

CHICKADEE LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Planting with
a purpose.



OFFERINGS 2024

OFFERINGS



WHAT IS PLANTING WITH A PURPOSE?

Heidi creates beautiful, sustainable gardens for pollinators and people. Installing diverse native plants provides critical food and habitat for declining pollinators. Selecting the appropriate native plants for existing site conditions, eliminates the need for watering, adding mulch or compost, fertilizers, and pesticides. Attractive and ecologically functional, these landscapes are good for pollinators, the ecosystem, and the soul. Together, we can foster climate resilience one yard at a time.

EXPERIENCE

FROM SMALL CORNER GARDENS TO ENTIRE YARDS

- Certified Vermont Master Naturalist
- Pollinator and Prairie gardens
- Unlawning (reducing or replacing lawn with low maintenance native plants)
- Soft-Landings gardens (under trees)
- Naturalistic Woodland pollinator gardens
- Stormwater diversion gardens
- Erosion prevention planting
- Invasive plant abatement
- Active member/ volunteer of Grow Wild, a partnership that promotes biodiversity and climate resilience by creating more native plant habitat cross public and private land in Chittenden County, Vermont





REWILDING IN THE NEWS

THIS APPROACH TO LANDSCAPING IS BECOMING MORE MAINSTREAM



Reduce the size of your lawn—and your yard work



TIMESVIDEO

Reduce Mowed Lawn Space



How to Kill Your Lawn and Help the Planet



The American Obsession with Lawns



Urban rewilding is bringing wildlife to the heart of cities



A native plant guru's radical vision for the American yard



Native Plant Materials



Saving Our Bees by Heather Holm

MORE RESOURCES



This video of Doug Tallamy speaking at UVM changed the course of my work and life.



The Grow Wild website explains my straightforward approach to achieving this goal.



WHY CHICKADEE

The chickadee has become the native plant movement signature bird since it was the subject of a defining study ([friendly summary](#)) that linked native plant availability in suburbs to bird populations. A nesting pair of chickadees requires more than 300 caterpillars a day to raise a clutch of chicks. They need this food source to be within a 50 meter distance of their nest. Adult birds can digest hard-shelled insects, spiders and seeds, but their babies cannot. In order to supply songbirds with caterpillars (which are moth and butterfly babies) a neighborhood needs diverse native plants. The parent birds visited the yards with higher numbers of native plants more frequently. Insects coevolved with specific plants on which to lay their eggs and which have palatable leaves for their hungry hatching larvae, which ultimately feeds the birds. It is a beautiful system. Coincidentally, the Chickadee is the state bird of Maine, where I grew up!



Photo courtesy of Doug Tallamy



STORMWATER DIVERSION GARDEN

CRESCENT BEACH ASSOCIATION

I designed and installed this multi-functional garden for our local neighborhood beach. The increasingly frequent extreme weather events had repeatedly caused problematic erosion at the entryway. Now water from the driveway is directed onto flood-tolerant plants. The roots of these plants are significantly deeper than turf grass and act as filters for the pollutants in stormwater and slowing its entry to the lake.





NINEBARK

PHYSOCARPUS OPULIFOLIUS

Collaborating with this budding gardener to plant a Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*). I consider ninebark to be a native alternative to bridal wreath spirea. Here we chose a straight species, not the cultivar bred for its dark leaves. Although appealing to some gardeners, specialist pollinators who co-evolved with ninebark as a host plant find the color-producing chemicals in the dark leaves unpalatable, rendering the plant with little to no ecological function.





AGASTACHE/ ANISE HYSSOP

The spikey summer flowers feed bees (and sometimes hummingbirds!) – and the winter seed heads feed goldfinch and chickadees. Long-blooming and beautiful!



NEXT STEPS + CONTACT

References available upon request
Reach out for rates

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SERVICE	PACKAGE 1: Design & consult	PACKAGE 2: Coaching & collaboration	PACKAGE 3: Continued support
1 hour meet & greet: Determine goals and size/scope of the project, General observations, resource emails	✓	✓	✓
Sketch a general possible yard design	✓	✓	✓
Recommended plant list	✓	✓	✓
One mid- and one late-season follow-up	✓	✓	✓
Detailed design & implementation plan		✓	✓
Site evaluation: light, soil and water/moisture; practical usage aspects		✓	✓
Bi-weekly site visits and coaching sessions. 2 hours on-site labor		✓	✓
Recommendations for next season		✓	✓
Collaboration and facilitation on installation and procurement of goods and labor			✓
Weekly site visits & 8 hours of on-site labor			✓
Ongoing consultation & detailed recommendations/plan for next season			✓

CONTACT