



# A landscape where less is more?

Yes, it's possible.



## The Lawn may be running your life

- Mowing - your hours or money
- Chemicals to keep the weeds from invading
- Water to maintain lushness
- Equipment maintenance for any of the above



## Negative outcomes from manicured lawns

- Chemicals in waterways
- Overuse of water resources
- Negative soil health, impacting nature all around
- Insects, surrounding shrubs, birds



## What grass to keep?

**Zoysia** - requires fewest chemicals and water. Costs more up front, less down the road

**Fescue** - better in shady areas (still requires minimum 4 hours sun)

**Bermuda** - stands up to most traffic/use, requires most maintenance



## Alternatives to the big three

Ground covers that are evergreen or semi-evergreen

Standards: Liriope/Pachysandra/Mondo

OR

Native s: Green n Gold, Fern, Short Grasses, low growing Perennials



## Making room for nature

Changing small sections of your yard will lead to positive results.

- Reduce the negative impact of chemicals
- Save water
- Restore soil health
- Support pollinators and birds



## How to start

- Lay down cardboard or several layers of Newspaper, overlapped well
- Wet it thoroughly
- Add 4-6” of woodchips
- Wait 4-6 months



## Plant Natives!

*Support wildlife from the insects to the birds with attractive plants like these!*

TREES - Oaks, the most important species-supporting tree in North America, Sweetgum, Sourwood, Sassafras, Dogwood, Redbud, Buckeye, Chionanthus, American Holly

SHRUB - Ilex verticillata, Viburnums, Oakleaf Hudrangea, Rhododendrum, Clethra, Blueberry

PERENNIALS - Coneflower, Blazing Star, Cardinal Flower, Butterfly Weed

GRASSES, FERN and EPHEMERALS



## Additional Resources

<https://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds>

<https://gnps.org/education/educational-materials-2/>

Recommended reading - A Living Landscape, Doug Tallamy & Rick Darke



# Thank you!

I appreciate the opportunity to share my knowledge of plants.

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