



PARTIAL SHADE

May only receive a few hours of sunlight during one part of the day. No midday sun.



LIGHT SHADE

Little if any direct sunlight, primarily traveling shade. Common under tall trees or trees with sparse foliage.

Assess Your Site Conditions

EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Note site conditions, such as the location of trees, utility lines, and major infrastructure, any existing flooding or erosion issues, sun exposure, etc., as these conditions may affect the types of land uses that are possible.

There may be some infrastructure that remains underground. If your project involves digging or moving earth with power equipment, state law requires that you notify underground utility companies three to ten business days before you plan to dig.

mo1call.com
1-800-DIG-RITE

UNDERGROUND DEBRIS

Vacant lots in particular may have had a building on them in the past. If you plan to do any digging on site, there may be buried building materials underground. Conditions of vacant lots with or without buried debris vary widely across the City.

HELPFUL SKETCHING TIPS

When drawing your lot and its various features on the following pages, consider these pointers:

- Pick a Simple Scale**
 Does one grid square equal 1 foot? 2 feet? Pick a scale that makes drawing the whole lot easy and exact - this will help as you plan out where things go.
- Start with the Borders**
 Beginning with the property borders will ensure that you fit the whole lot.
- Try Using Color**
 Use colors to signify different elements, like blue for water, and green for plants. Have fun with it!

Site Conditions Worksheet

Use this worksheet to gather your basic site observations in one place.

SOIL QUALITY (choose one)

Sandy / Gritty
 Clay
 Average
 Healthy
 Rich

SLOPE (choose all that apply)

Steep
 Mild
 Varying
 Subtle
 Flat

SUN LEVELS (choose all that apply)

Full Shade
 Light Shade
 Partial Shade
 Part Sun
 Full Sun

WATER ACCESS (choose all that apply)

None
 Rain Barrell
 Neighbor spigot
 Site spigot
 Existing irrigation

TREE CANOPY (choose one)

No trees
 Trees in adjacent lots
 1-2 Trees
 3-5 Trees
 Many trees

SAFETY (choose one)

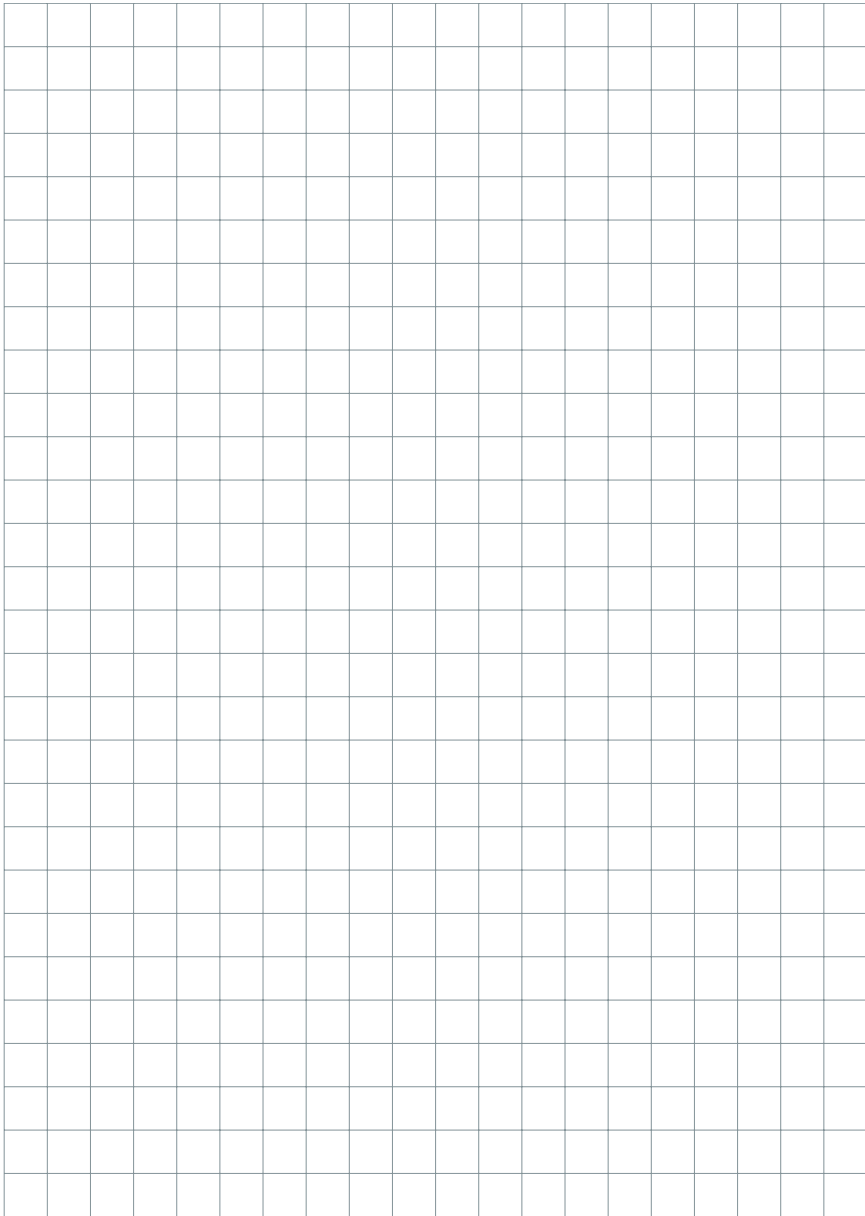
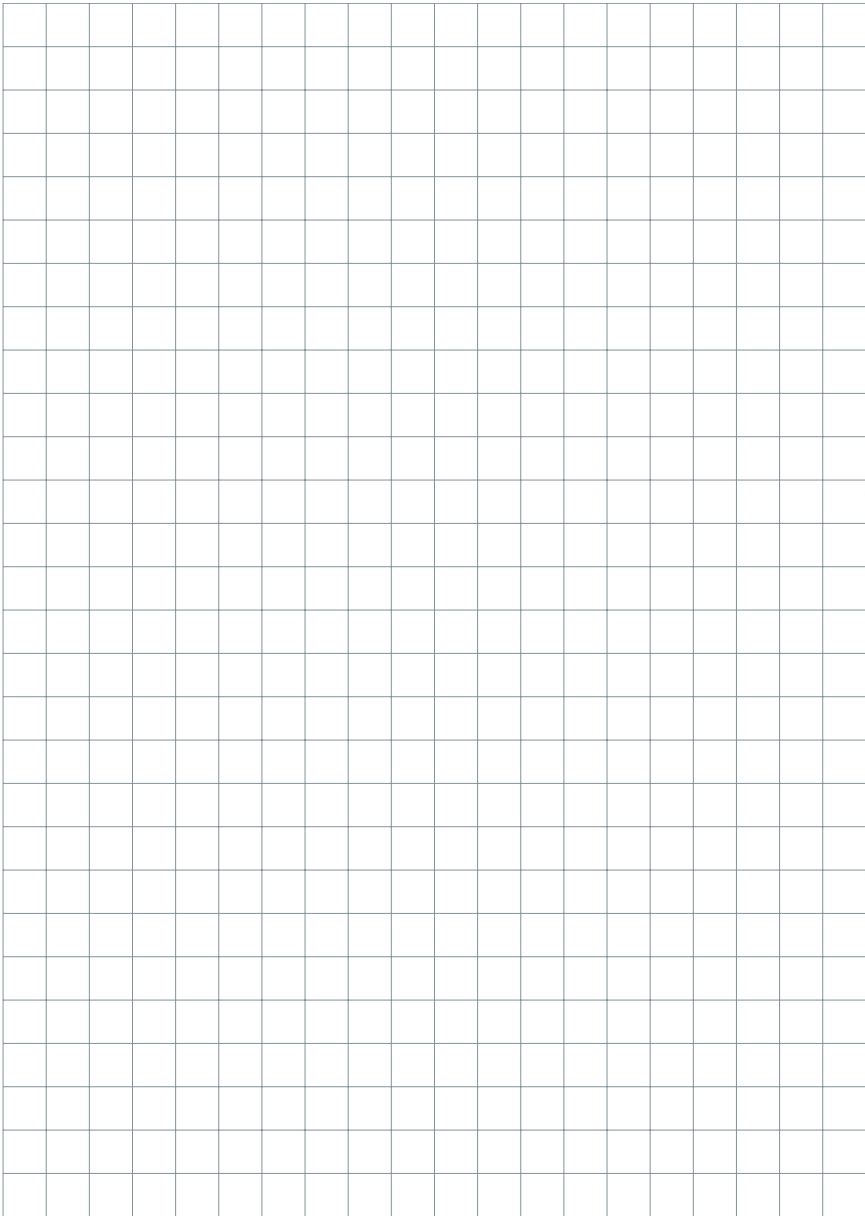
I don't feel safe
 Uneasy
 Neutral
 Mostly safe
 I feel safe

ACCESSIBILITY (choose all that apply)

Hard to get to
 Hard to see
 Not sure
 Easy to see
 Easy to get to

Sketch Your Lot

Use these pages to sketch your lot, notate site conditions, and to mark any unique or important features such as fences, gates, spigots, debris, built structures, or trees.



Project Selection Worksheet

Use this worksheet to determine which project(s) are the best fit for your group.

1. FILL OUT THE WORKSHEET

Answer each question below by checking the most appropriate answer.

Review the project type chart on p. 37-38

2. SELECT YOUR PROJECT

Based on your worksheet answers, the factors listed on p. 37-38, and your group's interests, determine which project type would be most feasible for your group.

GROUP PROFILE

(choose all that apply)

Volunteers Professionals

Does your group consist of volunteers or professionals? Volunteers donate their time, while professionals are paid for their labor, often under a specific contract. Professionals often carry their own insurance, licenses, and warranties, while volunteers do not.

EXPERIENCE LEVEL

(choose all that apply)

Beginners Little experience Some experience Expert

What experience levels do members of your group bring to this project? Some members may be more experienced than others, and this is a great time to assess the capabilities of your team.

MAINTENANCE (UPKEEP)

(choose one)

Low Moderate High

When determining what amount of maintenance your project will require don't just consider the project type and size, but also the time and energy each of your group members realistically has to dedicate to the project in the short and long term.

STORMWATER ABSORPTION

(choose one)

Yes No

Does your lot flood? Are there other issues with water pooling or running through the site? If so, you may need to consider a project that tackles stormwater, such as a rain garden.

BUDGET (COST)

(choose one)

\$0—500 \$500—1,000 \$1,000 +

Keep in mind that your budget should reflect all costs associated with the project, including supplies and any fees associated with hiring professionals. If possible, we recommend reserving 10% of the total project budget for unforeseen expenses - just to be safe.

SUN EXPOSURE

(choose all that apply)







Full Shade Light Shade Partial Shade Part Sun Full Sun

The level of sun exposure may be different across your lot, with adjacent buildings, trees, and the cardinal direction of the lot itself, all impacting how much sun your project receives during a given day and throughout the year. Visit your lot at different times of the day and note the real-world impact of sun on your site.

Select a Project

1. REVIEW COMMON PROJECT TYPES
 These categories are not intended to provide rigid guidelines for your project. Rather, this will help narrow down the general types of projects that may be most appropriate in your neighborhood.

2. MORE THAN ONE RIGHT ANSWER
 You may find that your site and your group interests fit more than one project type. That is fine! You can select more than one, or create a hybrid.

		Clean & Green	Naturescaping	Butterfly Garden	Rain Garden	Urban Orchard & Produce Garden	Playspace	Gathering Space	Public Art
 Suggested Team	Volunteers	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Professionals						●	●	●
 Experience Level	Beginner	●	●			●			
	Intermediate			●	●		●	●	●
 Likely Upkeep	Low - Moderate	●	●				●		●
	Moderate - High			●	●	●		●	
 Stormwater Absorption	Good	●					●		●
	Better		●	●		●		●	
	Best				●				
 Probable Cost	\$0—500	●	●	●	●	●			●
	\$500—1,000		●	●		●	●	●	●
	\$1,000 +						●		●
 Sun Exposure	Full Shade	●					●	●	●
	Part Sun & Shade	●	●		●	●	●	●	●
	Full Sun	●	●	●	●	●	●		●

Create a Roadmap to Success

With your neighbors, map out the various milestones needed to complete the project. Ask yourselves, "What will success look like?" and "Which steps will we need to take to achieve a successful project?" If any steps will require funding, be sure to include fundraising in your roadmap.

OUR DEFINITION OF SUCCESS

MILESTONE #1

MILESTONE #2

MILESTONE #3



Sample Projects

Clean & Green



1. CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION
Is there a lot in your neighborhood that frequently attracts illegal dumping? Clean & Green can stabilize a lot and prevent illegal dumping or establish a baseline for any other vacant lot reuse projects.



Local Example | Park Ln & Emma Ave

Your Materials Checklist

- HAND TOOLS**
Gloves, shovels, rakes, trowels
Tip: borrow from Brightside St. Louis
- PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)**
Safety goggles, closed-toe shoes
- POWER TOOLS**
Lawn mower, string trimmer
- FENCING**
- ANNUAL FLOWERS**
Tip: free from Brightside St. Louis

Local Resources

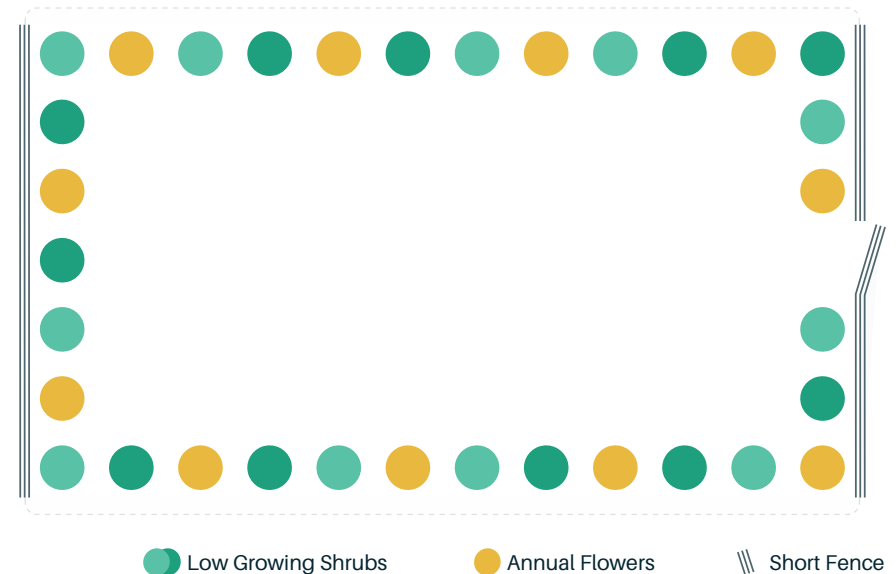
- BRIGHTSIDE ST. LOUIS**
Project Blitz—tools, gloves & trash bags
Blitz Blooms—free annual flowers
- FOREST RELEAF OF MISSOURI**
- CITIZENS' SERVICE BUREAU**
Report Illegal Dumping

Looking for the full list of resources?
Local Resources Appendix, p.67

2. DESIGN YOUR SPACE
What type(s) of intervention are needed to improve the aesthetics of your lot? How often can your group commit to tending the lot?

3. INSTALL & MAINTAIN YOUR LOT
Schedule an initial cleanup: recruit neighbors, family members, and friends to help pick up litter, remove large items, trim back woody overgrowth, and mow the lot. Don't forget to maintain your lot regularly!

A Sample Planting Design



Low Growing Shrubs Annual Flowers ||| Short Fence

Helpful Design & Maintenance Tips!

CREATE A MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE
Visit the lot regularly to pick up litter and monitor regrowth of invasive or unwanted plants. Cut these back as needed in order to maintain clear sightlines across the lot.

GIVE IT SOME FLARE
Adding a short fence, annual flowers, and some low-growing shrubs along the borders of your lot can help beautify the space. These additions will require extra maintenance, but increase the perception of your lot as an intentional space.

Naturescaping



1. CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION
Naturescaping improves resilience & biodiversity by relying on native species. Naturescaping can be done anywhere, but be sure to review your site conditions first.

Site Conditions Worksheet p.32

2. DESIGN YOUR GARDEN
Are you aiming for a certain look? A natural fence or screening? Creating shade? How about a restored prairie? It's all possible.

Project Priorities Worksheet p.25
Native Garden Planting Guide p.73

3. INSTALL & MAINTAIN YOUR GARDEN
Naturescaping requires an upfront investment, including regular watering, weeding, and mulching.

Native Garden Maintenance Guide p.75



Your Materials Checklist

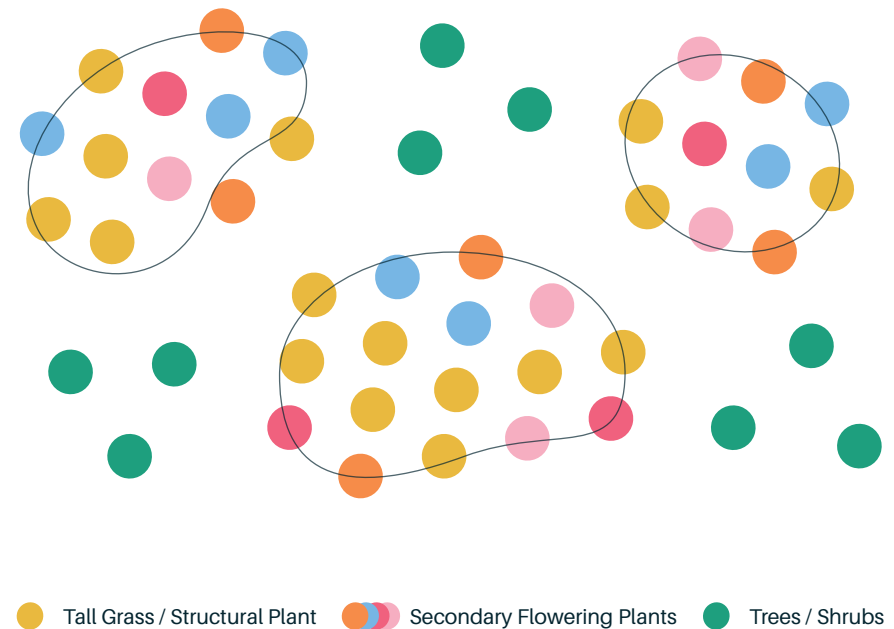
- HAND TOOLS**
Gloves, shovels, rakes, trowels
Tip: borrow from Brightside St. Louis
- NATIVE PLANTS**
- MULCH**
Keep moisture in and weeds out with 2-3" of mulch
Tip: borrow a wheelbarrow from Brightside St. Louis
- EDGING**
Option for a more formal look: use bricks or rocks around your garden's edge
- FOOTWEAR**
Sturdy closed-toe shoes or heavy work boots

Local Resources

- BRIGHTSIDE ST. LOUIS**
Neighbors Naturescaping Grants
- FOREST RELEAF OF MISSOURI**
- NATIVE GARDENING INFO**
Grow Native!
Missouri Botanical Garden
Shaw Nature Reserve

Looking for the full list?
Local Resources Appendix, p.67

A Sample Planting Design



Helpful Design Tips!

LIMIT YOUR SELECTION
Select 1 plant to fill most of your garden, and 2-4 others to sprinkle throughout. This keeps your garden simple while adding variety during the changing seasons.

IT GETS EASIER
Once established (1-3 years), naturescaping can require much less maintenance than traditional landscaping.

Butterfly Garden



1. CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION
 Select a space with partial to full sun and choose native flowering plants according to your site conditions. Include both host plants for caterpillars and nectar-producing plants for adult butterflies.

2. DESIGN YOUR GARDEN
 Design your garden according to plant height and aesthetic preferences. For a formal look, create a border with bricks or rocks. For a more natural feel, forego a border altogether.

3. INSTALL & MAINTAIN YOUR GARDEN
 Every garden needs periodic watering, weeding, and other seasonal maintenance.

Native Garden Planting Guide p.73
 Native Garden Maintenance Guide p.75



Local Example | St. Cronan Church

Your Materials Checklist

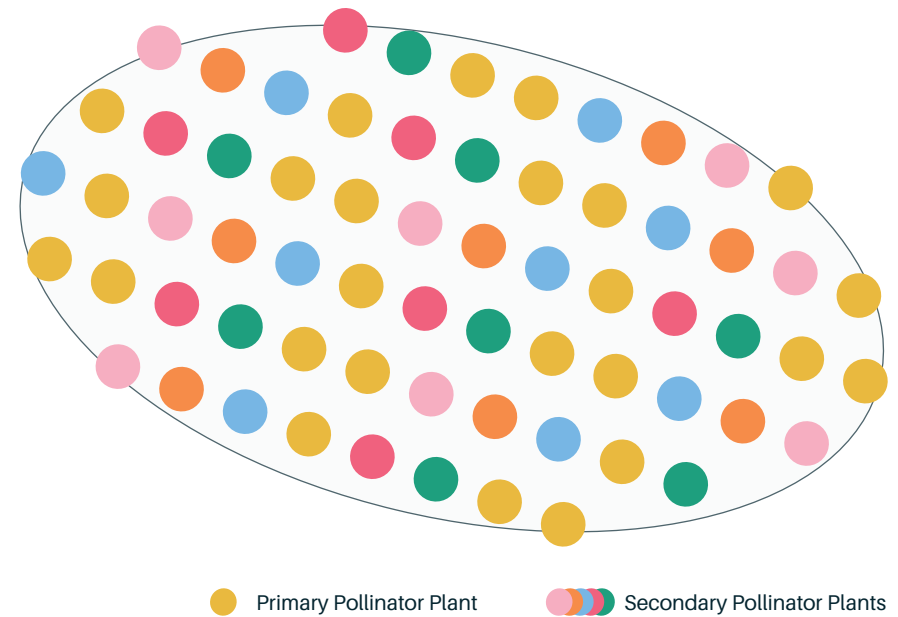
- HAND TOOLS**
Gloves, shovels, rakes, trowels
Tip: borrow from Brightside St. Louis
- NATIVE PLANTS**
- MULCH**
Keep moisture in and weeds out with 2-3" of hardwood or leaf mulch
- EDGING**
Option for a more formal look: use bricks or rocks around your garden's edge

Local Resources

- BRIGHTSIDE ST. LOUIS**
Neighbors Naturescaping Grants
- MISSOURI PRAIRIE FOUNDATION**
Prairie Garden Small Grant
- GREEN CITY COALITION**
Funding & technical assistance
- NATIVE GARDENING INFO**
Grow Native!
Missouri Botanical Garden
Shaw Nature Reserve

Looking for the full list?
 Local Resources Appendix, p.67

A Sample Planting Design



Helpful Design Tips!

THE RIGHT CONDITIONS
 Most butterfly-attracting plants need at least six hours of sunlight each day. When selecting native plants, choose ones that exhibit a variety of seasonal bloom times to ensure butterflies and other pollinators have nectar from spring until fall.

LIMIT YOUR SELECTION
 Determine your area's primary pollinator(s) and fill most of your garden with 1-2 plants that they like. Next, select 2 or more plants that attract other pollinators or native insects throughout different times of the year, and sprinkle them throughout the garden.

Rain Garden



1. CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION
Rain Gardens divert stormwater runoff into the ground, instead of the nearest storm drain. Select a natural low spot downhill from a roof downspout and at least ten feet from your home.

2. DESIGN YOUR GARDEN
Your rain garden should be roughly 20% the size of your roof. Select native plant that bloom at different times and exhibit a variety of heights, shapes, and textures.

3. INSTALL & MAINTAIN YOUR GARDEN
Every garden needs periodic watering, weeding, and other seasonal maintenance.

Native Garden Planting Guide p.73
Native Garden Maintenance Guide p.75

Appendix C: Native Plant List p.77



Your Materials Checklist

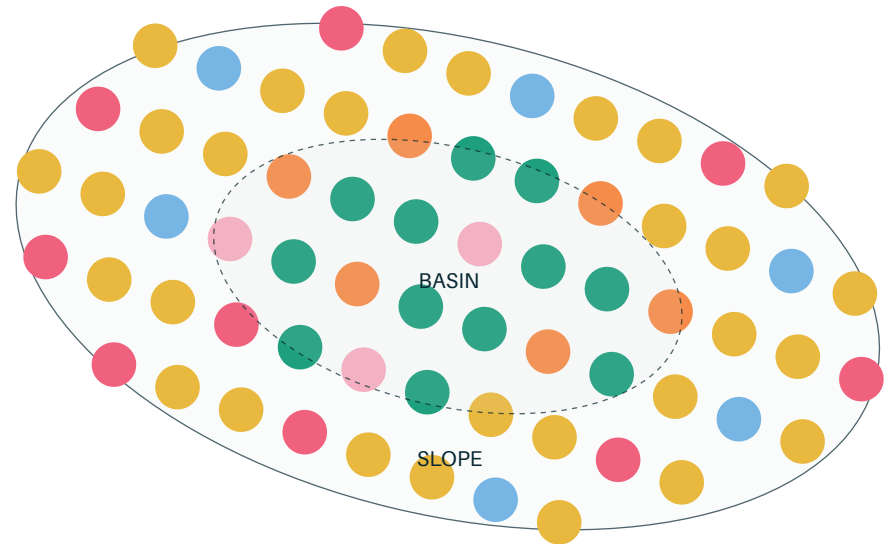
- HAND TOOLS**
Gloves, shovels, rakes, trowels
Tip: borrow from Brightside St. Louis
- NATIVE PLANTS**
- MULCH**
Keep moisture in and weeds out with 2-3" of hardwood or leaf mulch
- EDGING**
Option for a more formal look: use bricks or rocks around your garden's edge
- FOOTWEAR**
Sturdy closed-toe shoes or heavy work boots

Local Resources

- BRIGHTSIDE ST. LOUIS**
Neighbors Naturescaping Grants
- PROJECT CLEAR GRANTS**
Metropolitan Sewer District
- NATIVE GARDENING INFO**
Grow Native!
Missouri Botanical Garden
Shaw Nature Reserve

Looking for the full list?
Local Resources Appendix, p.67

A Sample Planting Design



Typical Topography

- Primary Slope Plant
- Secondary Slope Plants
- Primary Basin Plant
- Secondary Basin Plants

Helpful Design Tips!

PLANT IN A GRID
The best way to easily create a natural look is to plant in a simple grid. Space your plants at regular intervals, each row offset from the other—just like a checkerboard!

LIMIT YOUR SELECTION
Select 2 plants to fill most of your garden, and 2-4 others to sprinkle throughout. This keeps your garden simple while adding seasonal variety. Remember: choose species that can withstand temporary submersion in water!

Produce Garden



1. CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION
Most produce needs adequate sunlight, proximity to supplemental water, and deep soil that is well-draining. Choose slightly sloped or raised beds for the best drainage.

2. DESIGN YOUR GARDEN
Organize the plants into raised beds. Vining plants such as cucumbers need more space, while climbers like tomatoes will need supports.

3. INSTALL & MAINTAIN YOUR GARDEN
More traditional gardens usually consist of long, single rows of vegetables that are often widely spaced. Consider starting small and increasing the size of the growing area as you gain experience.



Local Example | Southampton Community Garden

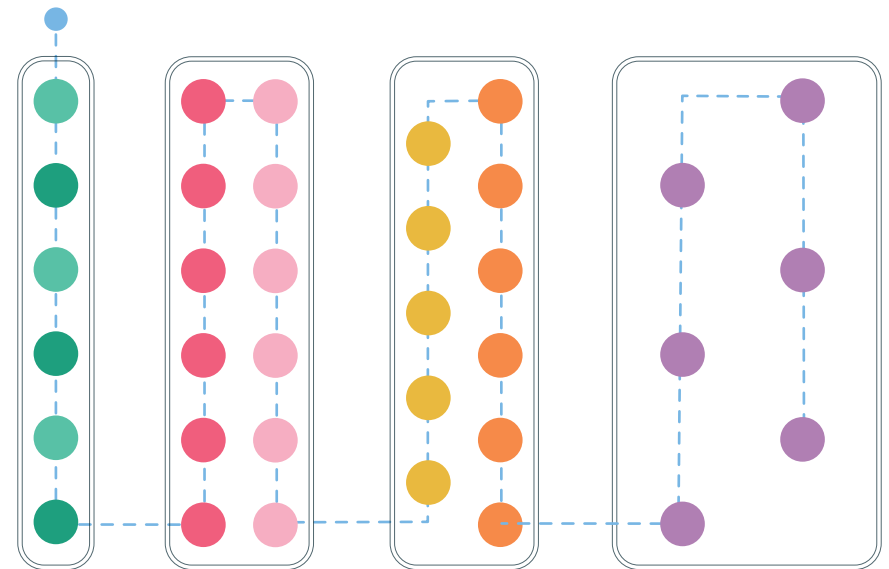
Your Materials Checklist

- HAND TOOLS**
Gloves, shovels, rakes, trowels, wheelbarrow, trash bags, tape measure
Tip: borrow from Brightside St. Louis
- PLANTS**
Plants have different growing seasons, so take note!
- SOIL**
Should be 18 inches deep, healthy, and well draining
- MULCH**
Keep moisture in and weeds out with 2-3" of hardwood mulch
- RAISED BEDS**
Choose untreated Douglas Fir or Cedar, or masonry for lasting quality

Local Resources

- U OF MISSOURI EXTENSION**
Planting Calendar
extension.missouri.edu/publications/g6201
 - GATEWAY GREENING**
Giving Grove Orchard Program
- Looking for the full list?
Local Resources Appendix, p.67

A Sample Planting Design



- Climbing Plants
- Small Plants
- Medium Plants
- Large Plants
- Water Spigot
- Irrigation
- Raised Garden Beds

Helpful Design Tips!

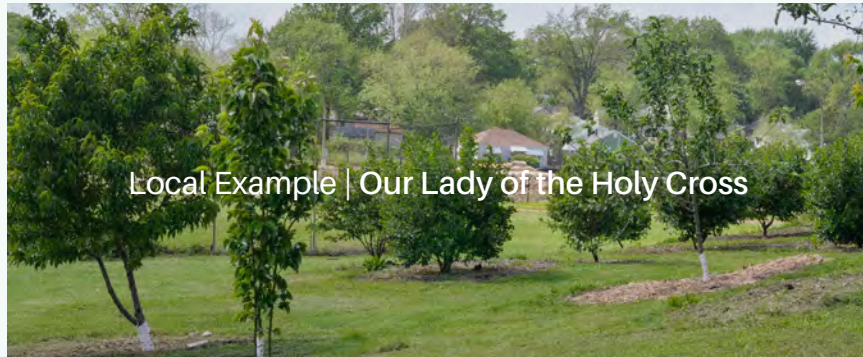
THE RIGHT PAIRINGS
Edibles are often organized using *companion planting*, pairing produce with herbs that attract beneficial insects. Add flowering plants to help pollinators and use fencing to deter rabbits!

USING RAISED BEDS
Place stones, rotting tree logs, leaves and grass clipping at the bottom of the raised bed until it fills up to 1.5ft of the bed depth. This increases drainage while providing slow-release nutrients.

Urban Orchard



1. CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION
Trees take years to grow, and years to start producing fruit. They also require more space, so orchards may be better suited to cases where your neighborhood has two or more vacant lots next to each other.



Local Example | Our Lady of the Holy Cross

Your Materials Checklist

- ROTOTILLER OR SHOVELS**
You can dig trenches or holes
- FRUIT TREE SAPLINGS**
Apples, pears, and stone fruit are great choices for our climate
- MULCH**
Keep moisture in and weeds out with 2-3" of hardwood mulch
- STAKES & TIES**
Optional for supporting saplings
- WATER**
Drip irrigation system, garden hose or other method

Local Resources

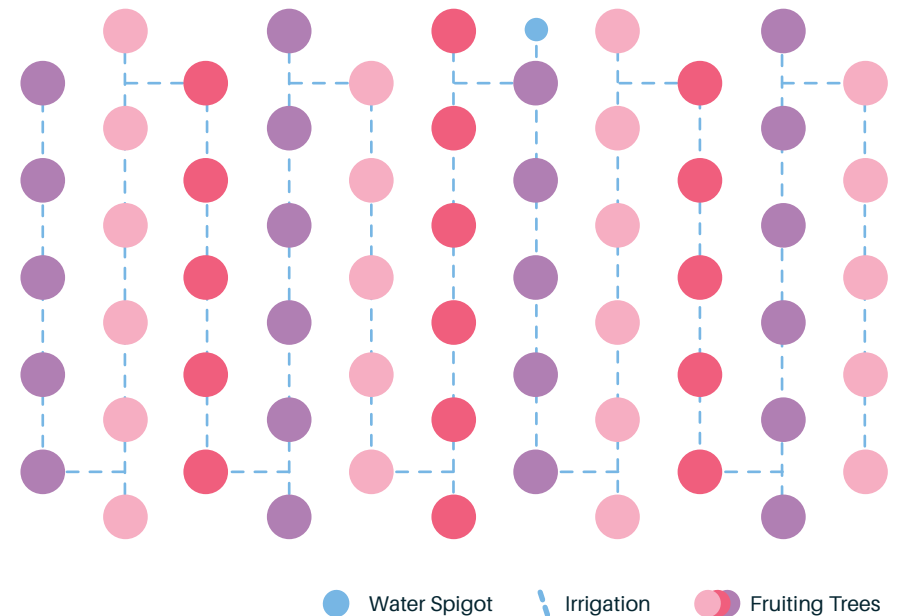
- MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN**
Recommended Fruit Varieties
missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening
- GATEWAY GREENING**
Giving Grove Orchard Program

Looking for the full list?
Local Resources Appendix, p.67

2. PREPARE YOUR SITE
Start with a soil test before planting to ensure the trees can thrive. Pick spots with the most sun, and plan to plant trees between 12 to 30 feet apart, depending on the tree size.

3. INSTALLING TREES
Dig a hole 2X the diameter of the root ball. Place the sapling and fill the hole in with soil, leaving the root flare (where roots meet stem) exposed.

A Sample Planting Design



Helpful Design Tips!

KEEPING TREES HAPPY
Fruiting trees need full sun during the growing season. Generally, a flat site with well-draining soil is ideal. Keep soil moist but not muddy, and water about once a week. Prune trees in the winter.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG
Before you begin to design your orchard layout, call 1(800) DIG-RITE to ensure utility locations are accurately marked throughout your lot.

Play Space



1. THE RIGHT FIT

A playspace is time and resource intensive, but it can be as little or as much as your community wants. You can invest in commercial playground equipment or construct the elements yourselves.

2. ASK THE KIDS

Help the children in your community make drawings of what they want in a playspace. This is an opportunity for them to have a say in what their environment will be like.

3. FIRST THINGS FIRST

Secure any foundations for structures, put down a weed barrier cloth and nail down landscape timbers to make small 'walls' around the playspace. Cover with wood chip mulch or shredded rubber.



Local Example | Bryan Hill School Garden

Your Materials Checklist

- WEED BARRIER CLOTH
- UNTREATED TIMBERS
- MULCH, SHREDDED RUBBER, SAND, ETC.
For creating soft surfaces
- CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT
For grading and digging post holes
- CONCRETE/CEMENT
For anchoring structures and creating hard surfaces

Resources

- WHOLE BUILDING GUIDE
PLAYGROUND DESIGN & EQUIPMENT**
wbdg.org/resources/playgrounddesign-and-equipment
- PUBLIC PLAYGROUND SAFETY CHECKLIST**
cpsc.gov/safety-education/safety-guides/playgrounds/public-playground-safety-checklist
- PLAYGROUND IDEAS**
playgroundideas.org
- KABOOM!**
Organization that provides resources to communities looking to create safe and equitable playspaces for their children
kaboom.org

Looking for the full list?
Local Resources Appendix, p.67

Creating A Play Space



NATURE MOUNDS



SANDBOX



TIRE STEPS



A BRIDGE



SPLASH PAD



MONKEY BARS



SLIDES



GIANT GAMES



SWINGS



JUNGLE GYM



CLIMBING DOME



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Helpful Design Tips!

SAFETY FIRST

Safety should be a primary consideration. Include fencing to prevent children from running into the street, rounded corners and a soft surface under any raised structures, and smoothed and sanded wood.

NATURAL PLAY

Employ subtle terrain changes (like building up mounds or hills and seeding them with grass). You can use logs, stones, and tree stumps as play equipment!

Gathering Space



1. CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION
A gathering space is a great opportunity to encourage neighbors to interact and enjoy a common space. Pick somewhere with a balance of sun and shade, relatively flat ground and well-draining soil.



Local Example | Brightside St. Louis

Your Materials Checklist

- SEATING**
Benches, cafe seats, risers & wooden bleachers
- SHADE**
Umbrellas, pergolas, trellis, trees, etc.
- TABLES**
- FIRE PITS & BARBECUES**
- NATIVE PLANTS**

Local Resources

- BRIGHTSIDE ST. LOUIS**
Neighbors Naturescaping Grants
 - NATIVE GARDENING INFO**
Grow Native!
Missouri Botanical Garden
Shaw Nature Reserve
- Looking for the full list?
Local Resources Appendix, p.67

2. DESIGN YOUR SPACE
Do you want a formal space for the next block party? Do you want an outdoor stage? Figure out where people will sit, and where various site amenities like fireplaces and grills might be located.

3. INSTALL & MAINTAIN YOUR SPACE
Plant grasses, lay out gravel paths, construct raised beds for plants, or use bricks to separate grass from a mulched area where native plants are planted.

Creating A Gathering Space



SHADE TREES
Plant a combination of trees for seasonal color



NATIVE PLANTS
Natives are beautiful and require little maintenance



FENCING & GATE
Give your space a "front door" & an inviting border



STONES & PAVERS
Hardscapes will improve mobility & durability



BBQ & FIREPITS
Nothing attracts a crowd like a warm fire



PATH EDGING
Give your garden an orderly & elegant look



SEATING & TABLES
Guests will likely need somewhere to sit



SHADE STRUCTURE
Gazebos & trellis' shade visitors from the sun



STAGE
A performance venue for the neighborhood

Helpful Design Tips!

POSITIONING AMENITIES
Position furniture such as seating and tables under trees to maximize your use of shade. If you've decided to create an amphitheater or stage, consider how the audience will be positioned in relation to the performers.

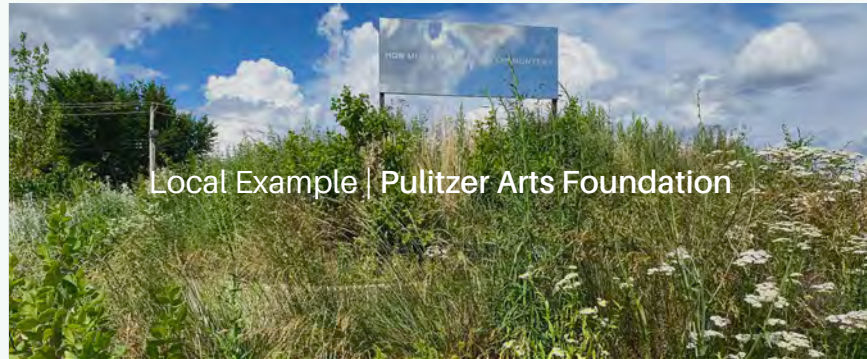
PUT ON A SHOW
Select plants that are well suited to the sun exposure and soil conditions. Choose plants for colorful, vibrant blooms that make a statement.

Public Art



1. HIT THE BOOKS

Take a trip to local museums and galleries, or look at artworks online. Take a look at examples of public art from around the world, and think about how you would like to use your space.



Your Materials Checklist

- HAND TOOLS**
Gloves, shovels, rakes, trowels
Tip: borrow from Brightside St. Louis
- NATIVE PLANTS**
- CONCRETE MIX**
Use this to anchor posts and create foundation pads
- OUTDOOR ARTWORK**
- HARDWARE**
When building load-bearing structures, make sure you are using the right bolts, screws, nails, etc. for the job

Local Resources

- PROJECT FOR PUBLIC SPACES**
pps.org
- REGIONAL ARTS COMMISSION**
racstl.org
- CITY OF ST. LOUIS INFORMATION ON PUBLIC ART**
- ST. LOUIS ART WORKS**
stlartworks.org
- NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS GRANTS**
arts.gov
Looking for the full list?
Local Resources Appendix, p.67

2. SET GOALS

Public art encompasses a wide range of possibilities. Decide what your goals are. Is the art temporary or permanent? Do you want it to reflect your neighborhood's history? The city's history?

3. CONNECT WITH LOCAL ARTISTS

After you have a better idea of what your community wants, reach out to local artists. Alternatively, you can create a 'Request-For-Proposals' (RFP) that artists can respond to with their ideas.

Types of Public Art



EARTHWORKS

Mound up soil, rock, and clay into large sculptures



PAVILIONS

Create an artwork that is also a gathering space



SCULPTURE GARDEN

Bring art by different artists together



MURALS

Find a wall, fence, or mount panels on posts



CREATIVE LIGHTING

Use lights and computers to put on a show



WATER FEATURES

Create a unique fountain or splash pad



INTERACTIVE

Use sensors or textures to create interactive art



MOSAICS

Create tile mosaics on boulders and furniture



MONUMENTS

Create gathering spaces for today's movements

Helpful Design Tips!

CONSIDER CONTEXT

Whatever art you choose to install, it likely will not take up the entire lot, so consider how you might use plants and paths to create an interesting viewing experience for visitors.

MAINTAINING OUTDOOR ART

Installing and maintaining outdoor artworks is not as simple as hanging a painting on the wall—take steps to ensure your public artworks continue to look good throughout the seasons. Ask the artist for their advice.

Local Project Examples

●	PRODUCE GARDENS & ORCHARDS	Belt Loop Orchard 5511 St. Louis Ave.	Block Unit 1035 Community Garden 5838 Westminster Ave.
		The Orchard on Virginia 3001 Virginia Ave.	Friends of Hamilton Village Comm. Garden Wells & Hamilton Ave.
		Central West End Farm 5057 Waterman Blvd.	Southampton Garden 4915 Macklind Ave.
		Bell Community Garden 3858 Windsor Pl.	
<hr/>			
●	GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE	Jubilee Church 4231 N Grand Blvd.	
<hr/>			
●	NATURESCAPES	The Sunflower Project Warren & 14th St.	
		College Hill Lavender Garden 5202 Blair Ave.	
		Transgender Memorial Garden 1469 S. Vandeventer Ave.	
<hr/>			
●	SCHOOL GREEN SPACES	Cabbage Patch Garden 5852 Maffitt Ave.	
		Bryan Hill School Garden 3771 N Florissant Ave.	
<hr/>			
●	PLAYGROUNDS & PUBLIC ART	Art in Walnut Park 5001 Robin Ave.	
		Old North Chess Park 2713 N 14th St.	
<hr/>			
●	CLEAN & GREEN LOTS	Dumping Barrier Park Ln & Emma Ave.	
		Pulitzer Arts Foundation 3716 Washington Blvd.	
<hr/>			
●	BUTTERFLY GARDENS	Our Lady of the Holy Cross 1018 Baden Ave.	
		Bellerive Park 5570 South Broadway	
		Brightside St. Louis 4646 Shenandoah Ave.	
		St Cronan Church 1202 S Boyle Ave.	





Appendix A: St. Louis Resources

HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX

This appendix is meant to provide you with contact details about civic, nonprofit, and material resources in the St. Louis area.

View the online directory: stlvacancy.com/lot-toolkit/resources

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!

We strive to keep this list updated with every new release. Help us by letting us know when information about your organization has changed!

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

LOT OWNERSHIP INFORMATION

Vacant Property Explorer
stlvacancy.com/explorer

City of St. Louis Assessor's Office
(314) 622-4050
(314) 622-4185 for property appraisal

Citywide Address & Property Search
stlouis-mo.gov/data/address-search

LRA-Owned Property Search
stlouis-mo.gov/slhc/real-estate

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Legal Services of Eastern Missouri Online Application
(314) 534-4200
lsem.org

ACQUIRING A LOT

St. Louis Development Corporation Real Estate
(314) 657-3721

Purchase LRA Property
stlouis-mo.gov/slhc/real-estate

**LRA Programs
Mow-to-Own & Garden Lease**
stlouis-mo.gov/slhc/real-estate

CITY SERVICES & PROBLEM REPORTING

Citizens' Service Bureau
Report problems and request services from the City of St. Louis (e.g., removing illegal dumping, problems with alley dumpsters, street lights, etc.).

(314) 622-4800 | @stlcsb on Twitter
stlouis-mo.gov

**Report a Downed Power Line
Ameren of Missouri**
1 (800) 552-7583

St. Louis Water and Sewer Authority
stlwater.com

PUBLIC ART & ART GRANTS

National Endowment for the Arts Grants
arts.gov

Project for Public Spaces
pps.org

Regional Arts Commission Grants
racstl.org

DUMPING & REFUSE

City Transfer Stations
Have excessive debris on your lot? Every year, St. Louis City residents can bring up to 12 loads of trash, yard waste, recycling, bulk, or BOAT (car batteries, motor oil, appliances and car tires) items to City Transfer Stations. ID must be shown at drop-off. Residential refuse drop off:

North: 201 North Humboldt, 63147
South: 4100 South First Street, 63118
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday—Sunday
stlouis-mo.gov/street/refuse

Appendix A: St. Louis Resources

HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX

This appendix is meant to provide you with contact details about civic, nonprofit, and material resources in the St. Louis area.

View the online directory: stlvacancy.com/lot-toolkit/resources

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!

We strive to keep this list updated with every new release. Help us by letting us know when information about your organization has changed!

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

TOOL & EQUIPMENT RENTALS

Brightside St. Louis

(314) 772-4646
brightsidestl.org

Borrow hand tools or request a roll-off dumpster for large cleanups. Yard waste must be separated from trash and bulk items. Only eligible for non-profits or groups working on LRA-owned lots.

Lowe's
lowes.com

Menards
menards.com

Many hardware stores rent lawn equipment, power tools, and trucks to help tackle larger-scale projects.

GARDENING & HORTICULTURE

Gateway Greening

(314) 588-9600
gatewaygreening.org

Gateway Greening supports over 200 gardens in the St. Louis region with vegetable seedlings, tool loans, planning services, and technical assistance.

Gateway Greening gardens that have operated successfully for 5+ years may be eligible to be included in their land trust.

Missouri Botanical Garden Horticulture Answer Service

(314) 577-5143

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monday—Friday
Free online guides and fact sheets, as well as technical assistance with edible garden/orchard design & installation (paid service)

Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder App

missouribotanicalgarden.org

Use this app for identifying thousands of plants and learn more about their characteristics and preferred conditions.

Shaw Nature Reserve

missouribotanicalgarden.org

Custom Foodscaping
customfoodscaping.com

Good Life Growing
goodlifegrowing.com

Milkweed for Monarchs: The St. Louis Butterfly Project

stlouis-mo.gov/sustainability/monarchs/

IDENTIFY UNDERGROUND UTILITIES

Missouri One Call System

1 (800) DIG-RITE
mo1call.com

SOIL TESTING

University of Missouri-Extension

extension2.missouri.edu

Soil testing is an important step before starting any project. For a small fee, groups can purchase a standard soil test, which will give information about the composition of their soil. Lead and other heavy metals testing is available for an additional fee.

Appendix A: St. Louis Resources

GARDENING & HORTICULTURE Continued

Forest Releaf of Missouri
moreleaf.org

Project Clear Grants
Metropolitan Sewer District
msdprojectclear.org

Grow Native! Plant Database
grownative.org/native-plant-database

Missouri Prairie Foundation
moprairie.org

City of St. Louis Street Tree information
stlouis-mo.gov/parks/forestry

St. Louis Invasive Species List
mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/invasive-plants

PLAYGROUND INFORMATION

Whole Building Guide
Playground Design & Equipment
wbdg.org

Public Playground Safety Checklist
cpsc.gov

Playground Ideas
playgroundideas.org

Kaboom!
kaboom.org

Organization that provides resources to communities looking to create safe and equitable playspaces for their children



Appendix B: A Planting Guide

STEP 1: TIME IT RIGHT

The best time to plant is either spring or fall. If not planting immediately, leave plants in their preferred amount of light, and keep their soil slightly moist.

STEP 2: DIG & PLACE

- A** For each plant, dig a hole as deep and twice as wide as the container the plant came in.
- B** Gently break up the root ball of each plant and place plants in their holes with roots spread out.
- C** The bottom of the root ball should rest on a mound of native soil.

STEP 3: BACK-FILL WITH SOIL

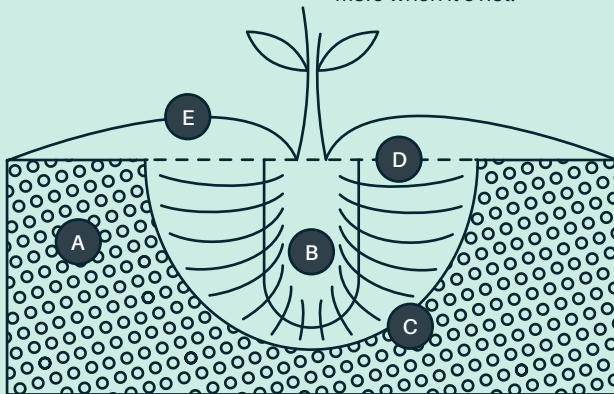
- D** Backfill with native soil only and lightly compact to remove airpockets. The top of the root ball and root crown should be level with the existing soil.

STEP 4: MULCH THE BASE

- E** Cover with a layer of mulch, creating donuts around trees and larger plants. Leave space around the plant—do not mound soil or mulch right up against the trunk or stem.

STEP 5: WATER

Soak your garden immediately, monitor for moisture daily by sticking your finger below the mulch into the soil. Your plants should get roughly 1" of water per week—more when it's hot!



HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX

This appendix is a step-by-step guide for successfully planting native and zone-appropriate plants.

View the online directory: stlvacancy.com/lot-toolkit/resources

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!

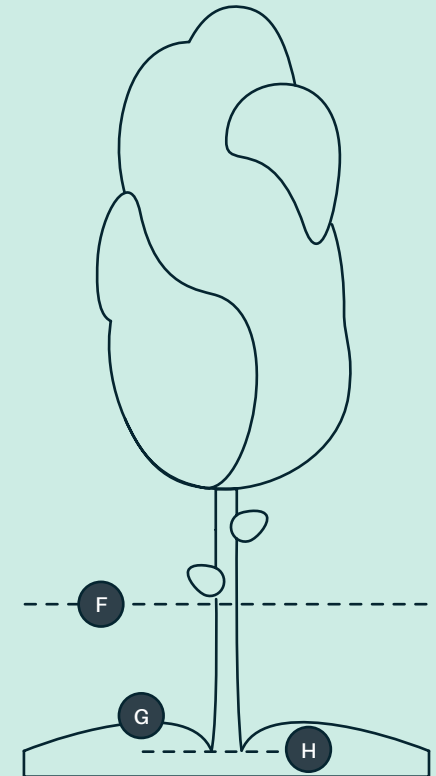
We strive to keep this appendix updated with every new release. Help us by letting us know what we've missed!

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

How to Water

- F** If using a hose or sprinkler, make sure the water is applied below the leafing structure of the plant and is reaching the roots.
- G** When possible, water around the base of your plants in the early morning so that they have enough time to take up the water before the hottest parts of the day.
- H** If using a drip irrigation system, make sure that your lines are close enough to the top of the root ball, so that the moisture is actually getting where it needs to go.

TWEAK YOUR ROUTINE TO FIT
Plants that are getting established will need daily water, but their watering needs may change. Established plants may only need to be watered weekly, but may require even more in hot weather.



Reminders

DESIGN YOUR GARDEN

Space plants according to guidelines provided on plant tags, or search online for proper spacing. Up against a wall or fence? Place taller species in the rear. For gardens viewable from all sides, place taller species towards the center.

INSULATE

During cold temperatures, insulate the area around the plants with fallen leaves or more mulch.

Appendix C: Garden Maintenance

HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX

This appendix is a comprehensive guide to the basics of garden maintenance and the care of plants native to the St. Louis region.





































HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!

We strive to keep this appendix updated with every new release. Help us by letting us know what we've missed!

View the online directory: stlvacancy.com/lot-toolkit/resources

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

-  WATER
-  WEEDING
-  WATCH
-  PRUNE
-  UPKEEP

January	February	March	April	May	June
<p></p> <p>Prune trees and shrubs: Cut away dead or diseased wood, rubbing branches, crossing branches, double sprouts and double leaders</p> <p></p> <p>Birds pecking on the ground for buried seeds</p>	<p></p> <p>Complete mulching to prevent spring weeds</p> <p></p> <p>Birds pecking on the ground for buried seeds</p>	<p></p> <p>Seed cool-season turf grass if appropriate</p> <p></p> <p>Remove any henbit or other early-season weeds that appear</p> <p></p> <p>Cut down standing stems from the previous season</p> <p></p> <p>Birds returning from migration & early blooms</p>	<p></p> <p>Water your garden if a week passes without rain</p> <p></p> <p>Begin mowing turf grass Divide perennials and grasses as needed</p> <p></p> <p>Remove any early-season weeds that appear</p> <p></p> <p>Bees and spring butterflies, notably swallowtails and sulphurs</p>	<p></p> <p>Water your garden if a week passes without rain</p> <p></p> <p>Remove weeds regularly</p> <p></p> <p>Bees and spring butterflies, notably swallowtails and sulphurs</p>	<p></p> <p>Water your garden if a week passes without rain, or every other day if it is unseasonably warm</p> <p></p> <p>Remove weeds regularly</p> <p></p> <p>Bees, butterflies, beetles, and flower flies. Ladybugs and mantids may be hunting for insects</p>
July	August	September	October	November	December
<p></p> <p>Water your garden 2x a week, or every other day in particularly warm weather</p> <p></p> <p>Remove weeds regularly</p> <p></p> <p>Bees, butterflies, beetles, and flower flies. Ladybugs and mantids may be hunting for insects</p>	<p></p> <p>Water your garden if a week passes without rain, or every other day if it is particularly warm or dry</p> <p></p> <p>Top off mulch as needed</p> <p></p> <p>Remove weeds regularly</p> <p></p> <p>Bees, butterflies, beetles, flower flies, and birds such as goldfinches</p>	<p></p> <p>Water your garden weekly. As temps cool below 75, water less</p> <p></p> <p>Remove weeds regularly</p> <p></p> <p>Plant perennials and grasses to fill blank spaces</p> <p></p> <p>Bees, butterflies, beetles, flower flies, and birds such as goldfinches</p>	<p></p> <p>Water if temps rise above 75. Otherwise, water every other week.</p> <p></p> <p>Remove weeds regularly</p> <p></p> <p>Identify and remove bush honeysuckle</p> <p></p> <p>Large sulphur butterflies, skippers and birds</p> <p>Leaves begin yellowing and reddening</p>	<p></p> <p>Watering should not be needed this month</p> <p>Add 2" of mulch around plants before the first frost</p> <p>Leave fallen leaves in place</p> <p>Native seeds can be planted now, they will sprout in spring</p>	<p></p> <p>Watering should not be needed this month</p> <p>Leave snow, ice or other precipitation on the ground around plants</p> <p>Clean and sharpen tools, winterize machine tools</p> <p></p> <p>Birds pecking on the ground for buried seeds</p>

Appendix D: Missouri Native Plants

HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX
 This appendix is a guide meant to provide you with information about Missouri Native Plants. All plants are herbacious perennials unless otherwise noted in the chart.

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!
 We strive to keep this list updated with every new release. Have something to add? Help us by letting us know!

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

T = Tree DS = Deciduous Shrub GS = Grass/Sedge * = Showy Flower

SPRING FIRST BLOOM

SCIENTIFIC NAME	TYPE	COMMON NAME	MAINTENANCE	Dimensions		BLOOM TIME	Dominant Color			
				HEIGHT	SPREAD		SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER
<i>Prunus americana</i>	T*	wild plum	Low	15-25 ft	15-25 ft	March				
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	T	red maple	Low	40-70 ft	30-50 ft	March-April				
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	T*	serviceberry	Low	15-25 ft	15-25 ft	March-April				
<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	*	Virginia bluebells	Medium	18-24 in	12-18 in	March-April				
<i>Viola pubescens</i>	*	yellow violet	Low	6-12 in	6-12 in	March-April				
<i>Viola pedata</i>	*	Bird's Foot violet	Medium	3-6 in	3-6 in	March-May				
<i>Carex eburnea</i>	GS	Bristle-leaved sedge	Low	6-12 in	6-12 in	April				
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	T*	eastern redbud	Low	20-30 ft	25-35 ft	April				
<i>Iris cristata</i>	*	Dwarf Crested iris	Medium	6-9 in	6-12 in	April				
<i>Packera aurea</i>	*	Golden ragwort	Medium	6-30 in	6-18 in	April				
<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	DS*	red buckeye	Medium	12-15 ft	12-15 ft	April-May				
<i>Asarum canadense</i>		wild ginger	Low	6-12 in	12-18 in	April-May				
<i>Carex radiata</i>	GS	Eastern Star sedge	Low	24-30 in	18-24 in	April-May				
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	T	hackberry	Low	40-60 ft	40-60 ft	April-May				
<i>Cornus florida</i>	T*	flowering dogwood	Medium	15-30 ft	15-30 ft	April-May				
<i>Cornus florida f. rubra</i>	T*	pink flowering dogwood	Medium	15-30 ft	15-30 ft	April-May				
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>		wild strawberry	Medium	3-9 in	12-24 in	April-May				
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	T*	cucumber tree	Low	40-70 ft	20-35 ft	April-May				
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	*	woodland phlox	Low	9-12 in	9-12 in	April-May				
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	T*	black cherry	Low	50-80 ft	30-60 ft	April-May				
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	T*	chokecherry	Medium	20-30 ft	15-20 ft	April-May				
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	T	sassafras	Medium	30-60 ft	25-49 ft	April-May				

Appendix D: Missouri Native Plants

HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX
 This appendix is a guide meant to provide you with information about Missouri Native Plants. All plants are herbacious perennials unless otherwise noted in the chart.

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!
 We strive to keep this list updated with every new release. Have something to add? Help us by letting us know!

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

T = Tree DS = Deciduous Shrub GS = Grass/Sedge * = Showy Flower

SPRING FIRST BLOOM

SCIENTIFIC NAME	TYPE	COMMON NAME	MAINTENANCE	Dimensions		BLOOM TIME	Dominant Color			
				HEIGHT	SPREAD		SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER
<i>Sedum ternatum</i>		wild stonecrop	Low	3-6 in	6-9 in	April-May				
<i>Silene caroliniana</i>	*	wild pink	Medium	9-12 in	9-12 in	April-May				
<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	DS*	bladdernut	Low	10-15 ft	10-20 ft	April-May				
<i>Waldsteinia fragarioides</i>		barren strawberry	Low	3-6 in	6-12 in	April-May				
<i>Antennaria parlinii</i>	*	pussy toes	Low	6-12 in	9-18 in	April-June				
<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>		pussy toes	Low	6-12 in	9-18 in	April-June				
<i>Antennaria neglecta</i>	*	field pussytoes	Medium	6-12 in	6-12 in	April-June				
<i>Erigeron pulchellus</i>	*	Robin's plantain	Low	18-24 in	18-24 in	April-June				
<i>Packera obovata</i>	*	roundleaf groundsel	Medium	12-18 in	6-12 in	April-June				
<i>Viola pedatifida</i>	*	prairie violet	Low	6-9 in	6-9 in	April-June				
<i>Viola striata</i>	*	striped cream violet	Medium	9-12 in	9-12 in	April-June				
<i>Viola sororia</i>	*	common blue violet	Medium	6-9 in	6-9 in	April-August				
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	GS	Pennsylvania sedge	Low	6-12 in	6-12 in	May				
<i>Carex praegracilis</i>	GS	clustered field sedge	Low	24-36 in	24-36 in	May				
<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	T	yellowwood	Low	30-50 ft	40-55 ft	May				
<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	T*	cockspur thorn	Medium	25-35 ft	25-35 ft	May				
<i>Crataegus nitida</i>	T*	hawthorn	Medium	20-30 ft	20-30 ft	May				
<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	T*	green hawthorn	Low	25-35 ft	25-35 ft	May				
<i>Phlox bifida</i>	*	sand phlox	Medium	3-6 in	6-12 in	May				
<i>Prunus mexicana</i>	T*	mexican plum	Medium	15-25 ft	15-25 ft	May				
<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>	*	purple poppy mallow	Low	6-12 in	6-36 in	May-June				
<i>Carex laxiculmis</i>	GS	creeping sedge	Low	6-12 in	6-12 in	May-June				

Appendix D: Missouri Native Plants

HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX
 This appendix is a guide meant to provide you with information about Missouri Native Plants. All plants are herbaceous perennials unless otherwise noted in the chart.

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!
 We strive to keep this list updated with every new release. Have something to add? Help us by letting us know!

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

T = Tree DS = Deciduous Shrub GS = Grass/Sedge * = Showy Flower

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	TYPE	COMMON NAME	MAINTENANCE	Dimensions		BLOOM TIME	Dominant Color			
					HEIGHT	SPREAD		SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER
SPRING FIRST BLOOM	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	T*	fringe tree	Low	12- 20 ft	12-20 ft	May-June				
	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	DS*	Pagoda dogwood	Low	15-25 ft	20-32 ft	May-June				
	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	T*	tulip tree	Low	60-90 ft	30-50 ft	May-June				
	<i>Sedum pulchellum</i>	*	widow's cross	Low	6-12 in	6-12 in	May-June				
	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	*	blue-eyed grass	Medium	18-24 in	6-12 in	May-June				
	<i>Carex bromoides</i>	GS	brome-like sedge	Low	9-12 in	9-12 in	May-July				
	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	*	lanceleaf coreopsis	Medium	12-24 in	12-18 in	May-July				
	<i>Dalea candida</i>	*	white prairie clover	Low	12-24 in	9-18 in	May-July				
	<i>Mitchella repens</i>		partridge berry	Low	3 in	6-12 in	May-July				
	<i>Phlox pilosa subsp. ozarkana</i>	*	ozark phlox	Medium	12-24 in	12-18 in	May-July				
	<i>Glandularia canadensis</i>	*	rose verbena	Low	6-18 in	12-24 in	May-August				
	<i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i>	*	Missouri primrose	Low	9-12 in	12-18 in	May-August				
	<i>Verbena stricta</i>	*	hoary vervain	Low	24-48 in	18-24 in	May-September				
	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	T*	Washington hawthorn	Medium	20-30 ft	20-30 ft	June				
	SUMMER FIRST BLOOM	<i>Desmanthus illinoensis</i>	*	Illinois bundleflower	Low	24-36 in	24-36 in	June			
<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>		T	hop tree	Low	15-20 ft	15-20 ft	June				
<i>Tilia americana</i>		T	American linden	Low	50-80 ft	30-50 ft	June				
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>		*	pale purple coneflower	Low	24-36 in	12-18	June-July				
<i>Opuntia macrorhiza</i>		*	plains prickly pear	Low	6-12 in	6-12 in	June-July				
	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	*	common milkweed	Low	24-36 in	9-12 in	June-August				
	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	*	Butterfly Milkweed	Low	12-30 in	12-18 in	June-August				
	<i>Buchloe dactyloides</i>	GS	buffalo grass	Low	3-9 in	6-12 in	June-August				

Appendix D: Missouri Native Plants

HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX
 This appendix is a guide meant to provide you with information about Missouri Native Plants. All plants are herbacious perennials unless otherwise noted in the chart.

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!
 We strive to keep this list updated with every new release. Have something to add? Help us by letting us know!

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

T = Tree DS = Deciduous Shrub GS = Grass/Sedge * = Showy Flower

SUMMER FIRST BLOOM

SCIENTIFIC NAME	TYPE	COMMON NAME	MAINTENANCE	Dimensions		BLOOM TIME	Dominant Color			
				HEIGHT	SPREAD		SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER
<i>Callirhoe bushii</i>	*	Bush's poppy mallow	Low	12-18 in	12-24 in	June-August				
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	*	harebell	Low	12-18 in	6-12 in	June-September				
<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	*	purple prairie clover	Low	12-36 in	12-18 in	June-August				
<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	*	showy tick trefoil	Low	24-60 in	12-24 in	June-August				
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	*	purple coneflower	Low	24-60 in	18-24 in	June-August				
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	*	oxeye sunflower	Low	36-72 in	24-48 in	June-August				
<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	*	whorled milkweed	Low	12-30 in	12-24 in	June-September				
<i>Cassia fasciculata</i>	*	partridge pea	Low	12-36 in	12-36 in	June-September				
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	*	plains coreopsis	Low	12-48 in	12-18 in	June-September				
<i>Ratibida columnaris</i>	*	mexican hat	Medium	12-36 in	12-18 in	June-September				
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	*	black-eyed susan	Low	24-36 in	12-24 in	June-September				
<i>Evolvulus nuttallianus</i>	*	shaggy dwarf morning glory	Low	12-18 in	12-18 in	June-frost				
<i>Bidens aristosa</i>	*	tickseed sunflower	Low	36-72 in	12-24 in	July-August				
<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	*	lead plant	Low	24-36 in	24-30 in	July-September				
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	*	wild bergamot	Medium	24-48 in	24-36 in	July-September				
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	*	rosin weed	Low	24-72 in	12-36 in	July-September				
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	*	cup plant	Low	48-96 in	12-36 in	July-September				
<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>	*	New England aster	Medium	36-72 in	24-36 in	August-September				
<i>Elephantopus carolinianus</i>	*	elephant's foot	Low	24-36 in	24-36 in	August-September				
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida var. umbrosa</i>	*	orange coneflower	Low	20-30 in	24-36 in	August-September				
<i>Symphyotrichum oblongifolium</i>	*	aromatic aster	Medium	12-36 in	12-36 in	August-September				
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	GS	prairie dropseed	Low	24-36 in	24-36 in	August-October				

Appendix D: Missouri Native Plants

HOW TO USE THE APPENDIX
 This appendix is a guide meant to provide you with information about Missouri Native Plants. All plants are herbacious perennials unless otherwise noted in the chart.

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!
 We strive to keep this list updated with every new release. Have something to add? Help us by letting us know!

Notify us at stlvacancy.com/contact-form

T = Tree DS = Deciduous Shrub GS = Grass/Sedge * = Showy Flower

SCIENTIFIC NAME	TYPE	COMMON NAME	MAINTENANCE	Dimensions		BLOOM TIME	Dominant Color			
				HEIGHT	SPREAD		SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER
<i>Diplazium pycnocarpon</i>		glade fern	Low	24-36 in	24-36 in	Non-flowering	●	●	●	
<i>Taxodium distichum var. distichum</i> T		bald cypress	Low	50-70 ft	20-45 ft	Non-flowering	●	●	●	●





**GREEN CITY
COALITION**
engage.create.grow.sustain.



ARBOLOPE
STUDIO

