

Phipps Sustainable Garden Awards Nomination Questions

This is not an official entry form, complete the official form here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFQ5MS3>

Before you begin, read through the [Sustainable Landcare Principles](#). Then complete the following questions to tell us about the garden and the gardening practices used to support these principles.

Nomination Category (only select those which most fit your garden, limit 3)

- ☐ *Native Plantings and Wildlife Gardens* – gardens featuring native plants that provide habitat for wildlife
- ☐ *Gardens that Manage Stormwater* – gardens that feature rain gardens, rain barrels, swales, etc.
- ☐ *Micro-gardens* – container gardens, vertical gardens, gardens that make the best of very small spaces
- ☐ *Abundant Edible Gardens* – gardens that feature annual and perennial edibles, vegetables, fruits, nuts and herbs.
- ☐ *Gardens for Personal Retreat* – gardens that have seating, birdbaths, garden art, and other distinctive items that create a garden refuge.

Describe how the garden fits into the category or categories selected above. Explain what plants and other elements are included. Limit your response to **1 – 2 paragraphs**.

Sustainable Gardening Principles

For each of the principles described below, share **1 – 2 sentences** about the practices that you employ to support this principle. Please note: more space is given to principle 9, cultivating beauty. Skip those which do not apply to your garden.

1.) Be observant to decide the best placements of gardens and the most suitable plants, and to spot pest and disease concerns before they become problems. Tell us how you make observations of your garden and how your observations influence the design and management of the garden.

2.) Grow healthy plants – plants that are appropriate to your yard, native, sustainable and resistant to disease and pests. Follow proper planting, watering, mulching and pruning practices. Tell us about the plants that you use and how you keep them healthy.

3.) Build and maintain healthy soil with compost and mulch to protect plants and provide them with soil full of minerals and nutrients. Tell us how you keep your soil healthy. Have you used soil tests to help you?

4.) Conserve water and protect water quality with rain barrels, rain gardens, berms, plants and healthy soil. Avoid synthetic pesticides and fertilizers. How do you protect and conserve clean water?

5.) Encourage biodiversity with a variety of plants and habitat elements. Diverse planting can increase garden health, support small wildlife and reduce pests. How does your garden support plant, insects and animal biodiversity?

6.) Conserve energy and protect air quality by using hand tools or electric tools that do not release emissions. Conserve energy by being efficient in planning your garden. How do you conserve energy and protect air quality in your garden?

7.) Produce an abundance and share with your neighbors. Grow flowers, herbs, vegetables, berries, medicinal plants and plants that attract pollinators. Describe what you grow and how you use it.

8.) Make no waste by keeping organic material on site. Compost fallen leaves, garden debris and other organic material. Repurpose as much material as you are able. How do you reduce waste from gardening?

9.) Cultivate beauty and calming natural spaces for reflection and enjoyment year-round. Tell us a little bit about this garden. What do you find most beautiful? What features or characteristics about this garden do you love the most? What are you most proud of? Limit your response to **1 – 2 paragraphs**.

Final Thoughts

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your garden? Limit your response to **1 – 2 paragraphs**.

Show us your garden!

You may submit up to 10 photos of the garden that you wish to nominate. File size limit per image is 16 MB. Survey Monkey is unable to accept video entries. If you would like to share a video of your garden you may share a link to the video.

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