

Planting trees or shrubs?
Cluster them! Use these

POCKET FOREST PRINCIPLES

NATIVES ONLY: Native species are more resilient, and are the essential source of food and shelter for the insects, birds, and wildlife that depend on them for survival.



REDUCE LAWN: Plant trees and shrubs in groupings with mulch, native groundcover or flowers between them. No grass growing up around trunks = no weed whips = less work, AND healthier trees (cuts to the trunk can kill a tree)!



DIVERSITY RULES:

Native trees and shrubs of varying species and mature heights planted close will overlap to form dense shade, keeping moisture in and weeds down.

DON'T SPRAY, BUGS ARE OK!

When native insects "find your forest," that's a good sign: Insects are bird food and pollinators--they're critical to healthy ecosystems!



LEAVE THE LEAVES:

Beneficial insects need the shelter provided by fallen leaves to complete their life cycles. And when leaves break down, they enrich the soil. Besides, no raking is less work!



AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION:

Fence saplings to protect against nibbling critters. Apply mulch generously, but keep it from touching the trunk. Water when dry for the first few years. Your trees will thank you!

Tiny Spaces,
Big Benefits
PocketForests.org

