



Natural Garden Tour

presented by Clark County Green Neighbors

10am–3pm | Sunday, June 23 2024



For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office

Voice 564.397.2322 Relay 711 or 800.833.6388

Fax 564.397.6165

Email ADA@clark.wa.gov

Welcome

to the 2024 Natural Garden Tour

Sign in at your first garden stop to receive a guest sticker which grants you access to all sites on the tour



Thank you for joining us for the Clark County Green Neighbors Natural Garden Tour!

This year, a selection of Clark County gardeners are inviting the community to take in the beauty of natural gardening. This self-guided tour includes local properties large and small that showcase native plants, lawn alternatives, and other sustainable features grown for a variety of purposes.

The garden hosts pride themselves on working with the landscape to produce diverse, beneficial and stunning results by using alternative techniques to manmade chemicals. Visit a few, or visit them all, to be inspired by healthy, beautiful gardens that are safe for people and the environment.

There are only two public restrooms along the tour, both located at 78th Street Heritage Farm. Please plan accordingly. Carpooling with friends is fun and saves gas, while reducing emissions and street congestion.

Garden etiquette



Tour hours: 10am–3pm, Sunday, June 23

- Sign in at the first garden you visit and grab a guest pass sticker.
- Follow parking regulations and stay on designated paths.
- Supervise children closely. No pets or strollers allowed.
- Respect host privacy and property.
- Do not disturb wildlife.
- **Do not pick anything from the gardens.**





Thank you

We extend our gratitude to our volunteers, the Master Gardener program and our hosts for their contributions to the tour.

Liability waiver

Tour guests agree to waive all claims against Clark County, its employees, contractors, volunteers and homeowners arising from or related to participation and travel during the 2024 Clark County Green Neighbors Natural Garden Tour.

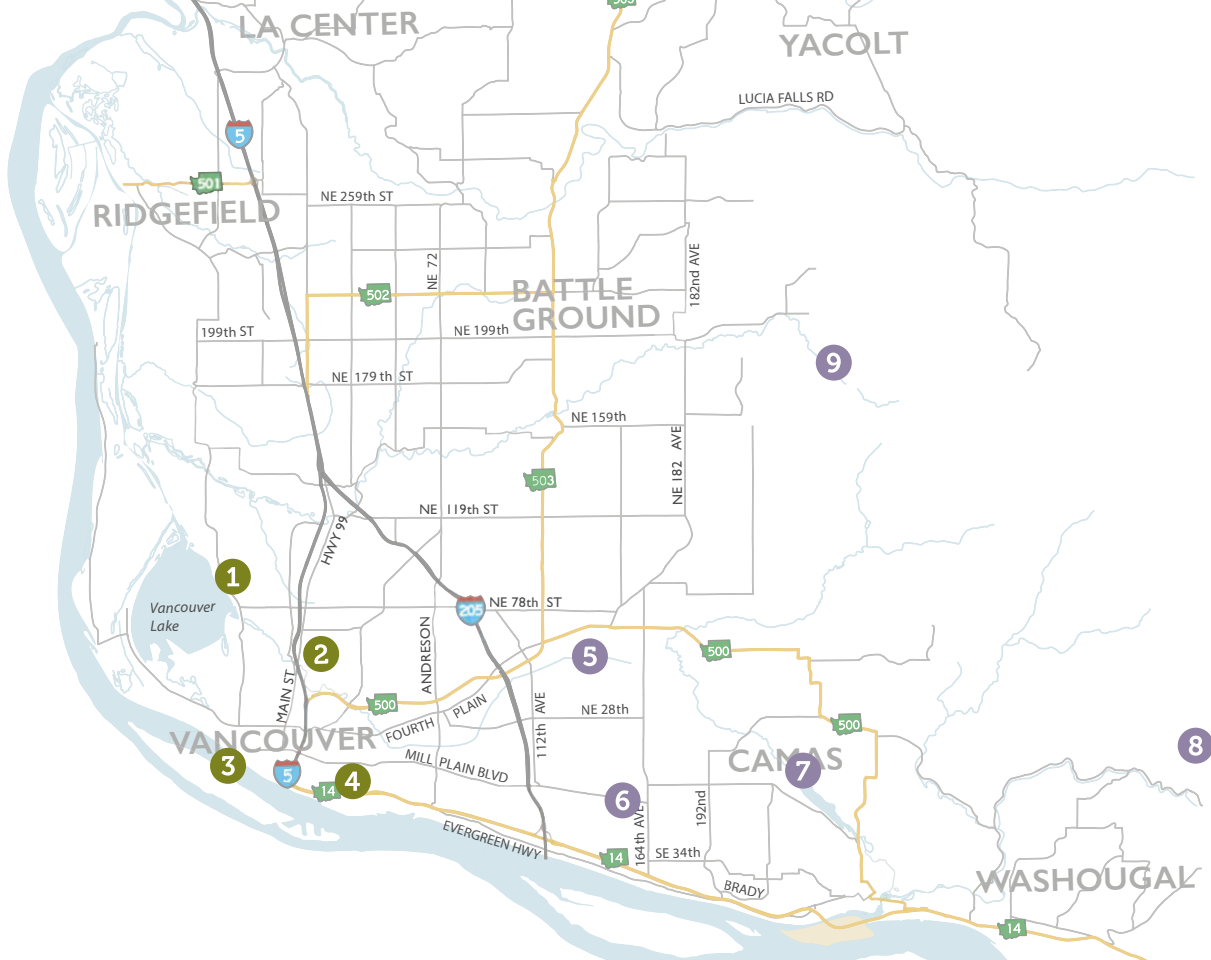
Clark County has not thoroughly inspected the premises of the locations and makes no representations as to their condition or safety. Garden tour guests must make their own assessment of the premises and suitability for visiting. The views and opinions of tour hosts are not those of Clark County or its employees.

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LA CENTER

YACOLT

LUCIA FALLS RD

RIDGEFIELD

NE 259th ST

BATTLE GROUND

199th ST

NE 199th

NE 179th ST

NE 159th

NE 119th ST

NE 78th ST

Vancouver Lake

VANCOUVER

FOURTH

MILL PLAIN BLVD

EVERGREEN HWY

ANDERSON

PLAIN

NE 28th

CAMAS

SE 34th

BRADY

WASHOUGAL

1

2

3

4

5

6

9

8

5

501

502

503

500

500

500

14

14

14

Hwy 99

MAIN ST

ANDERSON

112th AVE

NE 182 AVE

182nd AVE

192nd

1

Mossdale

Gregg Andrews

○ 11309 NW 21st Avenue, Vancouver 98685

PARKING

Street parking on NW 21st Ave.

YEARS GARDENING HERE

44

GARDEN SIZE

1 acre

FEATURES

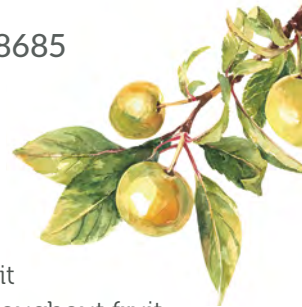
Organic pest control

Composting

Recycled materials

Ducks

Take a step back in time in this beautiful, vintage-themed garden. The walkways are made of scavenged brick with flagstone quarried from Mount Hood, which graciously pull you through the delightful grounds. Organic products defend stone fruit trees against pests, and drip systems run throughout fruit beds along with a rain capture system. Various landfill-bound materials were recycled to create masterful garden trellises, fences, walkways and planters throughout the yard. The wooded shade garden coursed by gentle paths, curve and wrap to over 14 varieties of shade-loving hostas, ferns and other native plants. This leads to a circular pond surrounded by a patio of brick, then finally to a tree house found through fir and cedar trees. The home is embraced by wisterias, perennials beds, a spacious lawn in front, raised vegetable beds, grapes, blueberries, raspberries, and a gazebo to sit and contemplate.





Install a drip irrigation system to efficiently water plants with minimal water loss to evaporation.

2

78th Street Heritage Farm

Public garden

○ 1919 NE 78th Street, Vancouver 98665

PARKING

Parking lot

YEARS GARDENING HERE

150+

GARDEN SIZE

79 acres

FEATURES

Demonstration gardens

Community garden plots

Composting demonstration

Organic edible gardens

We Compost Community Hub

The 78th Street Heritage Farm, with its history dating back to the 1870s, is a significant site in Clark County. The farm, initially operated as a poor farm, now serves as the office for the WSU Clark County Extension and their on-site educational programs. The farm has 88 diverse community garden beds, each measuring 20x20 feet. All community garden plots will be featured on the tour, each showcasing unique and culturally relevant natural gardening methods. There is no shortage of inspiration to glean! Plots are leased and maintained by community members, coordinated through the extension program.

Additionally, the Clark County Composter Recycler program has a composting demonstration site featuring organic edible gardens. Chat with our experts to learn more about how composting can reduce your household food waste and provide nutrient rich fertilizer for your garden. The farm also hosts a We Compost Community Hub; check out the informational booth located near the farm entrance to learn more about how you can utilize this program to compost for free.





Compost household food waste instead of tossing it out, and use the finished compost to return rich nutrients back into the soil.

3

Penny Pincher's Paradise

Chelsea Schuyler

○ 2909 Van Allman Avenue, Vancouver 98660

PARKING

Street parking

YEARS GARDENING HERE

6

GARDEN SIZE

.23 acre

FEATURES

Native plants

Composting

Rain gardens

Certified Backyard Habitat

Mason bee houses



When Chelsea Schuyler first purchased the property, the garden was beautiful but filled with ornamental plants, including invasive species. Since then, she removed the invasives and added over 150 native plants and 45 trees. She completed the work without the use of synthetic chemicals.

Passing through to the backyard, rain gardens collect water from the roof to soak back into the soil. This certified backyard habitat is a haven for little critters. Tree stumps provide habitat for insects and birds, bat boxes are posted up high, and bee houses are set up around fruit bearing plants like blueberry, raspberry and figs. Garden host Chelsea Schuyler says, "We like to see a little munching on our plants, otherwise it wouldn't be a part of the ecosystem!"





Attract and support pollinators, like mason bees, by offering a source of food, water, and shelter.

4

The Center

Public garden



○ 3114 E Fourth Plain Boulevard, Vancouver 98661

PARKING

Street parking & parking lot

YEARS GARDENING HERE

6

GARDEN SIZE

3,000 square feet

FEATURES

Organic fruit and vegetable gardens

The Center, coordinated by Clark County Adventist Community Services, is a shining resource for the Fourth Plain corridor and surrounding neighborhoods. Providing individuals and families in need with freshly grown produce, non-perishables, clothing and household items, the Center demonstrates how much good can be done in a limited space. Boasting a beautiful greenhouse, multiple raised beds and covered space for edibles, you won't want to miss seeing the magic first-hand.

The gardens also act as a teaching space for anyone in the county to learn about natural gardening and food production by volunteering and supporting their community work. Come learn how you can get involved!





Plant a variety of species for a resilient garden to help defend from diseases and pests.

5



The Shire Lite

Meg Johnson

○ 13517 NE 77th Street, Vancouver 98682

PARKING

Street parking

YEARS GARDENING HERE

4.5

GARDEN SIZE

.12 acre

FEATURES

Pollinator-safe haven

Composting

Reclaimed materials

Native plants

This garden has purpose around every corner, from the flowers, vegetables, garden containers, and down to the soil itself. The backyard is filled with little sections to explore, like the Pollination Station designed around a downspout, four separate raised beds all made from reclaimed or recycled materials, three trellises for native climbers, a honeysuckle "tree" made from a Japanese maple tree branch, native shrubs, strawberry gutter gardens, a veggie patch, and compost areas. All of the garden space is tended without pesticides; all living creatures have a place in this garden. Come by and visit to see how many native plants and pollinators you can count!





Choose native plants because they are low-maintenance and already adapted to the local environment.

6

G Squared Park

Grace Teigen and Gene Wigglesworth

○ 1308 NE 151st Avenue, Vancouver 98684

PARKING

Street parking

YEARS GARDENING HERE

20+

GARDEN SIZE

.5 acre

FEATURES

Whimsical recycled art

Composting

Native plant garden

Certified Backyard Habitat

The G Squared Park is filled with whimsical recycled artwork and paintings created by Grace Teigen and Gene Wigglesworth that are featured along winding paths flanked by poplars, sequoias and Douglas firs. This garden is popular with neighbors for daily dog walks, art observation, or soaking in the serenity. Gold certified as a natural backyard habitat, a small pond supports frogs where their chorus is heard during the warmer months. The garden also includes two additional water features and a Japanese garden.





Tear out turf for an eco-lawn alternative and reduce water usage while creating a colorful and diverse landscape.

7

G-V Lavender Garden

Marilyn Oltmann

○ 22909 NE 28th Street, Camas 98607

PARKING

Driveway parking

YEARS GARDENING HERE

4

GARDEN SIZE

.5 acre



FEATURES

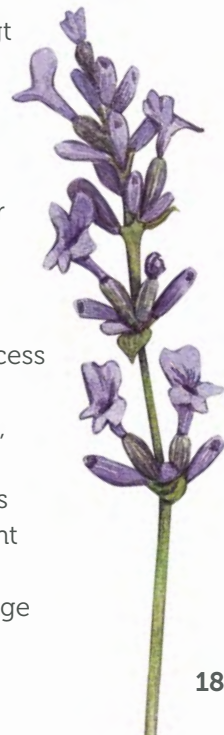
Organic farming

Composting

Wildlife habitat

Sustainable techniques

In 1957, Dutch immigrants Joe and Corrie Voogt settled on this plot of land and tended to the farm. They relied mainly on hand labor to raise a large vegetable garden, graft fruit trees and salvage naturally downed trees for their wood burning stove. Today, their daughter Marilyn Oltmann continues her family's legacy by cultivating lavender using sustainable gardening techniques. The garden has raised beds for herbs and a nearby orchard in the process of being restored. Materials used in the garden, such as manure and mulch, are locally sourced, and no part of the plants go to waste. Marilyn creates several chemical-free lavender products using every part of the plant, setting an excellent example for waste reduction. The surrounding acreage is left as natural as possible to encourage wildlife habitat.





Marilyn makes sure that no lavender goes to waste by making products from each part of the plant.

8



Cottage Garden Acres

The Mahars

○ 3509 NE 397th Place, Washougal 98671

PARKING

Street parking

YEARS GARDENING HERE

8

GARDEN SIZE

21.5 acres

FEATURES

Organic edibles

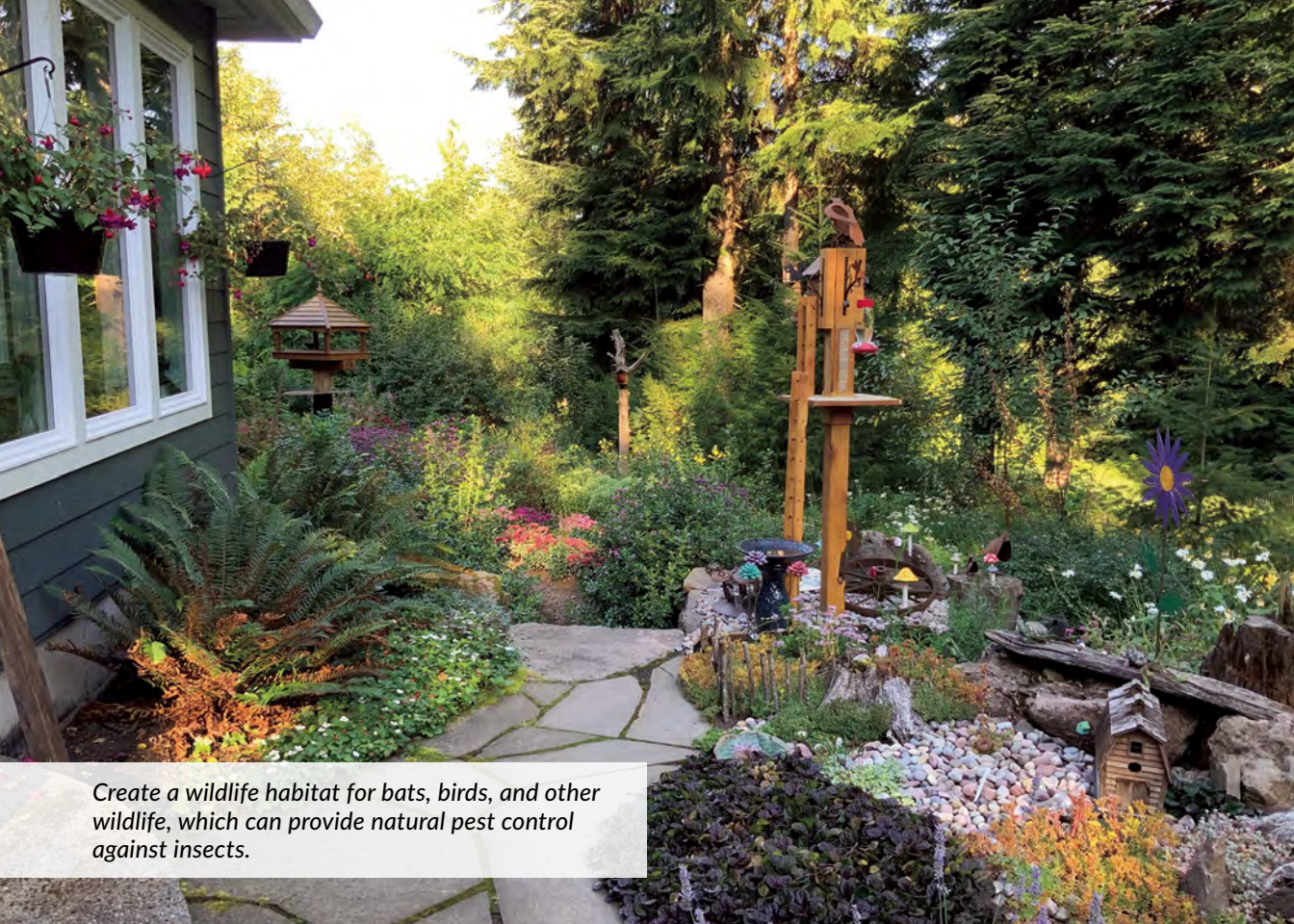
Wildlife pond

Composting

Sustainable water use

Nestled above the Washougal River, James and Lisa Mahar's 21-acre farm has the beauty and solitude provided by the local deciduous forests. Features of this property include a flower garden catered towards native pollinators, and both native and native-compatible plants that provide habitat for winged invertebrates and other critters. The garden pond, fed by rainwater, provides drinking water for pollinators, birds and other amphibians. Rainwater collected from the barn rooftop is used to water the gardens and raised vegetable beds. Food waste and excess plant matter is fed to the chickens and goats or composted. Nothing has gone to waste while cultivating their beautiful space.





Create a wildlife habitat for bats, birds, and other wildlife, which can provide natural pest control against insects.

9

Wujek's Garden

Joseph Wujek



○ 24319 NE 204th Street, Battle Ground 98604

PARKING

Along gravel path and in front of garage

YEARS GARDENING HERE

4

GARDEN SIZE

5 acres mixed forest;
4200 square feet garden

FEATURES

Organically grown fruits and vegetables

Water conservation

Composting

Pollinator-friendly
natural pest control

Joseph Wujek's garden resides on 5 acres of mixed forest and pastureland, and is home to one cow, a few sheep and endless pollinator species. Boasting beautiful native plants, Oregon grapes and a variety of edibles, the garden exclusively uses open pollinated plants to establish beautiful, raised beds. Joseph also practices reutilizing seeds from previous years and has a keen interest in storage varieties like dry beans, winter squash and corn.





Help suppress weeds by planting densely and mulching with leaves, pine cones or wood chips.

Why natural gardening?

Natural gardening is essential to protect our environment from the negative impacts of commercial agriculture and urbanization. By avoiding chemical pesticides, we protect wildlife, waterways and community health. Embracing natural gardening practices promotes a harmonious relationship with our surroundings and can contribute positively to the ecosystem.





Natural gardening techniques

Try out these simple techniques for natural gardening:

- Compost food scraps. The finished compost adds nutrients and improves the structure of your soil.
- Disconnect your downspout. Reroute rainwater into a rain barrel to use or install a rain chain to slow down the flow of water.
- Plant natives. They are adapted to our region, so they require less maintenance and provide sustenance to native wildlife.
- Support pollinators. Provide shelter for mason bees, set out water in a shallow container for beneficial insects, and skip the pesticides and herbicides.

Information & resources

Questions?

Contact info@clarkgreenneighbors.org



Visit previous Natural Garden Tours
clarkgreenneighbors.org/gardentour



Learn about the Clark County
Composter Recycler Program
clarkcountycomposts.org



Stay up to date with the
We Compost pilot program
clarkgreenneighbors.org/we-compost



Backyard Habitat Certification process
backyardhabitats.org



Inspiration

Explore sustainable techniques and find inspiration in public demonstration gardens that are open year-round:

Natural Gardens at Pacific Community Park

NE 18th Street and NE 172nd Avenue, Vancouver
(parking lot entrance off of NE 172nd Avenue)

NatureScaping Wildlife Botanical Gardens

11000 NE 149th Street, Brush Prairie

Water Resources Education Center Backyard Wildlife Gardens

4600 SE Columbia Way, Vancouver

Clark Public Utilities Operations Center Pollinator Garden

8600 NE 117th Avenue, Vancouver



Notes





Notes





clarkgreenneighbors.org | clark.wa.gov

Clark County solid waste planning and programs are a cooperative effort of Clark County, Battle Ground, Camas, La Center, Ridgefield, Vancouver, Washougal, and Yacolt.