

The background of the slide is a solid brown color with a pattern of stylized, overlapping autumn leaves in various shades of brown and tan. The leaves are scattered across the entire frame, creating a textured, seasonal feel.

Adopt-A-Spot

Tips from Heart of Missouri

Master Gardeners

January 29, 2009

Steps To A Successful Spot

- How much time can you commit?
- Site preparation
- Creating a landscape plan
- Maintenance
- The fine print
- Pretty pictures

How Much Time Can You Commit?

- Considerations
 - Moisture level
 - Light level
 - Weeds and nearby plantings
 - Traffic
 - Chemicals (salt/cinders)

Site Preparation

- What are the environmental needs of the site?
 - Soil
 - Water

Site Preparation

Soil test

Soil amendments

Double dig and avoid compaction

Don't forget to consider water availability

Landscape Planning

- Landscape planning addresses the environment, aesthetics and the availability of plants and other needed materials.

Landscape Planning

- Environmental issues
 - Sun exposure
 - Amount of water needed and available
 - Xeriscaping
 - Exposure to exhaust, salt and cinders
 - Auto intrusion into your spot

Landscape Planning

- Aesthetic issues
 - Color design
 - Height
 - Three-season gardening
 - Winter interest
 - Plant lifespan – annuals, perennials and biennials – bloom time

Landscape Planning

- Places to visit – our favorites:
 - Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance; MU Campus; MBS; Shelter Gardens; Adopt-A-Spot near Paxton-Keeley; Round About near Cosmo; Bass Pro Shop; Xeriscape at Twin Lakes; Pilot Project (Second Saturday in June); Jefferson Farms Trial Gardens; Flat Branch Brewery; Adopt-A-Spots on Forum.

Landscape Planning

- Availability of materials – plants
 - Sources for plant ideas
 - Plants of Merit
 - MU handouts (library or online)
 - Grow Native handouts and website
 - Plant list from the City and info from the City arborist

Landscape Planning

- Availability of materials – plants
 - Sources for plants – don't ignore your own and friends' gardens

Landscape Planning

- Availability of materials – mulch
 - Calculating the amount of mulch: 1/2 cubic yard of mulch covers 50sq. ft. three inches deep.
 - One scoop from a skid loader bucket is typically 1/2 cubic yard.

Landscape Planning

- Availability of materials – compost
 - City dump site

Maintaining Your Spot

- All spots need maintenance.
- New plantings will need water – even natives.
Think about July and August now!
- Spots must be weeded regularly.

Maintaining Your Spot

- General tips for maintenance:
 - Wear sunscreen, a hat, long sleeves and bug spray
 - Bring water to drink
 - Wear supportive shoes
 - Work early in the morning or in the evening during hot weather
 - Weeding is easier after it rains
 - Never let weeds go to seed
 - Keep mulch thick to inhibit weeds

Maintaining Your Spot

- Tips for plant maintenance:
 - Leave bulb foliage intact until June.
 - Deadhead flowers for continued bloom.
 - Be sure to leave bud ends intact on flowering shrubs (i.e.. prune soon after bloom).
 - Consider a succession of annuals.
 - Consider cutting back perennials at least once during the season, several weeks prior to bloom.

The Fine Print – Getting Your Plan Approved

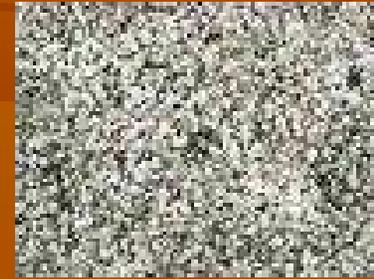
- Turn in landscape proposal to Office of Volunteer Services (important for new beds).
- Volunteer Services will circulate the plan to Brett at Parks and Recreation and to Public Works.
- Expect process to take two weeks for approval.
- Existing Adopters who want to add a few annuals or perennials do not need to submit a new plan. If you want to add rocks or stone, you must have approval.
- If a car runs over your spot or ends up messing it up and they are caught, the City Risk Management Office will pursue the offender for reparation.

Pretty Pictures – Annuals

White



White Petunia



Baby's Breath



Nicotina

Pretty Pictures – Annuals Blue/Purple

Salvia



Blue Petunia



Gomphrena



Ageratum



Scaevola



Pretty Pictures – Annuals

Pink

Petunia



Vinca



Pretty Pictures – Annuals

Yellow/Red

Meacian Zinnia



Melampodium



Petunia



Salvia



Vinca



Pretty Pictures – Annuals

Mixed Colors

Ornamental Pepper



Celosia



Portulaca



Pretty Pictures – Perennials Blue/Purple

Catmint



Lavender



Pincushion Flower



Spike Speedwell



Prairie Beardtongue



Poppy Mallow



Pretty Pictures – Perennials Blue/Purple

Liatris



Pretty Pictures – Perennials Yellow/Orange

Basket of Gold



Black Eyed Susan



Blanket Flower



Missouri Primrose



Prairie Dropseed



Moonbeam Coreopsis



Pretty Pictures – Perennials

Pink

Sedum



Pink Evening Primrose



Pincushion Flower



Pretty Pictures – Perennials Silver/White

Aster My Antonia



Lambs Ear



Silver Mound



Conclusion

- Questions?
- Mentoring