

Woodland Wonderful



This front yard previously suffered from a case of 'turf-in-the-shade-itis'. However, after diligent efforts on the part of the homeowner it has successfully completed its 'garden rehab' and been born anew as this wonderful woodland garden.

The old grass was not manually removed, but was instead returned to the soil using a simple and effective technique utilizing newspaper. The homeowner laid multiple layers of newspaper (black ink only as colored ink may contain heavy metals) over the grass and then covered these biodegradable materials with mulch, to hold the layers in place, keep in moisture, and add organic matter. The elimination of light causes chlorophyll to break down and the smothered turf dies. The homeowner immediately planted through the newspaper layers and to the underlying soil. Within six months the organic matter has been incorporated into the soil by earthworms and other organisms.

With the turf gone the homeowner focused on creating a shade tolerant woodland garden utilizing many California Natives. Selections have been made with mature size of plant material in mind. With the exception of the shrubs planted along the walkway to provide a screen between properties, none of these plantings will require shearing or aggressive pruning to keep them in scale with space. The need for very little pruning and no mowing exemplifies the river-friendly principle, 'less to the landfill'.

Another plus of this garden is the abundant use of mulch and the choice to use smaller sized mulch material that is more aesthetically pleasing and in scale with the garden.

(Garden Art provided by K's Crazy Creations, to purchase her work or for more information visit today's festival or contact Kathy Barnum at kskrazycreations@yahoo.com)

Plant list

1. Point Reyes Manzanita, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* 'Point Reyes'
2. Santa Barbara Daisy, *Erigeron karvinskianus*
3. Douglas Iris, *Iris douglasii*
4. Mondo Grass, *Ophiopogon japonicas*
5. Berkeley Sedge, *Carex tumulicola*
6. Hellebore, *Helleborus x hybridus*
7. Deer Fern, *Blechnum spicant*
8. Hosta, *Hosta species*
9. Pacific or California Rhododendron, *Rhododendron macrophyllum*
10. Coast Redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens*
11. Coral Bells, *Heuchera* 'Silver Scrolls'
12. Japanese Anemone, *Anemone hupehensis* var. *japonica*
13. Western Bleeding Heart, *Dicentra formosa*
14. Stella de Oro Dwarf Daylily, *Hemerocallis x* 'Stella de Oro'
15. Sageleaf Rockrose, *Cistus salvifolius*
16. Bloodgood Japanese Maple, *Acer palmatum* 'Bloodgood'
17. Dwarf Lily-of-the-Nile, *Agapanthus africanus* 'Peter Pan'
18. Variegated Mock Orange, *Pittosporum tobira* 'Variegata'
19. Cranesbill Geranium, *Geranium species*
20. Southern Azalea, *Azalea indica*
21. Serbian Bellflower, *Campanula poscharskyana*
22. Sprenger Asparagus Fern, *Asparagus densiflorus* 'Sprenger'
23. Snow-in-Summer, *Cerastium tomentosum*
24. Evergold Sedge, *Carex oshimensis* 'Evergold'
25. Yarrow, *Achillea species*
26. Shasta Daisy, *Leucanthemum x superbum*
27. Lilac Verbena or Cedros Island Verbena, *Verbena lilacina* 'De La Mina'
28. Laurustinus, *Viburnum tinus* 'Spring Bouquet'
29. Mock Strawberry, *Potentilla indica*
30. Flower Carpet® White Groundcover Rose, *Rosa x* 'Noaschnee'

To assist you, all plants listed above are labeled by number in the landscape. Check them out!

