

Horticulture News



Rockport Garden Club, February 2019



Horticultural Classroom: Garden Design

Well-designed flower gardens put a premium on year-round interest and staggered bloom times. It's important to combine different types of plants — shrubs that provide spring bloom and winter structure, bulbs, annuals, and summertime perennials. To avoid a hit-or-miss effect, first make a list on paper of plants you want to include in your overall designed space.

An Informal Garden

Cottage gardens don't look designed. In fact, they're usually exuberant, free-flowering and sometimes even unrestrained. To get the informal look, avoid planting in straight lines or defined patterns. Allow plants to cascade over paths and weave through each other — it adds to the garden's charm. Plant in odd number groups of 3 to 5 and vary the textures and heights for interest. Cottage gardens are usually filled with the same traditional favorites your grandmother would have grown: peony, cosmos, foxglove, snapdragon, pansy, bachelor's button, columbine, bleeding heart and hollyhocks. Cottage gardeners invite wildlife into their yards with feeders and birdhouses and plants that attract bees and butterflies.



A Formal Garden

A more formal garden is usually devoid of clutter and therefore is very relaxing for the mind and body. Beds are frequently laid out in geomet-

rical patterns and use a limited color palette, perhaps only two or three harmonious colors at a time. Due to these design elements, a formal garden is ideal for a small plot since it gives an impression of space and adds grandeur to the house. For more information, visit: www.gardendesign.com or www.bhg.com.

Got Questions?

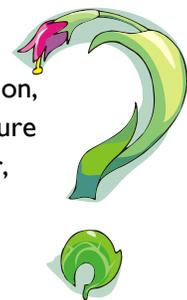
We've got answers! If you've got a question, please email any member of the Horticulture Committee. If we don't know the answer, we will find someone who does!

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Happenings

Lecture: "Let's Get Gardening, Let's Get Started," presented by Lizzy Fotouhi to launch Rockport's new seed library with free seeds available, Saturday, March 2, 10:30–Noon, Rockport Library. Free. For information and to register see: <https://rockportlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/lets-get-gardening-lets-get-started/>.

Workshop, "Create Your Own Container Garden," Thursday, May 2, 10–Noon, Nunan Florist & Greenhouses, Georgetown. Fee. Details and registration information to be provided next month.