TAMING A BIG SPACE

A big yard doesn't have to be a maintenance headache. Here's a plan that uses sweeps of easy-care plants to cut down on the number of tasks you have to remember to do. And there's a bonus — many of these plants provide either food or shelter for birds, so you'll attract these winged visitors to the yard, too! On this long, skinny lot, one end is in sun, and the other is shaded by some existing trees. Small trees and big shrubs give the sunny area privacy without creating too much shade. And a path and pavilion give you a reason to explore the cool, shady woodland garden at the far end. Only have one of these situations in your yard? Just use the plants from this plan that suit the amount of sunlight you have. □

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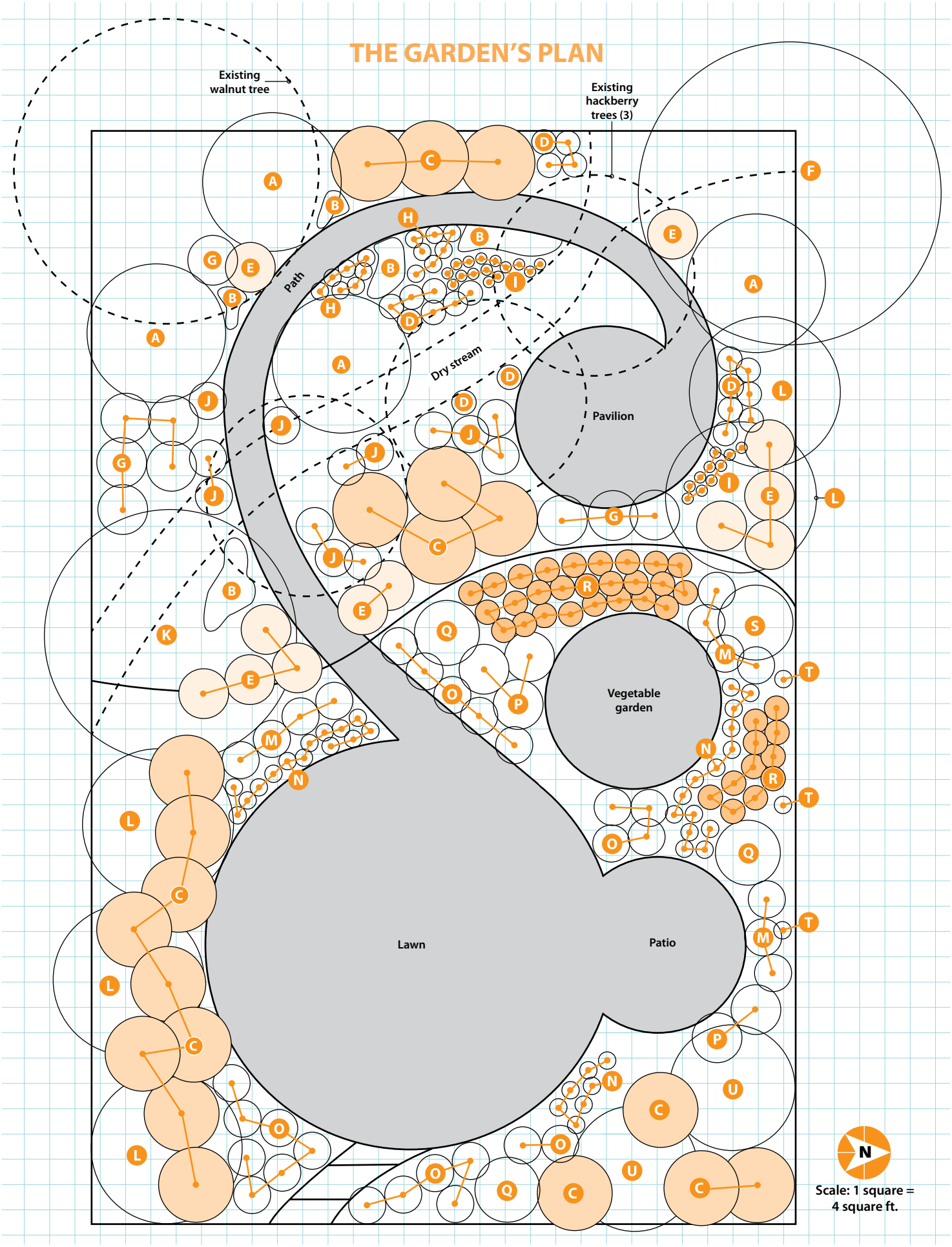
THE GARDEN'S PLAN



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THE GARDEN'S PALETTE

Code	Plant Name	No. to Plant	Blooms	Type	Cold/Heat Zones	Height/ Width	Special Features
A	**Canadian hemlock** *Tsuga canadensis*	4	NA	Evergreen tree	3-7/7-1	40-70 ft./ 25-35 ft.	Branches become drooping and pendulous with age; best planted in part to full shade
B	**Virginia bluebell** *Mertensia virginica*	50	Blue; spring	Perennial	3-9/9-1	12-18 in./ 12 in.	Foliage goes dormant after blooms fade, so combine with perennials that will cover empty spaces later in the season
C	**Snowberry** *Symphoricarpos albus*	20	Pink; spring	Shrub	3-7/7-1	3-6 ft./ 3-6 ft.	Tiny spring flowers are followed by heavy crop of white berries in early fall; fruits hold on through much of the winter
D	**Variegated Solomon's seal** *Polygonatum odoratum pluriflorum* 'Variegatum'	20	White; spring	Perennial	3-8/8-1	24-30 in./ 24-30 in.	Flowers dangle beneath arching stems; prefers consistently moist to wet soil
E	**Hosta** *Hosta sieboldiana elegans*	12	White; early summer	Perennial	4-9/9-1	2-3 ft./ 3-4 ft.	Grown for heavy, ribbed blue-green leaves
F	**Sycamore** *Platanus occidentalis*	1	NA	Tree	4-9/9-1	75-100 ft./ 75-100 ft.	Ornamental, multi-colored bark; plant away from house and parking areas so large leaves and falling twigs won't create a litter problem
G	**Rhododendron** *Rhododendron* PJM Group	9	Lavender-pink; spring	Broadleaf evergreen shrub	4-8/8-1	4-6 ft./ 4-6 ft.	Plant in site protected from wind to ensure winter survival; prefers good drainage
H	**Spotted deadnettle** *Lamium maculatum* 'Pink Pewter'	14	Pink; spring	Perennial	3-9/9-1	4-8 in./ spreading	Prefers part shade and consistently moist soil to avoid scorched foliage; can be cut back hard to be refreshed
I	**Columbine** *Aquilegia canadensis*	25	Yellow and red; spring	Perennial	3-8/8-1	24-36 in./ 12-18 in.	Flowers attract hummingbirds; foliage looks good all summer as long as soil is consistently moist
J	**Goatsbeard** *Aruncus dioicus*	13	White; spring	Perennial	4-9/9-1	3-6 ft./ 2-4 ft.	Fluffy white plumes fade to brown; prefers part shade but will tolerate more sun if soil is consistently moist
K	**Bald cypress** *Taxodium distichum*	1	NA	Tree	4-9/9-1	50-70 ft./ 20-40 ft.	Feathery green needles turn copper-orange before dropping in fall; tolerates wide range of soil from dry to standing water
L	**Serviceberry** *Amelanchier xgrandiflora* 'Autumn Brilliance'	5	White; spring	Tree	3-9/9-1	10-30 ft./ 10-25 ft.	Tolerates part-shade, understory setting; edible purple-black fruit attracts birds; orange-red fall leaf color is best in more sun
M	**Winterberry** *Ilex verticillata* 'Nana' (Red Sprite)	11	White; early to midsummer	Shrub	4-8/8-1	3-4 ft./ 3-4 ft.	Small winterberry is a good size for home gardens; needs 'Jim Dandy' nearby as a pollinator to produce glossy red fruit
N	**Little bluestem** *Schizachyrium scoparium*	35	Purple-bronze; late summer to fall	Grass	4-9/9-1	24-48 in./ 18-24 in.	Showy red-orange fall color; seedheads open to fuzzy white tufts in fall
O	**Purple coneflower** *Echinacea purpurea* 'Magnus'	23	Magenta-purple; mid- to late summer	Perennial	3-8/8-1	3 ft./ 3 ft.	Leave dark-brown "cones" at center of flowers standing for winter interest and to attract feeding birds
P	**False indigo** *Baptisia australis*	5	Blue; late spring to early summer	Perennial	3-9/9-1	3-4 ft./ 3-4 ft.	Attractive blue-green foliage; spring flowers are followed by dark brown or black seed pods that are ornamental in fall and winter
Q	**Upright juniper** *Juniperus scopulorum* 'Wichita Blue'	3	NA	Evergreen tree	5-9/9-1	12-15 ft./ 4-7 ft.	Upright shape stays narrow with little or no pruning; gray-blue foliage attractive year-round; prefers well-drained soil
R	**Yellow coneflower** *Ratibida pinnata*	37	Yellow; mid- to late summer	Perennial	3-8/8-1	36-60 in./ 18-24 in.	Long bloom period of up to two months; yellow petals droop downward; plant in masses to prevent flopping
S	**Winterberry** *Ilex verticillata* 'Jim Dandy'	1	White; early to midsummer	Shrub	4-8/8-1	3-6 ft./ 4-8 ft.	Glossy green leaves turn dull purple before dropping in winter; male, can pollinate 9 to 10 female winterberries nearby
T	**Bittersweet** *Celastrus scandens* First Editions™ Autumn Revolution™ ('Bailumn')	3	Inconspicuous; midsummer	Vine	2-8/8-1	15-20 ft./ spreading	Large showy orange fall fruit; doesn't need another plant to pollinate; not invasive like Oriental bittersweet
U	**Crabapple** *Malus xmoerlandsii* 'Profusion'	2	Pink; spring	Tree	4-8/8-1	15-20 ft./ 8-10 ft.	Upright, vaselike shape; dusty-pink flowers are followed by dark-red fruit in late summer and fall

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