

Green Belmont Garden Tour

Welcome to the Green Belmont Garden Tour, including an assortment of ten organic and sustainable gardens that may inspire you to create an environmentally friendly, attractive and productive outdoor space of your own. These gardens all make excellent use of the available space, whether big or small.

What do we mean by “organic?” Organic landscapes do not use toxic pesticides and herbicides and instead focus on building nutritious soils which support strong, healthy plants and conserve water and other resources. The goal is to create a healthy environment for homeowners, children, pets and wildlife, especially birds and butterflies as well as our most important pollinators, bees.

On the tour, you will see many types of gardens, some focusing mainly on vegetables, others on ornamental plants, and many containing both. Most have sun and shade. You will also see rain barrels, compost bins, solar panels, chicken coops and beehives.

Please ask your garden host questions about anything you are curious about. We hope you have a good time and take away some ideas you can use on your own property.

About Sustainable Belmont

Sustainable Belmont is a task force of the Vision 21 Implementation Committee of the Town of Belmont, Mass. Its mandate is to “develop and implement a variety of activities and initiatives to assist Belmont’s government, residents, and businesses in becoming a more environmentally responsible community.” It hosts a speaker series, addressing a variety of environmental issues, and organizes activities for Belmont residents interested in sustainable living.

Sustainable Belmont meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Belmont Memorial Library, 336 Concord Ave., Belmont. Membership is open to all. Contact us at sustainablebelmont@gmail.com to join and learn how you can become involved! If you would like to learn more about Sustainable Belmont:
www.sustainablebelmont.net

Sustainable Belmont is a member of the Massachusetts Climate Action Network (MCAN). More information at: www.massclimateaction.org

Thank you to all of those who generously shared their gardens and sustainable practices with us today. The tour couldn’t have happened without you.



**Sustainable
Belmont Present**

Green Belmont Garden Tour



**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2011
11 AM – 3 PM
RAIN OR SHINE**

Open to the Public Free

1. Rock Meadow Belmont Victory Community Gardens, Kathy Martin, Coordinator

Here you will find a patchwork of growing styles and a celebration of community connections and local growing. The gardens stretch over nearly two acres in the southeast corner of Rock Meadow and are one of the largest community gardens in the Boston metropolitan area. Nearly 150 plots are actively gardened and managed by the Belmont Conservation Commission. We grow vegetables, flowers and herbs for ourselves and our families. <http://bo.st/rpUfr7>

2. Mass Audubon's Habitat Center and Wildlife Sanctuary - 10 Juniper Road*

In addition to the herb and butterfly gardens and community garden plots that are the focus of the today's tour, Habitat is a ninety-acre oasis of woodlands and meadows. A forty-panel solar array was recently installed which supplies a significant proportion of Habitat's electrical use.

**Please visit this location from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. only because of a private reception that afternoon.*

3. Martha Cohen and Marc Wolman - 17 Woodland Road

In a yard once covered with weeds and broken glass, we now enjoy raspberries, blueberries, herbs, flowers, vegetables, and recently a vegetable garden on the sunniest spot: the front yard. Many herbs and vegetables are self-seeded, resulting in healthier plants and reducing the need for buying seeds or seedlings. We use seaweed as mulch, compost everything (except meat products), and tap our trees for maple syrup. New projects include using a no-till planting method and working on ways to extend our harvest into the fall and even winter months.

4. Lou & Anne Graham - 254 Waverley Street

A variety of vegetables are grown in a combination of raised beds, earth boxes and grade level gardens for salads and soups. Each year their 5,445 square foot (.125 acre) yard is a new experiment. They use two water barrels to collect rainwater from their downspouts and have a pulley system clothes line.

5. Peggy Kornegger - 30 Gilbert Road

I moved to Belmont four years ago. I am a renter, but our landlord gave me free rein to do whatever I

wanted with the yard. My initial idea was to create an organic garden where birds, bees, and butterflies would come, so I planted things that would attract them. Each spring, I add new plantings, recently focusing on native plants. Gradually, a mini-habitat is growing, and the yard is filled with life of all kinds. (See article "Gardening for Life") <http://bit.ly/oJUOK6>

6. Chadine Ford - 20 Carleton Circle

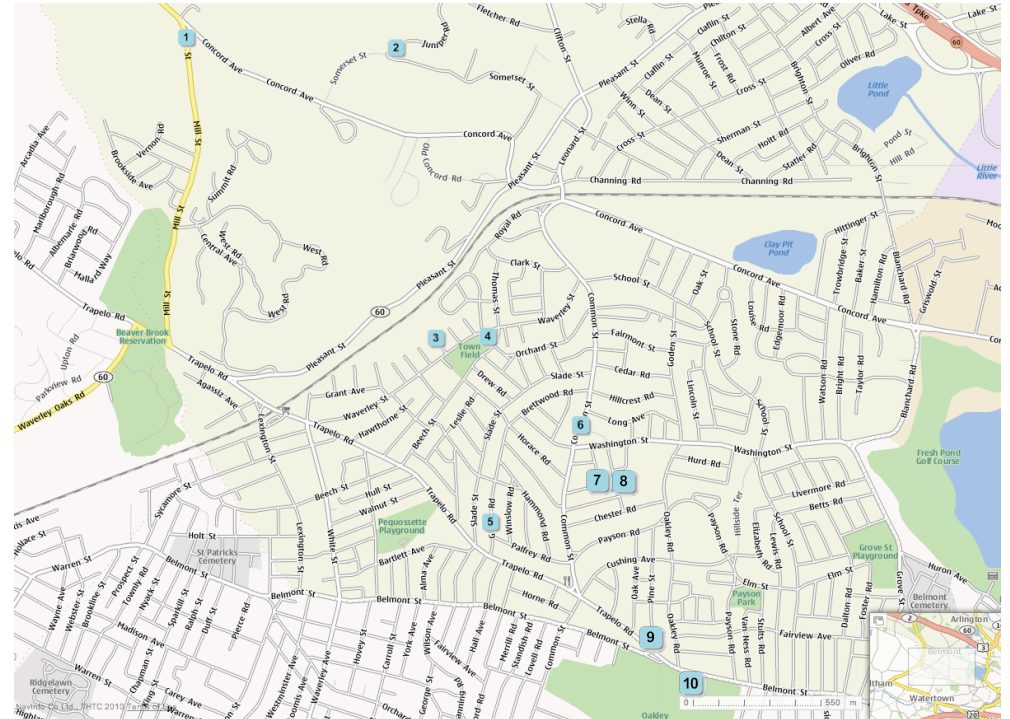
A peaceful garden ringed by cherry trees and hemlocks. The garden features azaleas, rhododendrons, rose of Sharon, clematis, roses, black-eyed Susans and is sprinkled with the seasonal color, both in the ground and in containers filled with New Guinea impatiens, lantana, geranium and morning glory.

7. Janice and Larry Frishkopf - 57 Raleigh Road

The garden naturally divides into two distinct areas: a very shady backyard and a sunny front cottage garden. In the front, all the grass was dug out about fifteen years ago and replaced with shrubs, perennials and herbs. The garden is a work in progress, and we are now incorporating more native plants such as coneflower, black-eyed Susan, white woodland aster and oakleaf and smooth hydrangeas.

8. Diana Dill - 56 Raleigh Road

The front garden is a room that's peaceful and serene with a path that leads to vegetable garden on the side and through the arbor you will find an area for dinner and play. Clean topsoil and compost were the remedy for nutrient depletion and lead contamination of the soil. I use organic fertilizers and choose plants that are well-adapted to our growing conditions. This yard is full of life all year round as a result of using no chemicals. Many species of birds, lots of butterflies and bees and even baby rabbits enjoy the garden. I can lie in my hammock and watch robins hunting worms and



woodpeckers hunting larvae in the dogwood, and feel confident I am not interfering with their life cycles.

9. Karsten Kueppenbender and Siobhan O'Neill and host Sherry Shaw - 4 Pine Street

We started our garden in the spring of 2009. We never gardened before in our lives! But with such a huge yard, it seemed like a brilliant idea. We love to cook, and we are finding the garden a natural extension of our commitment to quality food. Karsten and Kiril leveled the yard and built the small retaining wall. The chief gardeners (Kiril 7 and Etienne 4) usually decide what to plant. It's been different each year - we view it all as an experiment (and it sure helps not to be too disappointed with the failures!) Each year we have enlarged our planting area as there are so many seeds to try! Karsten does the heavy lifting, and Siobhan is the manager. The newest addition to the garden staff, Ronan (1) who is the chief strawberry harvester.

10. John Miley - 385 Belmont Street

This garden features a complete organic habitat with bee hives, a moveable chicken coop, espaliered fruit trees and crop rotation to ensure healthy vegetables. A perennial bed graces the front of the property.