

Discover the Entry Garden

The Entrance Garden is an ever-changing landscape that includes annuals, perennials, shrubs, vines, a Red Maple tree, and a specimen rock garden. Even with reflective heat from the sidewalk and building, the Entrance Garden shows you can still have an outstanding landscape with year-round color.

Look For:

- The lovely rock garden nestled under the Red Maple highlights some beautiful rock garden specimens, miniature plant varieties, ferns, and select perennials that do well in well-draining soil.
- Can you spot the shrub that looks like Poison Oak? It is not Poison Oak, but its cousin, *Rhus aromatica*, a drought-tolerant native that has outstanding red fall color and small red berries.
- Check out the small water feature - really just a blue ceramic dish. However, this small addition to the landscape offers water to birds, pollinators, reptiles and amphibians that call the garden home. Having a water source, no matter how simple, does wonders for attracting wildlife.

Garden Tips:

- Perennials come back each year, but only bloom once in the season; however summer annuals bloom all season long, but will die with the frost. This garden shows that a mix of both adds color all year.
- Use netting in the fall to cover landscapes that are located under trees to they don't get buried in leaves. Although leaves are great for the soil and a healthy mulch for plants, small rock garden plants can disappear in the piles. Laying bird netting over the plants in early fall makes removing some of the leaves much easier. Don't forget to leave some leaves for the worms!
- When planning your garden, take into account the sun, radiant heat, or shade in that location. Planting the right plant in the right place will eliminate the majority of future gardening problems. The label will generally identify if the plant grows well in sun or shade; pay attention to this and plan accordingly.

