

# GCFM NATIVE PLANT CHALLENGE

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## Native Garden Honors our Veterans

**The Garden Club of Norfolk** created a low-maintenance native plant garden thanks to funding received from the GCFM's Civic Development Grant and donations from local organizations and citizens.

The club received advice from consultants Amanda Sloan and Betty Sanders, and help from the Norfolk DPW with the placement of 40 boulders.

A formal dedication of the garden was held in September to honor our



Twenty-two native perennials, grasses and shrubs were planted including *Rudbeckia hirta* 'Indian Summer', *Achillea millefolium* 'Strawberry Seduction', *Panicum*

military men and women  
who served our country.

*virgatum* 'Shenandoah', *Agastache* 'Blue Fortune' and  
*Asclepias tuberosa* .

[Visit our CGFM Website](#)

## TRY EXPERIMENTING WITH NATIVE GROUND COVERS



### Massachusetts Kinnikinnick (Bearberry)

A very cold-hardy Northeastern native groundcover with clusters of pale pink 2-inch bell-shaped flowers followed by red berries which persist into winter. Autumn foliage is tinged red-gold. Ideal for rock gardens or water conscious landscapes.

- Evergreen.



### Waldsteinia

Waldsteinia are ornamental, strawberry-like plants that form a dense, weed-smothering carpet. Shiny leaves with yellow buttercup flowers. Easy to maintain and adapts to most soil types. Fruit is not edible.

- Evergreen
- Groundcovers
- Seaside/Salt Tolerant
- Shade Tolerant



- Hardy to -50°F
- Maximum Elevation: 10,000 ft.

- Foot Traffic Tolerant

## GARDENING IN THE SHADE

One of the frustrations I often hear is I have too much shade. This is a great piece on the importance of shade for the planet.

You all may know this organization but I just discovered their wonderful list of plants for the shade. Natives of course. And some wonderful instructions for what to do with leaf litter: Leave it!

[IN THE SHADE: Gardening with Native Plants from the Woodland Understory](#)

Ellen Schoenfeld-Beeks

### CAN YOU SPOT THE NATIVE?



Here's what happens when you leave the echinacea seed heads up all winter. One plant turns into this!

## The Benefits of Ecological Horticulture Plant List

Uli Lorimer , Director of Horticulture  
Native Plant Trust, 180 Hemenway Road. Framingham, MA

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### CAPE COD LAWN



Cathy Weston transformed her lawn from the traditional green carpet "American Lawn" to an organic lawn and with less water, and finally to what is called a "Cape Cod Lawn" – no treatments and no watering. Read her [blog](#) which tells this story and identifies what grows in the shady and sunny areas of her lawn.

Cathy volunteers with the horticulture staff at the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy and holds a Certificate in Native Plant Horticulture and Design from

the NE Wild Flower Society.

*Photo was taken by Cathy Weston of her side yard covered with micro-clover, which bloomed in large patches mid-summer.*

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*Don't forget to visit the GCFM website often. You can find other NPC resources, as well as interesting events, webinars, GCFM programs, Schools, Workshops, Flower Shows and Awards.*

Visit our GCFM Website