



Henderson County Master Gardeners Weekly News Article March 05, 2018

Spring Garden Pictures Come to Life

by Lydia Holley

One design trick to try in your garden is putting a combination of flowering plants together to form living arrangements. For instance, in my garden, I have several of these small compositions placed throughout the garden.

For spring, a combination of hellebores flowering alongside violets, emerging hostas and ferns, back by the golden hues of variegated liriop form one such snapshot. A late blooming camellia with extra-early blooming irises and dots of muscari proudly proclaim a red, white and blue theme. Red flowering quince (Chaenomeles), yellow daffodils, creeping phlox (Phlox subulata), and summer snowflake (Leucojum) form another arrangement worthy of spring's arrival.



If you have a flowering tree, do not waste this opportunity to add more blooms to the area underneath, making the picture complete. Some spring flowering trees include peach, pear, crabapple, tulip trees (Magnolia x soulangeana), redbud, and flowering dogwoods. Other plants you may want to use to form a spring vignette could include forsythia, crossvine (Bignonia capreolata), or Carolina jessamine (Gelsemium sempervirens).

When summer arrives, take another look around your garden to make certain you continue to have seasonal compositions. As you tour your garden, make a note of which plants bloom at the same time. If you can, transplant or divide these plants so they can be placed together, forming a stronger statement than if separated.

During the year, if you will make an effort to place floral compositions throughout your garden, you will have something beautiful to behold, picture-perfect photographs, and a snapshot of that particular season's delights. Even if you can only have one small area of your garden in bloom during certain periods of the year, try to make that area an abundant wealth of blooms worthy of an artist's watercolor painting.

For more information, call 903-675-6130, email hendersonCMGA@gmail.com or visit www.henderson-co-tx-mg.org.