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Initial Garden Consultation – Notes & Recommendations

Client: Anna Banana

Date: 2/31/2023 – 4–5:30pm

Address: 1234 56th St NE, Seattle, WA 99999

SAMPLE

Overall Needs &

- Create a small vegetable garden along large empty slope from house to saun.
- Create pruned garden for neighbors, with wildlife and people sanctuary.
- Create a well-kept path from street to main house, featuring PNW native and medicinal plants.
- Site a small vegetable garden.
- Begin exploring how to restore the forest for long-term vitality. Also, as a future retreat/sanctuary for human visitors.



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garden mix called Garden Blenz Soil (organic) that you could sub for Cedar Grove. Your first year, just use a boxed vegetable fertilizer mix like Dr. Earth or Down to Earth. In future years, you can test.

- c. Irrigation: The first year you might choose to hook up a rudimentary system with a series of garden hoses leading to your site, attached to an oscillating sprinkler on a pedestal so that all beds get water. You also might choose to hire a landscaper or irrigation specialist to install a trenched line from the house to the site—fitted with a spigot or piped to each individual bed for an automatic drip irrigation system. If you choose, having an automatic timer system in place will help both.

- Materials: With irrigation supplies, you'll need a timer. Most drip irrigation suppliers use polyethylene rather than PVC. If you work with an irrigation specialist, they'll know what to keep in mind. If you use plastics, you'll need to use UV-stabilized plastics. See this guide from RainTree.
- Timers: To learn more about irrigation timers, see this guide from RainTree.
- How Much: To learn more about how much water to use, see this guide from RainTree.

3. **Begin to Plant**: In the late fall or early spring, begin to plant perennials and shrubs, shrubs and trees in the late fall to early spring. See Paul Tilth's Maritime NW Garden Guide.
 - a. **Planting**: Sow wildflower seeds or plant annual flowers in the late fall or early spring to bring in beauty before you build.
 - b. **Eaves**: Install gutters from under the eaves so they get rainwater.
4. **Mulch**: Mulch existing beds & new plantings with a couple inches of arborist chips or similar. Leave a collar of a few inches mulch-free at the base of woody plants to minimize rot and disease.
5. **Pathways**: Consider keeping the clover + grass or mulching the whole area (including firepit) with wood chips, crushed gravel or similar.
6. **Deer-proof**: Consider how you might keep deer out of your raised vegetable garden without a deer fence. A temporary deer fence is always possible—with T-posts and mesh black deer fencing. It's also possible to construct a permanent wooden deer fence either just around the veggie area or the whole slope area (with gates... circumnavigating the road, house - west side, fire pit, forest edge and sauna driveway).





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- a. For more details about deer fences and excluding deer, I highly recommend the Department of Fish and Wildlife’s [Living with Deer factsheet](#) and especially the “Deer Excluding Conflicts” section.

Plant Recommendations:

West of house and above slope. Near fire pit. Emphasize native plants, deer resistant, and drought tolerant. Sanctuary.

Medicinals:

- Blue vervain
- Chamomile, Roman
- Hyssop
- Echinacea, purple
- Lavender, English
- Licorice
- Motherwort
- ... (cold-hardiness)
- R.
- Sage
- Spear
- Oregan
- Thyme
- Violet
- Wood betony
- Yarrow

Shrubs:

- Aronia
- Blueberry, highbush (*Vaccinium corymbosum* cultivars) - mix at least 2 for cross-pollination
- Currants
- Rose (a shrub rose or hybrid tea)

Fruit tree (optional: under kitchen window):

- Apple or Pear - choose a dwarf cultivar. *If you choose this, plant another variety elsewhere on the slope for cross-pollination.*
- Peach ‘Frost’



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- Persimmon - a cultivar from Burnt Ridge Nursery - *On their website it says they prune their persimmons to stay 8' tall and wide. It's possible if you learn! All varieties they sell are self-fertile and sterile "female" trees, so they don't need another tree to produce fruit.*

Other:

- Asparagus
- Artichoke
- Cardoon
- Rhubarb
- Strawberries
- Sunflower
- Wildflower mix, PNW

Slope Area: Below B:

Overall: In 2022?

necessary
and hire

SAMPLE

along the slope. Complete any
es, shrubs and perennials. Remove Doug Fir

What to Do.

1. **Remo** ... we talked about!
2. **Prune L** ... As discussed, to reduce width and keep outer branches from becoming too heavy. ... remove deadwood. Do it very safely—or hire a professional!
3. **Lay Out Beds & Paths:** Use sticks, rocks or string to delineate new paths and beds. Use the drawing as a reference. If possible, add a couple inches of compost over the new beds to build soil. Leave it as a sheet mulch. You can cover compost with mulch or plant directly into it.
4. **Install Paths:** Use a shovel as needed to create wide, even pathways across the slope. Construct stairs as needed along the main pathway. You may choose a path material like wood chips, crushed fine gravel, pea gravel or some combination.
 - A minimum of 3-4' wide will accommodate wheelbarrows, carts & wheelchairs.
 - Consider: Creating a meditation or ritual/altar area under the Big Leaf Maple.



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5. **Install Beds:** Use the drawing as a reference. If possible, add a couple inches of compost over the new beds to build soil. Leave it as a sheet mulch. Cover the compost with mulch or plant directly into it.

6. **Begin to Plant:** Per the drawing and recommendations below, begin to plant perennials and vegetables at your own pace. It is best to plant perennials in the late fall to early spring. I suggest breaking the area down into smaller sections (e.g., Upper Slope, Lower Slope, Snowberry circle, Big Leaf Maple hedgerow) and planting in sections to make it easier. You can even do one per year.

- Upper Slope: This is the area with the steepest slope. Focus here on medium-height shrubs, cane berries and small trees.
- Lower Slope: This is the area with the shallowest slope. Focus here on low-growing plants and groundcovers.
- Snowberry circle: This is the area with the snowberry/stump are currently present. Focus here on plants and pollinator plants.

7. **Irrigation:** You will need to water in new plants deeply at least 1-2x/week in the hottest part of the summer. You can use an oscillating sprinkler for shallow-rooted plants, but trees and shrubs will need deeper soaking. Products like Tree Gators are helpful for trees. You can also make them yourself out of 5 gallon buckets with holes in the bottom. You also might choose to hire a landscaper or irrigation specialist to install an automatic drip system, though the hope is eventually these plants will get established and won't need regular watering. Planting in fall or late winter will really help plants get established with minimal stress.

- How Much to Water: To establish new plants, see [this guide](#) from RainTree.

8. **Deer-proof:** Deer love to nibble on young trees and shrubs. Best to wrap them in a circular ring of tall wire fencing for their first few years. For details, again check the Department of Fish and Wildlife's [Living with Deer factsheet](#) in the "Preventing Conflicts" section.

9. **Mulch:** Mulch perennial beds & new plantings with a couple inches of arborist chips or similar. Leave a collar of a few inches mulch-free at the base of woody plants to minimize rot and disease.



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Plant Recommendations:

West of house and below slope. Emphasize edibles, medicinal herbs, pollinator, low-maintenance, water-smart and sanctuary feel. Each sub-section of the slope plants is delineated below.

Upper Slope:

Shrubs:

- Aronia
- Currant, any color
- Raspberry ‘Fall Gold’ or other - let them natural!

Groundcover:

- Creeping Raspberry (*Rubus hayata*-/)
- Kinnickinnick
- Lingonberry
- Oregon stonecrop
- Sedum ‘Angel’
- Strawberry
- Thyme
- Violet

Other:

- Asparagus
- Artichoke
- Cardoon

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Lower Slope:

Fruit tree (1-2 could fit here if dwarf-size or pruned yearly):

- Fig (*Ficus carica* ‘Olympic’ or other)
- Apple or Pear - choose a dwarf cultivar. *If you choose this, plant another variety elsewhere on the slope for cross-pollination.*
- Medlar
- Peach ‘Frost’
- Persimmon - a cultivar from Burnt Ridge Nursery - *On their website it says they prune their persimmons to stay 8’ tall and wide. It’s possible if you learn! All varieties they sell are self-fertile and sterile “female” trees, so they don’t need another tree to produce fruit.*



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Shrubs:

- Aronia
- Goji
- Goumi
- Serviceberry
- Rose (a shrub rose like *Rosa rugosa*) - best along edges or along south side

Medicinals:

- Angelica
- Blue vervain
- Comfrey
- Goldenrod
- Hyssop
- Echinacea, purple
- Elecampane
- Licorice
- Lemon balm
- Marshmallow
- Motherwort
- Mullein
- Red clover
- Rosemary ('Hill's Hardy' or 'Hill's Hardy' for cold-hardiness)
- Sage, garden
- Oregano
- Valerian
- Wood betony
- Yarrow

Groundcover:

- Creeping Raspberry (*Rubus hayata-koydzumii*)
- Kinnickinnick
- Lingonberry
- Oregon stonecrop
- Sedum 'Angelina'
- Strawberries (alpine, standard, native or other)
- Thyme, groundcover or culinary



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- Violets

Other:

- Black-eyed susan
- Lupine
- Rhubarb
- Strawberries
- Sedum 'Autumn Joy'

Snowberry Circle:

Shrub or fruit tree (1 could fit here if dwarf)

- Apple or Pear - choose a dwarf *where on the slope for cross-pollination.*
- Crampbark (shrub)
- Elderberry
- Persimmon *website it says they prune their persimmons to ones they sell are self-fertile and sterile "female" fruit.*
- Siberia *where on the slope for*

Medicinals:

- Angelica
- Comfrey
- Elecampane
- Lemon balm
- Peony
- Red clover
- Oregano
- Wood betony
- Yarrow

Groundcover:

- Creeping Raspberry (*Rubus hayata-koydzumii*)
- Lingonberry
- Oregon oxalis
- Oregon stonecrop
- Sedum 'Angelina'

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- Strawberries (alpine, standard, native or other)
- Thyme, groundcover or culinary
- Violets

Other:

- Lupine
- Snowberry

Big Leaf Maple Hedgerow:

Trees:

- Incense cedar (evergreen)
- Shore pine (evergreen)
- Strawberry tree (evergreen)

Shrubs:

- California Wax
- Huckleb
- Fl
-
-
-
- Sa
- Sno
- Thim

Medicinals:

- American ginseng
- Angelica
- Black cohosh
- Blue cohosh
- Goldenseal
- Chrysanthemum
- Lemon balm
- Peony
- Prunella
- Stinging nettle

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- Violet
- Yarrow

Groundcover:

- Creeping Raspberry (*Rubus hayata-koydzumii*)
- Oregon oxalis
- Oregon stonecrop
- Wild ginger

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Entrance: Driveway NE of H...

Overall: In 2022/23 season... Consider ways to make spiral more prominent... at bay.

What to L...

1. **Give**... rocks to the lines of your spiral, and lining the interior with... even groundcover plants to make it a more prominent welcome... to driveway corner (see drawing)
 - o Pl... ers: creeping thyme, baby's tears, brass buttons, irish moss, scotch moss... at, oregon oxalis
2. **Begin to Pla**... Per the drawing and recommendations below, begin to plant perennials, groundcovers and shrubs at your own pace. It is best to plant perennials, shrubs and trees in the late fall to early spring.
3. **Irrigation:** The first year you will need to water in new plants deeply at least 1-2x/week in the summer and dry periods. You can use an oscillating sprinkler for shallow-rooted plants, but shrubs will need a deeper soaking. Products like Tree Gators are helpful for trees. You can also make them yourself out of 5 gallon buckets with holes in the bottom. Planting in fall or late winter will really help plants get established with minimal stress.
 - How Much to Water: To establish new plants, see [this guide](#) from RainTree.



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4. **Deer-proof:** Deer love to nibble on young trees and shrubs. Best to wrap them in a circular ring of tall wire fencing for their first few years. For details, again check the Department of Fish and Wildlife's [Living with Deer factsheet](#) in the "Preventing Garden Loss" section.
5. **Mulch:** Mulch perennial beds & new plantings with 2-3" of organic mulch like cedar mulch or borist chips or similar. Leave a collar of a few inches mulch-free at the base of plants to minimize rot and disease.

Plant Recommendations:

Driveway NE of house. Emphasize berries

to create a sanctuary feel.

Shrubs:

- California Wax Myrtle
- Huckleberry
- Elderberry
- C
- C
- R
- Sala
- Snow
- Thimble

Medicinals:

- American ginseng
- Angelica
- Black cohosh
- Comfrey
- Chrysanthemum
- Lemon balm
- Prunella
- Stinging nettle
- Violet
- Wild ginger
- Yarrow

Grasses:

- Carex 'Ice Dance'
- Orange Sedge - *Carex testacea*
- ...or similar ornamental grass adapted to shade



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Groundcover:

- Creeping Raspberry (*Rubus hayata-koydzumii*)
- Oregon oxalis
- Oregon stonecrop
- Sedum ‘Angelina’
- Strawberries, beach
- Thyme, groundcover

Future Forest Restoration

Until you are ready to start on a more in-depth plan:

- Regularly cut back Himalayan arbutus. This will make it easier to maintain.
- Keep removing Himalayan arbutus from the garden.
- Maintain the garden as a forest garden.

maintained:

regularly get to this area,

dig into small wildlife piles.

Eventual. Consider planting next to it but

agroforestry and climate resilience. You may also and the outer perimeter of the septic field (not directly

Some resources, meanwhile:

- **Coppicing**: Learn more [here](#) and [here](#).
- **Medicinals**: Learn more [here](#) about growing medicinals in forests.
- **Mushroom culture**: Learn more [here](#) and [here](#).



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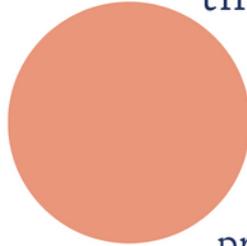
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Inspiration for Anna:



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Land Connection Practice Ideas:

- Hold a grief ritual for the land.
- Experiment with telling the land what you're going to do before you do it. Pause long enough to notice if you hear any feedback before you do you notice this response in your body, if anything?
 - If you sense a “no,” ask the land what it needs.
 - If another suggestion comes up, ask if it's helpful.

Other Recommendations:

- Mulch source: consider local sources like a tree service or nursery. You can specify “no stumps” and “no herbicides” if you have arborist friends.
- Planting: consider local nurseries or seed companies – to support you in ideas for creating outdoor spaces.
- Books: *The Garden Guide* by Seattle Tilth - as I mentioned above, this is my favorite resource for you what to plant when. the centerfold seed calendar is top-notch!

Possible Future Sessions:

- Follow-up to complete design of a specific section of the yard.
- Follow-up to place plants in the landscape (in-person).
- Seasonal sessions: what to do in the spring, summer, fall, winter garden.
- Land connection practices and coaching.



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Thank you for choosing my services! I look forward to working with you in the seasons to come.

Greenly,

Katie Vincent (they/she)
Founder, Garden Coach
Tending Alive LLC
cell: 206-234-6212
email: katie@tendingalive.com
www.tendingalive.com

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