



Native Landscaping 101

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1

Native Landscaping 101



What is Native Landscaping?

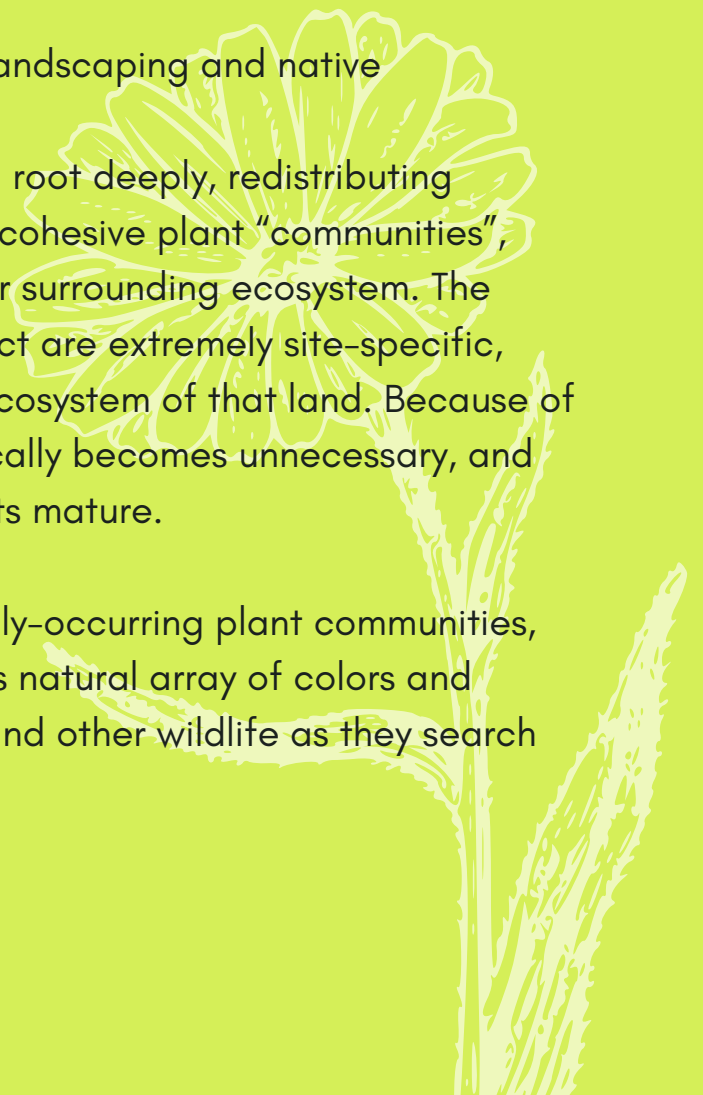
Native landscaping—aka conservation landscaping—is a restorative method of tending to land that works with your local ecosystem. It uses native plants and otherwise sustainable methods of cultivation to bring balance back to land, thereby increasing biodiversity and mitigating land-related issues caused by the use of invasive, non-native species and unhealthy soil.

How is it different from the landscaping we know?

The biggest difference between traditional landscaping and native landscaping is maintenance.

Native plants are planted close together and root deeply, redistributing nutrients back into the soil. They'll even form cohesive plant "communities", which work together to bring balance to their surrounding ecosystem. The plants chosen for a native landscaping project are extremely site-specific, and selected to thrive within the particular ecosystem of that land. Because of this, the use of fertilizers and pesticides typically becomes unnecessary, and the task of weeding is minimized as the plants mature.

Native landscapes are modeled after naturally-occurring plant communities, which lends them to a "wilder" aesthetic. This natural array of colors and textures gives important cues to pollinators and other wildlife as they search for food and shelter.





Mayapple Native Landscaping

Aims to use mostly electric/eco-friendly tools and vehicles

Works to collaborate with environmental non-profit groups, or offer paid volunteer hours

Does not upsell maintenance services; aiming to spread sustainable landscapes over a wide area, not retain customers

Takes employee work/life balance and fair pay into account

Sees nature as a powerful omnipresent system to study and collaborate with, instead of compete against

Cultural Differences

Traditional Landscaping

Uses gasoline powered tools and vehicles, further contributing to our climate crisis; near and far

Tends to not pay employees livable wages or offer benefits
Apathetic towards nature; sees wildlife and nature as an obstacle towards desired result

Outdated; originated as a way to boost prestige of the upper class in the 17th century, and still maintains those gratuitous values

Maintenance intensive, depends on annual returning business from customers





How Native Landscaping Benefits You:

- **Saves you money!** Cut your landscaping budget as you eliminate the need for yearly mulching, fertilizers, and frost-sensitive plants that need replacing annually
- Improves the health of your land; no more exposing it, your pets, or yourself to **harmful chemicals**
- Attracts and supports a variety of pollinators such as hummingbirds, Monarch butterflies and Bumble bees
- Evokes pride and fulfillment for actively contributing to your local ecosystem

How Native Landscaping Benefits Earth:

- Eliminates the need for pesticides and fertilizers; two things which bring imbalance to our local ecosystems
- **Rebuilds soil** from above and below, mitigating water runoff and eliminating the need to irrigate
- **Helps increase biodiversity** by planting species that were propagated from seed, as opposed to clones produced by cuttings or divisions; increases genetic diversity and sustainability
- Uses plants that best benefit local fauna, creates food sources, habitat, and shelter for insects and animals whose habitats are rapidly decreasing (contributing to an unsustainable and uncertain future)
- Contributes to a **healthier pollinator population** (the 437 native bee species in Pennsylvania alone will thank you).



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Cost Expectations





Cost Comparison Analysis & What to Expect

Due to the wide variety of services offered and material-specific cost estimates, it is difficult to calculate just how much money folks will *actually* save when they begin to utilize native landscapers over traditional ones.

However, generally speaking, those who make "the switch" do save big bucks on one thing: maintenance.

Traditional landscapers depend on return customers: the grass will always need mowed, the garden will always need fertilized, sprayed, and mulched, and the plants that die annually will always need replaced.

While native landscapers will return for occasional maintenance, it is not nearly as often or as costly.

Though initial costs are about the same (if not a bit higher for native landscaping), land owners will begin to see a larger ROI a few years after "the switch"-when they've been able to squirrel away the money they've previously spent on monthly upkeep.



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Community & Partnerships





Lancaster Community Initiatives + Grants

Many local governments have recognized the havoc that non-native and invasive species have caused; combined with unsound/underfunded city infrastructure and the socio-economic disparities that make property improvements virtually impossible.

That's why they've started offering grants (which you are **not** required to repay) to make improvements to land that contributes to the health of its residents and overall community. We highly recommend doing further research on what your local government might offer, then hiring a native landscaper to help!

In the meantime, here are a few programs that we know of, off hand.

Lancaster Conservancy - Community Wildlife Habitat Initiative

A volunteer-led effort that works with Lancaster local landowners to help create DIY native habitats.

<https://www.lancasterconservancy.org/engaging-our-community/habitat/>

City of Lancaster + Alliance for Chesapeake Bay - "Save It!" Stormwater Residential Grant Program

Lancaster city residents can be reimbursed for a percentage of green infrastructure projects, such as rain gardens and permeable hardscape (both DIY and collaborative efforts with contractors).

<https://cityoflancasterpa.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Stormwater-Residential-Grant-Program-Brochure.pdf>

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources - Lawn Conversion Program

The DCNR occasionally opens up applications to assist in converting (1+) acre residential yards into woods or meadow. For the next round of applications, sign up for their newsletter at the link below.

<https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1928101/1920634/>

Below: a rain garden planted by The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay on Grant Street in Lancaster City



Native Plant Farms & Nurseries

Landscaping with locally-sourced native plants supports small businesses who are committed to best practices in sourcing and growing their stock. Mayapple Native Landscaping is proud to support native plant farms and nurseries. We believe that by doing so, we are taking the first step in cultivating a sustainably-minded local community. In turn, many of these farms (such as Hungry Hook Farms, listed on the next page) have graciously offered their partnership: educating us, and our employees, so that we may better serve our clients.



Native Nurseries Near Lancaster

Please call ahead before visiting—many native nurseries offer seasonal or appointment-only hours.



Go Native Tree Farm

678 S Chiques Rd
Manheim, PA
(717) 399-0195

Hungry Hook Farm Native Plant Nursery

26 Locust Grove Road
Bainbridge PA 17502
(717) 216-0136



Edge of the Woods Native Plant Nursery

2415 Route 100,
Orefield, PA 18069
(610) 395-2570

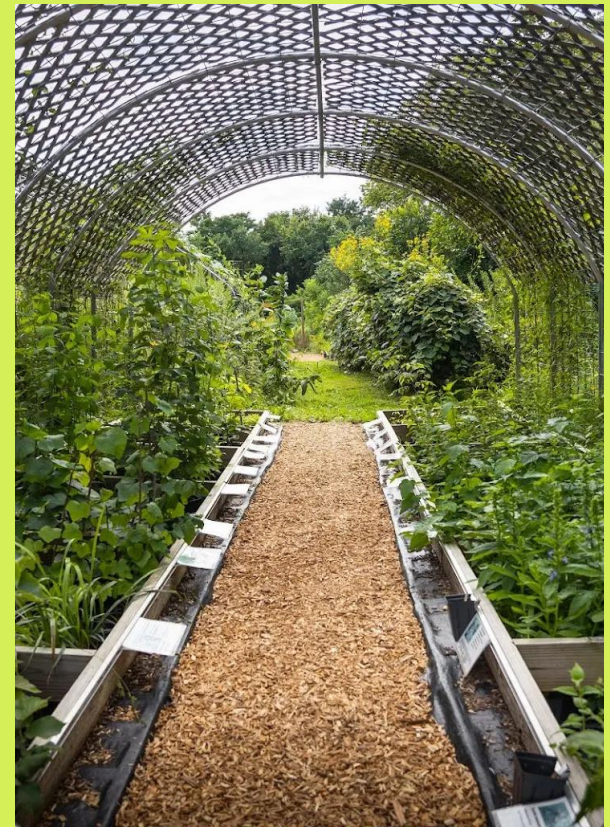
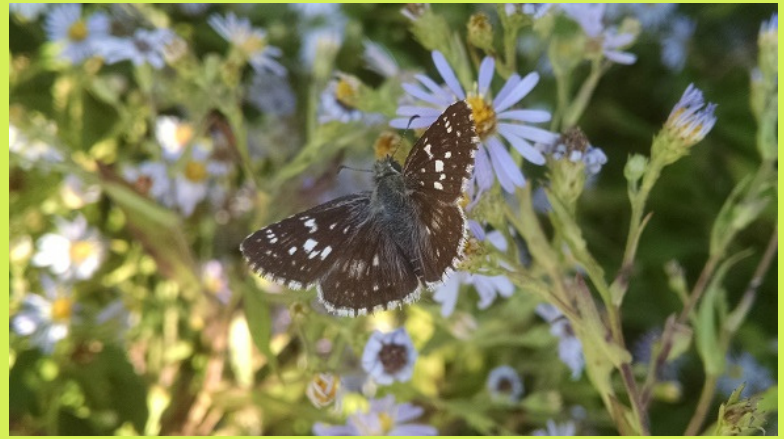




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Native Garden Lookbook





Hungry Hook Farm Native Plant Nursery

Hungry Hook Farm, which is located in Bainbridge, Pennsylvania, is a sanctuary for native plant lovers and pollinators alike. Lovingly tended to by botanist Sherrie Moyer, the farm focuses on local ecotype, seed-grown plants in order to rematriate resilient plant communities within the Lower Susquehanna River Watershed.

The photos above are from Sherrie's own collection, featuring her mature greenhouse gardens and stunning visitors on native flowers.

Mayapple Native Landscaping

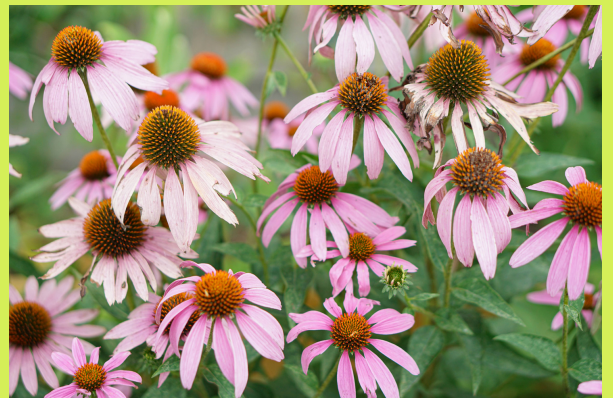
Mayapple Native Landscaping aims to create regenerative, pollinator-friendly spaces on both residential and commercial land using native plants and sustainable landscaping methods. They provide ethical, compassionate employment to their team members who are all equally invested in restoring health, biodiversity, and ecological balance to the earth.

Featured below are photos of native plants they have used, as well as young projects they have started that will take between 2-4 years to fully grow in.





Mayapple Native Landscaping, Cont.

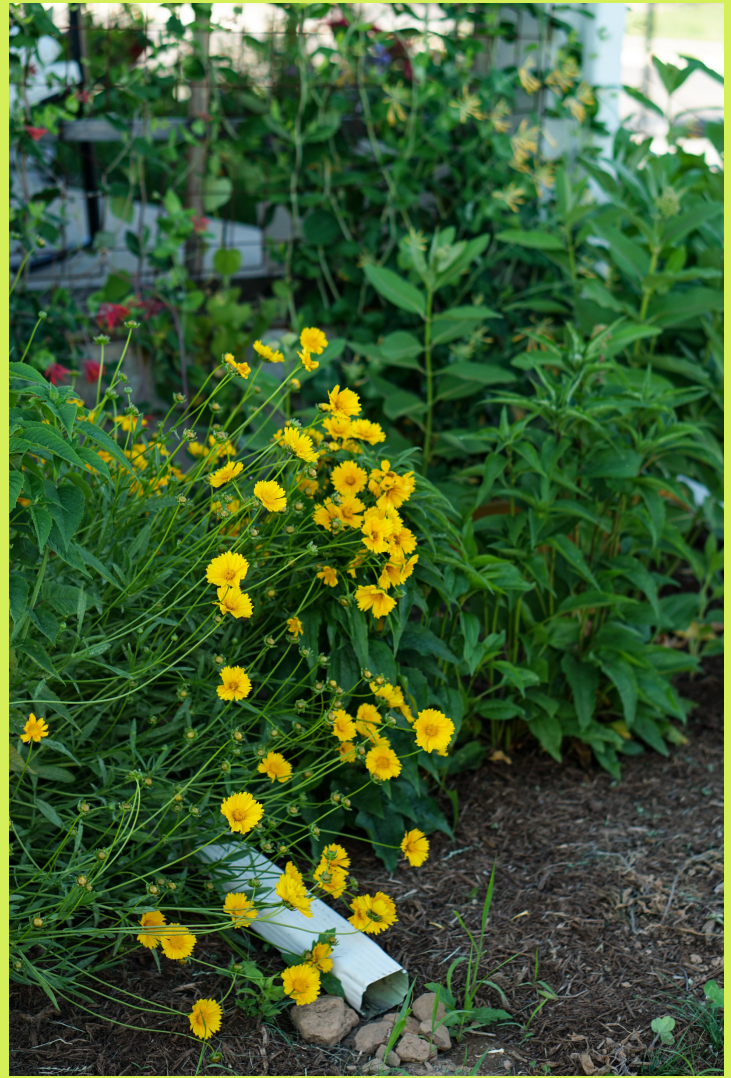


Kerri Tauby - Bloomtime Garden

Kerri Tauby-a local photographer and native gardener-started her horticulture hobby in a place very different from Pennsylvania; the Chilean countryside!

While living there with her family during the pandemic, Kerri spent ample time working with and getting to know Chilean native plant species. Upon her return to the states a few years ago, she set out to do the same here in Pennsylvania. Above are a few photos she has graciously chosen to share with us-

Please check out her new blog on Instagram and support her work! [@bloomtimegarden](#)



Kerri Tauby, cont.