



Nickerson
Landscapes
by eric bailey

10 Common Pitfalls in the Landscape

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October 3, 2009

Right plant, right mature size

- Always pay attention to the plants mature size, because in three years it could be covering a window
- Plants come in dwarf and mammoth varieties, some Crepe Myrtles reach 1' tall while others reach 35' tall
- To avoid a “one-sided” plant make sure you leave room away from you house or walls



Planting Under Power Lines

- Remember your small 8' tree could eventually get 40' tall, and will get hacked by the power company



Right plant, right place

- Create balance, not symmetry
 - If one side of your home is sun and the other is shade; planting the same on both sides will not work
- Monitor the amount of sun you get all day
 - Pay attention to which areas receive mostly sun or shade; than you can begin to select plants

Planting on Easements

- These are areas of your property that are yours, but the city or utility companies have the right to access these areas



Mass plantings POP!

- If you love a plant, use it more than once! It will bring unity to your design. Don't buy one of every plant, restrain yourself and pick your favorites



Water your plantings

- Remember, it is better to water deeply and thoroughly less often than a little each day

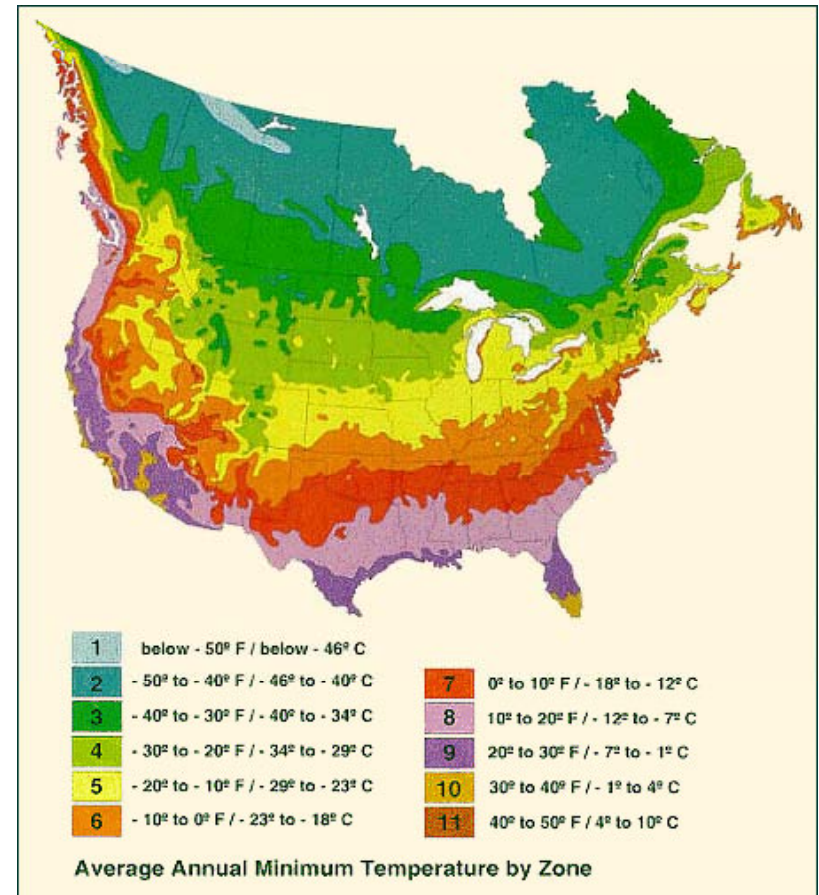


Irrigation Pitfalls

- Don't rely too much on your irrigation
 - Regularly check your sprinklers for broken or unaligned sprinklers. Also, make sure your controller is applying adequate water
- Drip irrigation
 - Does not work well in sloped yards
 - You never see it on and therefore do not know when it is working
 - It makes changing the landscaping difficult in the future because it only waters each plant
- If you run your irrigation correctly, it is not wasteful to have spray heads in the beds instead of drip tubing

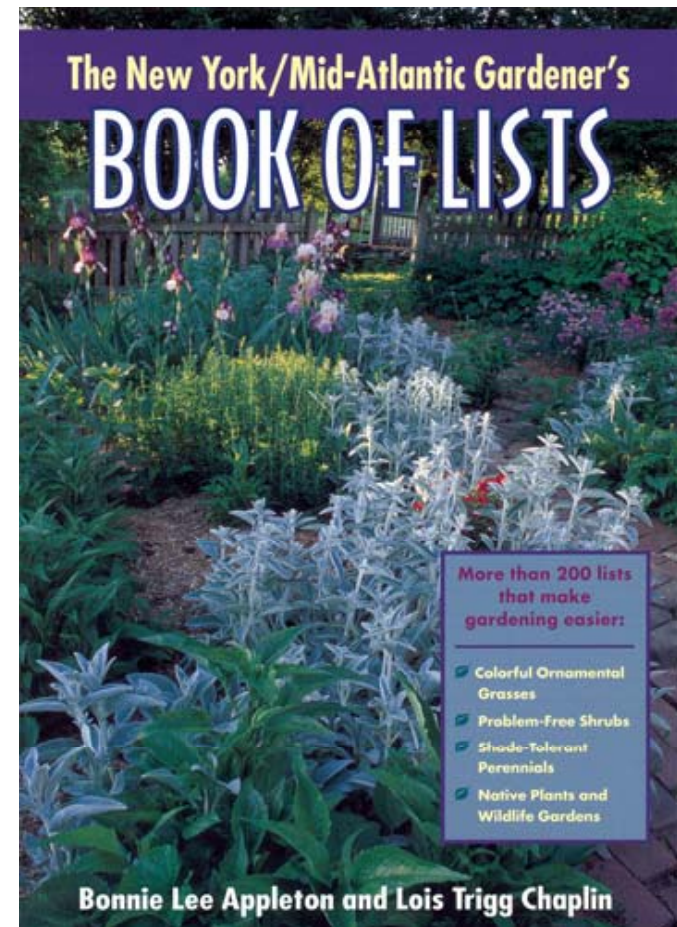
Know Your Climate

- If you live on the water be sure to select plants that can tolerate salt and wind
- Just because it grows in Hampton, does not mean that it will grow in Williamsburg
 - Williamsburg can get up to 10 degrees colder than Hampton



Know Your Soil

- Pay attention to how well your soil drains
 - If you have wet or dry areas in your yard, pick plants that will do well in these spots
 - If you need help finding plants for wet or dry places, I recommend the Book of Lists by Dr. Bonnie Appleton and Lois Chaplin



Minimize Large Lawn Areas

- If you desire a fescue lawn, keep in mind the high water demand these require and the cost of the upkeep
 - A nice green lawn helps make a landscape pop



Deer Problems?

- You can still have an interesting landscape even with deer. I recommend using our “Deer-resistant plants” list

<u>Deer Favorites</u>	<u>Deer Resistant</u>
Azaleas	Abelia or Gardenias
Indian Hawthorn	Juniper
Hosta	Astilbe or Ferns
Euonymus	Boxwood
Hydrangea	Nandina
Liriope	Pachysandra
Sedum	Lantana
Pansies	Dianthus or Snapdragons

Three Tips for a Successful Landscape

Tip 1: Always, always, always check the final height and width of the plants. That beautiful evergreen could grow into a mammoth 20' plant.

Tip 2: Have a design plan. Even if it's just a quick sketch, it will save you a lot of frustration.

Tip 3: Layer your plants. Layering means that you may have shrubs against the house, but why not plant some perennials in front of them? It will look lush instead of sparse.



Questions?

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