

This one acre garden, located in Bar Harbor, is a NATIONAL WILDLIFE REGISTERED BACKYARD WILDLIFE HABITAT. It was designed and implemented by the homeowners, and they continue to care for it with no professional intervention. Since providing food, cover, water and space for wildlife is the major objective, the gardens were planted with those elements in mind. One of the major attractions is the 70' x 30' pond, filled with beautiful water lilies and native water loving plants. It is surrounded by ferns and native shrubs such as Amelanchier, Viburnums, and Cornus sericea that produce berries. Water is available year round. A Shitake mushroom crib, which needs a moist environment, is situated beside the pond.



Herbaceous borders are filled with perennials and annuals that attract bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds from early spring through autumn. Since the homeowners garden is organic, all types of insects are tolerated and even encouraged to be certain that there are sufficient supplies of insects for nesting birds. Mulched leaves are spread on the gardens every fall and compost, that is made on site, is spread every spring which ensures a biodiversity of soil organisms for a healthy garden.



In back of the house is a 30' x 15' native shrub border that attracts pollinators to the flowers and early arriving spring birds devour the berries. The shrubs in this border consist of elderberries, chokeberries, snowberries, viburnums, beach plums and clethra, along with swamp roses. Blackberries are sometimes available to the homeowners in the fall if the chipmunks and birds don't get them first !

Miscellaneous native shrubs such as Rhododendron maximum and a number of azaleas, dogwood trees, and crabapples are found in other areas throughout the yard. Clematis, honeysuckle and climbing hydrangea twist their way up arbors and along fences.



A shade garden with native plants such as witch hazel, Shadberry, Solomon seal, uvularia and tiarella are mixed with trilliums, lady slippers and hostas. A rock wall surrounding the garden provides cover for snakes, chipmunks and squirrels.



Tomatoes, lettuce, and spinach are grown in containers on the deck, along with more annuals. A large 20' x 20' vegetable garden, grown and maintained by the homeowners, is located up the street on a neighbors property.

In 2013 this garden was included in The New England Gardener's Year by Reeser Manley and Marjorie Peronto as a "garden in tune with nature", and in 2015 was on the Bar Harbor Garden Club Garden Tour.

---

### Winner of the Stella J. Dearborn Award

---

Jan McIntyre was awarded the prestigious *Stella J. Dearborn Award* at the June 2016 GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION OF MAINE CONVENTION.

*The award is bestowed to the  
'Best All-Around GCFM Gardener'.*

Jan is a member of the Bar Harbor Garden Club.

