

Volunteer

Professional

Volunteer + Professional



Four Seasons

Image Source: Sandstein, "Aster novae-angliae 'Barr's Pink.'" 21 August 2010 via Wikimedia, CC BY-NC-SA 3.0.





The Four Seasons lot design provides four small, interchangeable landscapes ('season circles'), each reflecting one season: spring, summer, fall, and winter.

This choose-your-own-adventure style design allows you to build one or more season circles on your lot, depending upon your preference.

Each Four Season circle features an ornamental tree or shrub, crowned by a stormwater feature — a colorful, planted rain garden filled with perennials and shrubs.

This design can accommodate stormwater runoff from adjacent properties and allow water to infiltrate back into the soil within about three days.

For more information refer to [DFC-lots.com](https://dfc-lots.com)

What is the lot design likely to cost?

The estimated cost of the Four Seasons is high (\$2,500 – \$5,500) and based on 1.5 inch diameter trees, potted plants, and utilizing volunteer labor. To save money, you can buy smaller trees or pots. Residents can also select only one or two Four Season’s gardens or phase rain gardens over a few planting seasons. The cost assumes that residents or volunteers have access to basic safety gear and garden tools.

How much upkeep will this lot design require?

This lot design requires a medium level of maintenance to thrive. Maintenance will include weeding and watering the newly planted rain garden, particularly during the first two growing seasons while the plants establish themselves. Be careful not to let your rain garden dry out or to be overrun by weeds.

Will the installation of this lot design require a professional?

The installation of this lot design should not require professional assistance if you, with the help and support of friends, family or neighbors would like to construct this lot design. Please refer to the Step-By-Step section for guidance. If you do not have the required support or feel unable to tackle this lot design, please seek professional assistance.

How long will it take to install this lot design?

While people tackle projects in different ways and at different speeds, the Field Guide estimates installation time of this lot design to be one to two full weekends, depending on the number of volunteers and commitment to earth moving. The Field Guide recommends the help of at least 12 healthy adults or youth (3 people per rain garden) to construct this lot design. The Field Guide assumes that the lot is ‘construction ready,’ and all equipment and materials required for the lot design have been acquired and are ready to use.

Cost	\$50 - 1,000	\$1,000 - 2,500	\$2,500 - 5,500	\$5,500 +
People	Volunteer		Professional	Volunteer + Professional
Experience	Beginner	Intermediate		Advanced
Upkeep	Low	Medium		High
Stormwater	Good	Better	Best	
Location	Residential Lot or Corner Lot in Full Sun or Part Sun			

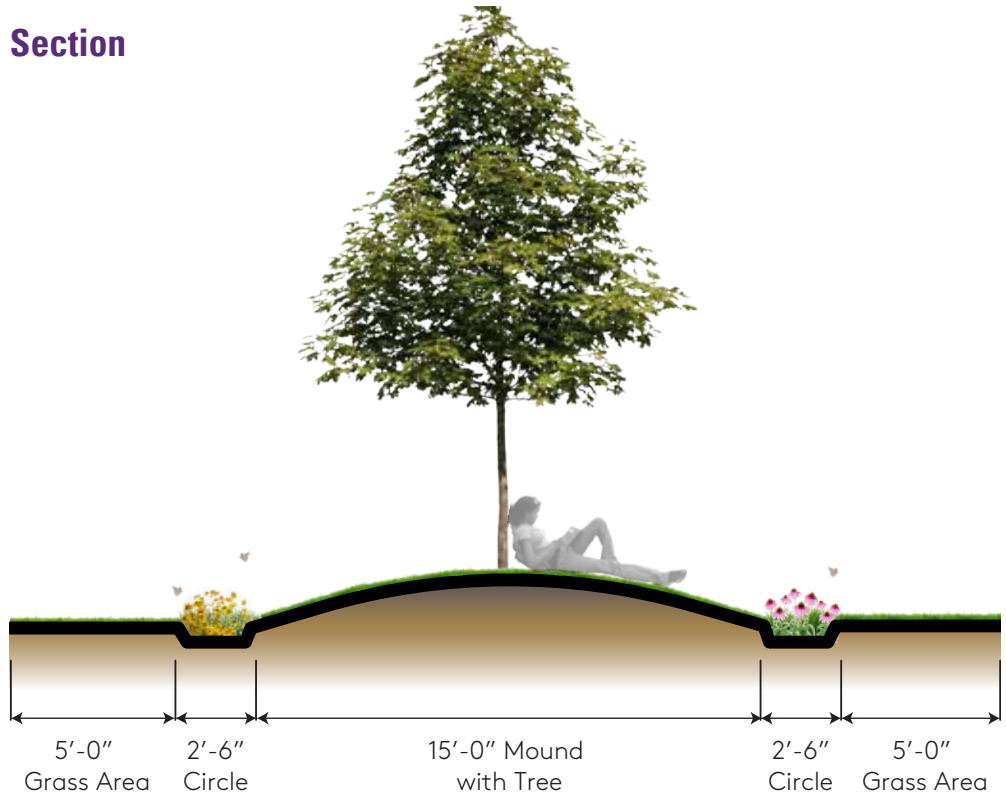
Four Seasons

Example of Season Circle

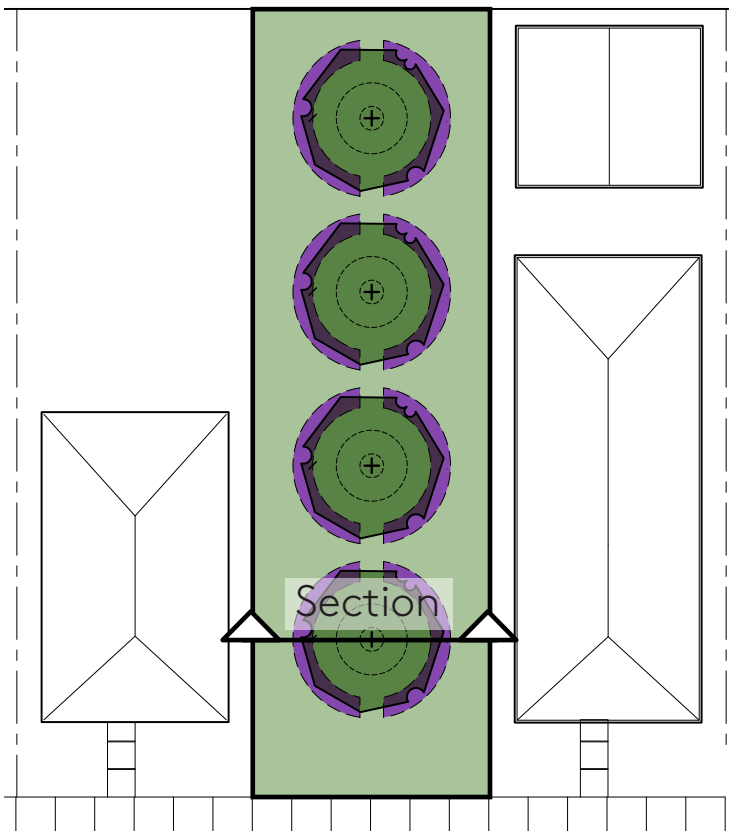


1 - Tree and Planting

Section



Where Do I Grow?



The Four Seasons is best on a single lot and can be utilized by one or two neighboring properties. Position the design close to houses, garages or another rain water catchment area so the rain garden can collect stormwater runoff.




-  Season Circle
-  Trees
-  Grass or Optional Groundcover

Image Source: 1) Polyphemus_polly, "cypress tree & knees." 26 June 2007 via Flickr CC BY-NC 2.0.

Before You Start

'Construction Ready'

This lot design assumes that you have prepared the lot to a 'construction ready' state.

'Construction Ready' refers to a lot that is clean and clear of trash, hazardous objects, unwanted trees, brush and vegetation, fences, and other unwanted structures.

It may be necessary to remove grass in preparation for your lot design. Refer to the Remove Your Grass box located on the right hand side of this page for more information.

Is there an available water source near your lot? Consider how and where you will access water during and after construction to ensure that your plants can establish.

If your lot is not ready for construction, refer to the [Clean + Green](#) lot design.

You can find the lot design at DFC-lots.com.

Call Before You Dig

Locate underground utilities before beginning your lot design. MISS DIG provides a free service to Michigan residents by locating and marking utilities on requested properties. Call (800) 482-7171 or 811 at least three days before you plan to start digging on your lot.

Test Your Soil

Harmful pollutants have made their way into many urban soils. To proceed with awareness, consider having your soil tested before construction. Two great options are available:

Soil testing is free to members of Keep Growing Detroit's Garden Resource Program. Call (313) 757-2635 for more information or visit detroitagriculture.net.

If you are not yet a member, you can work directly with Michigan State University's (MSU) Extension Program. They have a Home Lawn and Garden Soil Test Mailer for \$25. For more information call (888) 678-3464 or visit msusoiltest.com.

If you are concerned about the presence of lead or other contaminants in your soil, call the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services at (866) 691-5323 or (800) 424-LEAD.

Remove Your Grass

Need to remove grass in areas where you are constructing your lot design?

There are many ways to remove unwanted grass. The first is to remove the grass and its root system by digging up the grass. Another option is to cover your lot with cardboard or a plastic tarp to smother your grass in darkness. It will take several weeks, but after being covered, the dead grass will be easier to remove.

Till Safely

Before you till, inspect your lot for signs of buried concrete or rubble that was not removed during the cleanup stage. Large debris can ruin tiller blades.

When tilling, wear appropriate safety gear, such as covered boots with socks, long pants, safety glasses, dust mask, and ear protection. Make sure you understand the safe operating procedures of your tiller. Refer to the user's manual.

What You Need: Shopping List

Shopping List

The shopping list provides a breakdown of potential materials, tools, and resources required to construct this lot design.

This shopping list is designed for a single lot (30 by 100 feet).

Tools + Resources

Suggested Tools

- **Marking Paint, Spirit Level, Tape Measure, String and Stake**
- **Safety Gear:** Gloves, heavy work boots, tall socks, pants, long sleeve shirts, dust masks, protective eye wear, ear plugs, and hard hats (if using heavy machinery)
- **Garden Tools:** Spades, shovels, rakes, trash bags, and wheelbarrows
- **Hacksaw and Screwdriver**
- **Ball Cart**, for moving heavy trees

Potential Water Sources

- **Garden Hose with potential extension hose**
- **Sprinkler**
- **Rain Barrel in addition to other water source**
- **Downspout Disconnect (shown in lot design)**

Field Guide Resources

Resources are available on the Field Guide's web site.

- **Clean + Green**
- **Perennials + Grasses Planting Detail**
- **Tree Planting Detail**
- **Bulb Planting Detail**

Remaining Lot (Optional)

Groundcover

- **Low-Maintenance Fescue Mix**, 12 to 13 pounds of seed
- **Germination Blanket**, 3 rolls (8 by 112.5 feet)

Materials List

Materials

- **Rain Garden Planting Soil**, 4.5 cubic yards (50% sand, 25% topsoil, and 25% compost or leaf litter)
- **Mulch and Wood Chips**, 4.5 cubic yards
- **Downspout Disconnect:** Standpipe cap, downspout elbow, downspout connection pipe, rubber cap, and hose clamp

Planting Option 1: Spring

- **Black-Eyed Susan**, 6 pots
- **Canada Anemone**, 7 pots
- **Blue Flag Iris**, 7 pots or bulbs
- **Magnolia**, 1 pot, or balled and burlapped
- **Mixed Daffodils**, 125 bulbs
- **Mixed Crocuses**, 250 bulbs
- **Mixed Tulips**, 125 bulbs

Planting Option 2: Summer

- **Bee Balm**, 6 pots
- **Prairie Blazing Star**, 7 pots
- **Swamp Milkweed**, 7 pots
- **Pagoda Dogwood**, 1 pot
- **Mojito Mint**, 50 pots
- **Red Creeping Thyme**, 50 pots
- **Oregano**, 50 pots
- **Giant Onion**, 50 bulbs

Planting Option 3: Fall

- **New England Aster**, 5 pots
- **Switch Grass**, 5 pots
- **Giant Hyssop**, 5 pots
- **Katsura Tree**, 1 pot, or balled and burlapped
- **Butterfly Weed**, 5 pots
- **Autumn Crocuses**, 100 bulbs
- **Periwinkle**, 75 pots

Planting Option 4: Winter

- **Arctic Fire Red Twig Dogwood**, 2 pots
- **Berry Poppins Winterberry**, 3 pots
- **Mr Poppins Winterberry**, 3 pots
- **Brun's Serbians Spruce**, 1 pot, or balled and burlapped
- **European Cranberry Viburnum**, 2 pots
- **Snowdrops**, 100 bulbs
- **Mixed Lenten Roses**, 50 bulbs

Four Seasons Step-By-Step

Let's Start

Want to create the Four Seasons but don't want to hire a professional? Here are a few guiding principles to help you construct your lot design.

- Check off tasks as you go along.

Lot Design Steps

Volunteer:

- Prepare Your Lot
- Disconnect Your Downspout
- Dig Rain Gardens + Mounds
- Plant Trees
- Plant Perennials + Bulbs
- Maintain Your Lot Design
- Sow Remaining Lot

Make a Circle

Place a stake at the desired location for each center or proposed tree location. Tie a string 10 feet long to the stake. Walk in a circle using the string to create an even-radius circle in the landscape. As you walk in the circle, mark your path on the ground. You can use these markings to help locate the edge of your rain garden.

Prepare Your Lot

Select the best location for your Four Season rain gardens. Gardens should be ten feet from any house foundation and at least five from the sidewalk. We recommend aligning your planting beds with the front setback of adjacent houses - this will help strengthen the identity and character of your block. **This lot design offers four small rain gardens that can be constructed all at once or individually.**

A rain garden only works if water is directed into it. **The Field Guide recommends constructing your rain garden near downspouts from roofs of houses or garages or near other hard surfaces such as driveways or patios. Ensure water flows from these surfaces into your rain garden.**

Once you find the area you wish to direct into your rain garden, calculate the minimum size of your rain garden. Your rain garden should be one square foot for every ten square feet of stormwater area directed into your rain garden. **Each Four Seasons garden is approximately 122 square feet and can handle stormwater from 1,220 square feet of hard surface area.** Installation of all four rain gardens is ideal for two homeowners who are interested in sharing a side lot. The Field Guide recommends adjusting the design to meet your stormwater needs.

After the number of rain gardens has been determined, use marking paint and tape measure to map out the size, shape, and dimensions of your design. **Each Four Seasons circular garden is approximately 10 feet in diameter surrounded by a rain garden 2.5 feet wide.**

Four Seasons Step-By-Step

○ Disconnect Your Downspout

One of the easiest ways to collect stormwater is by disconnecting your downspout and directing it into your rain garden.

Before you start, remember that disconnected downspouts should extend at least six feet from any house foundation and five feet from adjacent property or public sidewalk. Avoid disconnecting downspouts where they might discharge water across walkways, patios, or driveways or where they might be a tripping hazard. Do not disconnect directly over a septic system.

Follow these steps to help you redirect your roof water into your rain garden.

- Measure the existing downspout, and mark it approximately nine inches above sewer connection or standpipe.
- Cut with a hacksaw and remove cut piece.
- Plug or cap the sewer standpipe with a rubber cap secured by a hose clamp. Use screwdriver to tighten and secure cap.
- Attach elbow joint over the downspout.
- Add downspout extension to elbow joint. Extension should be length needed to carry water away from house and towards rain garden.
- Secure pieces with sheet metal screws at each joint.
- Use plastic or concrete splashblocks, rocks, flagstone, or boulders at the end of the downspout to control erosion of soil and plants in the rain garden from stormwater.

For more information, refer to the [DWSD's How to Disconnect a Downspout](#) document.

○ Dig Rain Gardens + Mounds

Once the area is ready for construction, dig the rain garden nine inches deep.

Use the soil removed from rain garden area and create a mound in center of rain garden, as shown on the lot design plan. The mound should slope evenly on all sides. **Ensure water is flowing into the rain gardens and not onto adjacent properties.**

Edges of rain garden should slope at steep rate, while the bottom of the rain garden should be flat. Mounds and rain gardens may settle over time, and it may be necessary to reshape them using a shovel.

If you are unable to direct water into the rain garden area, don't worry! The garden will still provide habitat to butterflies and aesthetic value without downspout disconnection or stormwater collection; however, the garden will require watering regularly.

After removing soil, check that the bottom of the rain garden is level. An easy way to check this is with a string level or a spirit level attached to a two-by-four board. A level bottom is important to maximize infiltration and minimize the chance of standing water in the rain garden.

After leveling the bottom, the soil should be prepared by scarifying, raking, or tilling the soil four to six inches to loosen any compaction.

Add three inches (4.5 cubic yards) of rain garden planting soil to your rain garden. Rain garden planting soil should consist of approximately 50% sand, 25% topsoil, and 25% compost or leaf litter. Mix together and place in rain garden.



Don't worry if you are unable to direct water into the rain garden area. The garden will still provide habitat to butterflies and aesthetic value as a seasonal garden.

Four Seasons Step-By-Step

○ Plant Trees

The Field Guide recommends planting 1.5 inch diameter trees; however, smaller or larger trees can be planted if preferred.

Trees can be purchased in pots or balled and burlapped. If you decide to plant larger trees, speak with a professional or an educational group as older trees can be more difficult to establish.

Plant trees as soon as possible after purchasing. If you cannot plant them the same day, do not leave unplanted trees in direct sunlight. Keep them in shade and well watered until you can plant them. (Trees dry out fast!)

Identify the location where you wish to plant the trees. Dig a hole three times the width of the root ball and equal to the depth.

Pots should be removed before placing the tree in the planting hole. Balled and Burlapped root balls should remain wrapped until placed in hole. Unwrap the top 1/3 of the root ball and peel back the burlap once planted. Remove any twine, nails, or stakes. The root flare should be level with the ground when you place the tree in the hole.

Water the root ball, then backfill the hole with the soil previously removed from planting. Add water to the tree every six inches as you backfill the hole. Compact the soil lightly after each watering until the hole is filled with soil and level with the adjacent ground.

The Field Guide recommends adding three foot diameter by three inch depth of wood chips or mulch around trees. Keep mulch or wood chips a few inches away from tree trunks.

For more guidance on tree planting refer to the [Tree Planting Detail](#).

○ Plant Perennials + Bulbs

Sunny to partly sunny plantings are recommended for Four Seasons. If your lot is in shade, seek alternative planting options.

Place plants and bulbs in the desired location, then remove plastic pots, loosen roots, and plant. Bulbs should be planted between perennials.

The Field Guide recommends adding three inches (4.5 cubic yard) of wood chips or mulch to all Four Season rain gardens. Adding wood chips or mulch will help suppress weeds.

For more guidance on planting perennials refer to the [Perennials + Grasses Planting Detail](#).

○ Maintain Your Lot Design

A rain garden requires care and maintenance to thrive. The Four Seasons are four manageable size rain gardens; however, watering and weeding plants is still required, especially during the first two years. Do not let your rain garden dry out in the first warm season.

Add mulch annually to help suppress weed growth.

Trees must be watered regularly during the first year. Water weekly or when needed. **We recommend connecting with an arborist or taking a workshop on tree health and maintenance.**

Gardens are a work in progress. Bulbs and perennials may need to be replaced to keep gardens dynamic and playful. Be creative and make it your own!

Four Seasons Step-By-Step



Visit the Resources page on the Field Guide's web site (DFC-lots.com) to discover other vendors and places to purchase plants.

Average Height of Plants



Trees, Shrubs, Perennials,
and Groundcovers

○ Sow Remaining Lot

If you are seeking a lower maintenance alternative to a traditional lawn, the Field Guide recommends a fescue seed mix. **If you follow the Four Seasons lot design you will need approximately 12 to 13 pounds of fescue seed mix for the remaining lot (2,500 square feet) and three 8 by 112.5 foot rolls of single net germination blankets.**

This family of floppy grasses is drought-resistant and requires one cutting (in August or September) per year. Fescue can be established in full sun to shade and should be seeded in spring (mid-March to mid-May) or fall (August to September).

Soil should be prepared for seeding by scarifying, raking or tilling the soil four to six inches deep to loosen any compaction, allowing for easier seed germination and better water infiltration. Apply seed mix to a damp lot.

Sow seed across the remaining lot by using a seed spreader or by hand. The Field Guide recommends a seed rate of five pounds per 1,000 square feet. Gently water seedlings daily until they are four to six inches in height. Placing a thin layer of straw or a germination blanket over seeded areas will help ensure that your seed establishes by keeping seeds from blowing away and protecting them from birds. Germination blankets or straw can be purchased at most nurseries and garden stores.

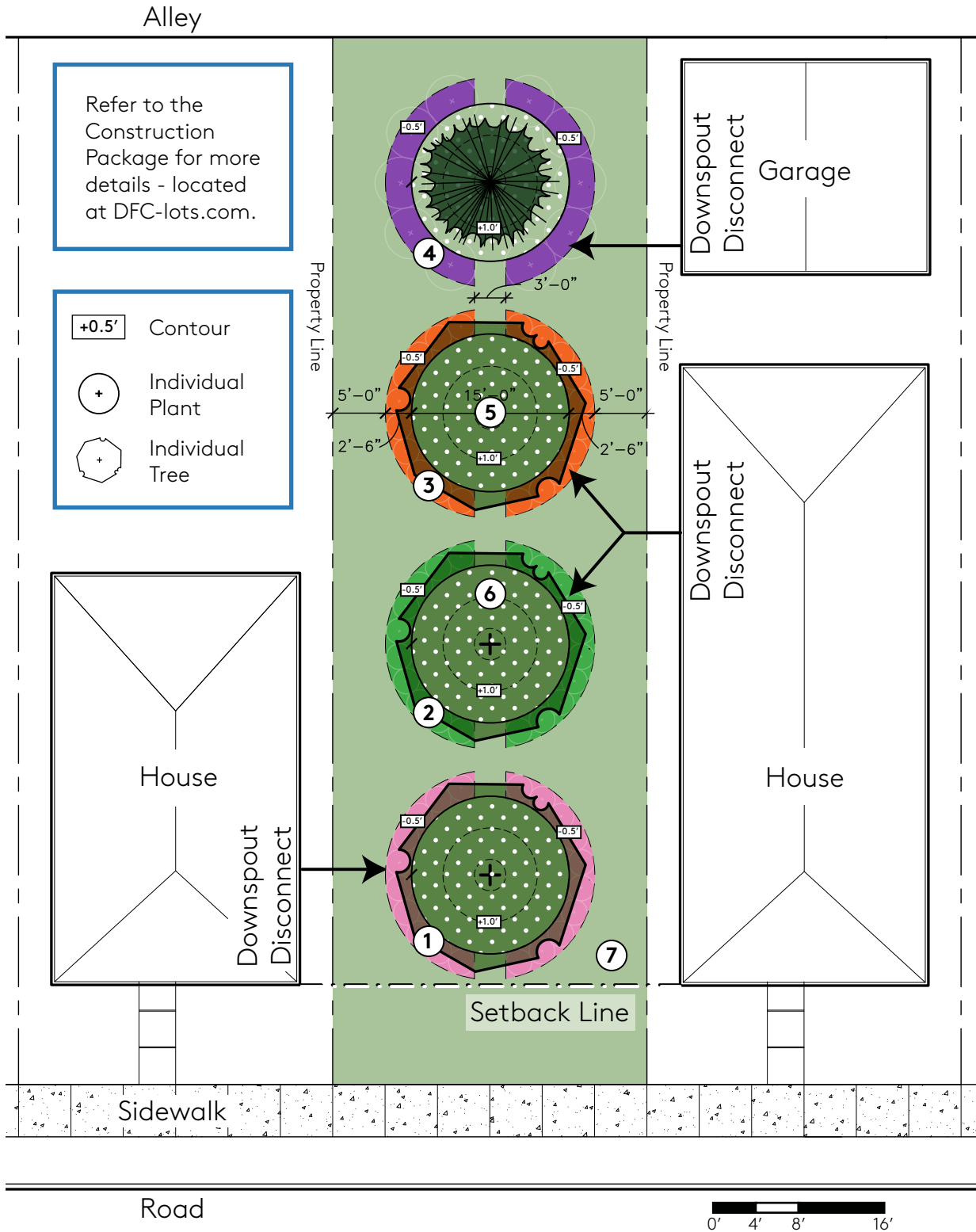
Once established, grass will not require supplemental watering except during unusually dry periods. Eco-Turf Low Maintenance Fescue Mix is one recommended seed mix and can be purchased through the Michigan Wildflower Farm.

Other Field Guide lot designs can be used as groundcovers. Check out the web site for additional options and ideas.

Next Level: If you would like to bring additional color to your grass, you can always plant bluebells, crocuses and/or daffodils to create a decorative show in spring. Bulbs should be planted in the fall.

For more guidance on bulb planting refer to the [Bulb Planting Detail](#).

Four Seasons Lot Design



- 1 Perennial Moat (Spring)
- 3 Perennial Moat (Fall)
- 5 Tree
- 7 Grass or Optional Groundcover
- 2 Perennial Moat (Summer)
- 4 Perennial Moat (Winter)
- 6 Seasonal Groundcover

Planting Option 1: Spring



Black-Eyed Susan¹
Rudbeckia hirta^{*}
 24" Height x 24" Width
 Blooms June - October
Quantity: 6 pots



Canada Anemone²
Anemone canadensis^{*}
 24" Height x 30" Width
 Blooms April - June
Quantity: 7 pots



Blue Flag Iris³
Iris virginica^{*}
 24" Height x 12" Width
 Blooms May - June
Quantity: 7 pots or bulbs



Ann Magnolia⁴
Magnolia 'Ann'
 10' Height x 10' Width
 Blooms mid-Spring
 Requires Moist Soil
Quantity: 1 pot or B & B



Mixed Daffodils⁵
Narcissus
 18" Height x 24" Width
 Blooms in spring
Quantity: 125 bulbs



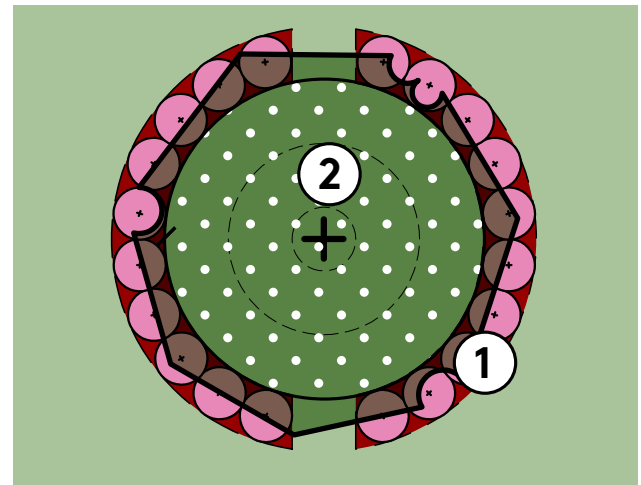
Mixed Crocuses⁶
Crocuses
 4" Height x 4" Width
 Blooms in spring
Quantity: 250 bulbs



Mixed Tulips⁷
 14" Height x 8" Width
 Blooms April - May
 Doesn't Like Wet Soil
Quantity: 125 bulbs

Key

- 1
Black-Eyed Susan, Canada Anemone & Blue Flag Iris (Space approximately two feet apart and mix evenly.)
- 2
Ann Magnolia, Mixed Daffodils, Mixed Crocuses & Mixed Tulips (Space bulbs approximately one foot apart and mix evenly.)



Plant Sizes



Pots: Plants can be purchased in one to five gallon pots. The size of pots can change based on availability. 1.5 inch diameter trees are available at commercial landscape supply stores in pots or balled and burlapped (B & B).



Bulbs: Bulbs are cheaper if purchased in bulk. You can find bulk bags at garden stores.

Image Source: 1) Parshotam Lal Tandon, "Rudbeckia hirta." 27 July 2013 via Flickr CC BY-NC-SA 2.0; 2) Kallerna, "Canada anemone (Anemone canadensis)." 2010 via Wikimedia CC BY-NC-SA 3.0; 3) Jenny Evans, "Blue Flag Iris." 28 December 2010 via Flickr CC BY-NC 2.0; 4) Joana Roja, "Magnolia Beauty." 24 March 2008 via Flickr CC BY-NC 2.0; 5) Plashing Vole, "Mixed daffodils 2." 8 April 2011 via Flickr, CC BY-NC-SA 2.0; 6) Rachelgreenbelt, "jdy072 bpl Crocus Mixed epl Blo." 13 March 2011 via Flickr, CC BY-NC-SA 2.0; 7) MookieLuv., "mixed rows of tulips" 18 April 2010 via Flickr, CC BY-NC SA 2.0

Planting Option 2: Summer



Bee Balm¹
Monarda fistulosa^{*}
 24" Height x 28" Width
 Blooms July - September
 Attractive to Butterflies
Quantity: 6 pots



Prairie Blazing Star²
Liatis spicata^{*}
 24" Height x 12" Width
 Blooms July - August
Quantity: 7 pots



Swamp Milkweed³
Asclepias incarnata^{*}
 48" Height x 24" Width
 Blooms July - August
 Attractive to Butterflies
Quantity: 7 pots



Pagoda Dogwood⁴
Cornus alternifolia
 15' Height x 20' Width
 Blooms April
Quantity: 1 pot



Mojito Mint⁵
Mentha x villosa 'Mojito'
 24" Height x 24" Width
 Invasive if Left Unchecked
Quantity: 50 pots



Red Creeping Thyme⁶
Thymus praecox 'coccineus'
 2" Height x 3" Width
 Blooms in June - July
Quantity: 50 pots



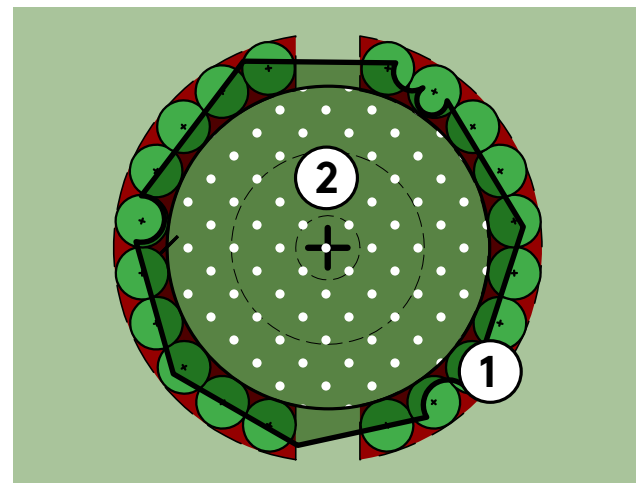
Oregano⁷
Origanum vulgare
 18" Height x 24" Width
Quantity: 50 pots



Giant Onion⁸
Allium giganteum
 12" Height x 12" Width
 Blooms in Summer
Quantity: 50 bulbs

Key

- 1
Bee Balm, Prairie Blazing Star & Swamp Milkweed (Space approximately two feet apart and mix evenly.)
- 2
Pagoda Tree, Mojito Mint, Red Creeping Thyme, Oregano & Giant Onion (Space groundcover appropriately one foot apart and mix evenly.)



Plant Sizes

- Pots:** Plants can be purchased in one to five gallon pots. The size of pots can change based on availability. Mint, Thyme and Oregano can be purchased in smaller, four inch pots.
- Bulbs:** Bulbs are cheaper if purchased in bulk. You can find bulk bags at garden stores.

Image Source: 1) Corey Seeman, "Bee Balm Flowers." 16 July 2013 via Flickr CC BY-NC-SA 2.0; 2) H. Zell, "Liatis_spicata_001.jpg." 16 July 2009 via Wikimedia CC BY-SA 3.0; 3) PDH, "Asclepias_incarinata.jpg." 03 February 2006 Public Domain; 4) Rob Routledge, "Cornus Alternifolia." 04 June 2012 via Wikimedia, CC BY 3.0; 5) Edsel Little, "Oberlin Summer - Mint." 29 May 2011 via Flickr CC BY-SA 2.0; 6) Marilylle Soveran, "Creeping thyme." 27 June 2015 via Flickr, CC BY-NC 2.0; 7) Rae Allen, "DSC01402 Oregano." 3 November 2004 via Flickr, CC BY-NC-SA 2.0; 8) Stefan 1080, "Allium." 26 May 2014 via Flickr CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

Planting Option 3: Fall



New England Aster¹
Aster novae-angliae
 36" Height x 24" Width
 Blooms August - September
Quantity: 5 pots



Switch Grass²
Panicum virgatum^{*}
 48" Height x 36" Width
Quantity: 5 pots



Giant Hyssop³
Agastache x 'Blue Fortune'
 24" Height x 18" Width
 Blooms July - September
Quantity: 5 pots



Katsura Tree⁴
Cercidiphyllum japonicum
 50' Height x 30' Width
 Fall color
Quantity: 1 pot or B & B



Butterfly Weed⁵
Asclepias tuberosa
 24" Height x 32" Width
 Butterflies Love This Plant
Quantity: 5 pots



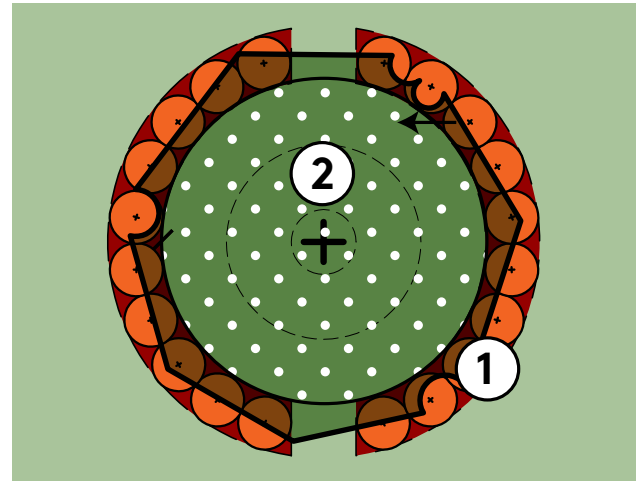
Autumn Crocuses⁶
Colchicum cilicicum
 4" Height x 4" Width
 Blooms September - October
Quantity: 100 bulbs



Periwinkle⁷
Vinca minor
 4" Height x 24" Width
 Blooms May - July
Quantity: 75 pots

Key

- 1
New England Aster, Switch Grass, Giant Hyssop & Butterfly Weed (Space approximately two feet apart and mix evenly.)
- 2
Katsura Tree, Autumn Crocus & Periwinkle (Space groundcover appropriately one foot apart and mix evenly.)



Plant Sizes



Pots: Plants can be purchased in one to five gallon pots. The size of pots can change based on availability. 1.5 inch diameter trees are available at commercial landscape supply stores in pots or balled and burlapped (B & B). Periwinkle can be purchased in smaller, four inch pots.



Bulbs: Bulbs are cheaper if purchased in bulk. You can find bulk bags at garden stores.

Image Source: 1) Sandstein, "Barr's Pink." 21 August 2010 via Wikimedia CC by 3.0; 2) Tpmartins, "012." 11 July 2007 via Flickr CC BY-NC-SA 2.0; 3) "—char—", "bumblebee back." 18 July 2008 via Flickr CC BY-NC 2.0; 4) Steven Severinghaus, "Fall Katsura Tree Leaves." 08 November 2014 via Flickr CC BY-NC-SA 2.0; 5) Martin LaBar, "Orange spotted butterfly on butterflyweed." 3 June 2008 via Flickr, CC BY-NC 2.0; 6) Carol, "The autumn crocus IMG_5061." 15 September 2014 via Flickr CC BY-NC-SA 2.0; 7) H. Zell, "Vinca minor, Apocynaceae, Lesser Periwinkle, habitus; Karlsruhe, Germany." 14 April 2009 via Wikimedia CC BY-SA 3.0

Planting Option 4: Winter



Arctic Fire Red Twig Dogwood¹
Cornus stoloinifera 'Farrow'
 48" Height x 36" Width
 Blooms June - October
Quantity: 2 pots



Berry Poppins Winterberry²
Ilex verticillata 'Farrow Pop'
 36" Height x 36" Width
 Blooms June - July
Quantity: 3 pots



Mr Poppins Winterberry³
Ilex verticillata 'Mr Poppins'
 36" Height x 36" Width
 Blooms June - July
Quantity: 3 pots



Bruns Serbians Spruce⁴
Picea omorika 'Bruns'
 30' Height x 10' Width
Quantity: 1 pot or B & B



European Cranberry Viburnum⁵
Viburnum opulus
 10' Height x 10' Width
Quantity: 2 pots



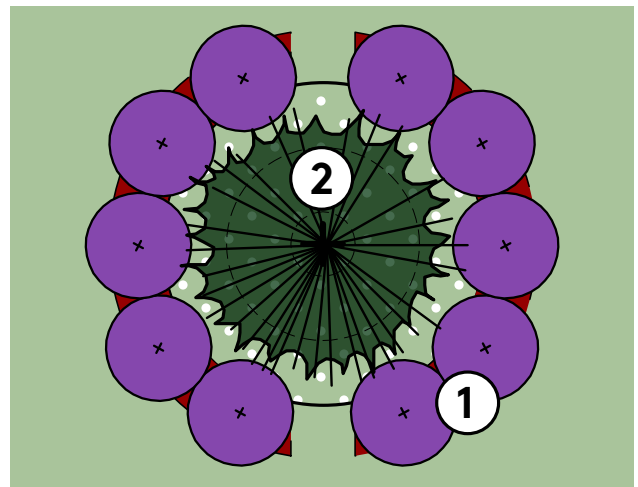
Snowdrops⁶
Galanthus nivalis
 4" Height x 4" Width
 Blooms in March - April
Quantity: 100 bulbs



Mixed Lenten Roses⁷
Helleborus 'Red Lady', Helleborus 'Blue Lady', Helleborus 'walhelivor', Helleborous 'Pink Lady', Helleborus niger 'Jacob'
 Varies: Approximately 12" Height x 18" Width
 Blooms Early Spring
Quantity: 50 bulbs

Key

- 1
Artic Fire Red Twig Dogwood, Winterberry species & European Cranberry Viburnum
 (Space approximately four feet apart and mix evenly.)
- 2
Bruns Serbian Spruce, Snowdrops & Helleborus species
 (Space bulbs approximately one foot apart and mix evenly.)



Plant Sizes



Pots: Plants can be purchased in one to five gallon pots. The size of pots can change based on availability. 1.5 inch diameter trees are available at commercial landscape supply stores in pots or balled and burlapped (B & B).



Bulbs: Bulbs are cheaper if purchased in bulk. You can find bulk bags at garden stores.

Image Source: 1) Mwms1916, "Red twig dogwood, arboretum." 12 April 2014 via Flickr CC BY-NC-ND 2.0; 2) Nick Sarebi, "Winter Berries." 14 December 2009 via Wikimedia CC BY 2.0; 3) SB_Johnny, "Ilex_verticillata_fruits_and_foliage_1." --- via Wikimedia CC BY-SA 3.0; 4) Rasbak, "Picea_omorika.jpg." 08 September 2004 via Wikimedia CC BY-SA 3.0; 5) H. Zell, "Viburnum opulus, Adoxaceae." 09 May 2009 via Wikimedia, CC BY-SA 3.0; 6) Gideon Chilton, "Snowdrops - Little Oakley." 16 February 2014 via Flickr, CC BY-NC 2.0; 7) Filip Vervisch, "Helleborus-zaterdag 28 februari 2009 173107." 28 February 2009 via Flickr, CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

Did You Know?

Professionals Can Help!

The Field Guide to Working With Lots provides a Construction Package for each lot design. The Construction Package includes information and details required for a professional to construct this design. On the Field Guide web site, use the [Construction Package](#) link located near the top of this lot design page to download and print. Your selected professional will then be able to provide a cost estimate and schedule based on the condition of your lot and the design you select.

Want to Hire Locally?

DFC-lots.com has a growing list of Detroit-based professionals and suppliers of landscape materials and services.

Still unsure of where to start?

Call (313) 294-LOTS or email fieldguide@detroitfuturecity.com for assistance.

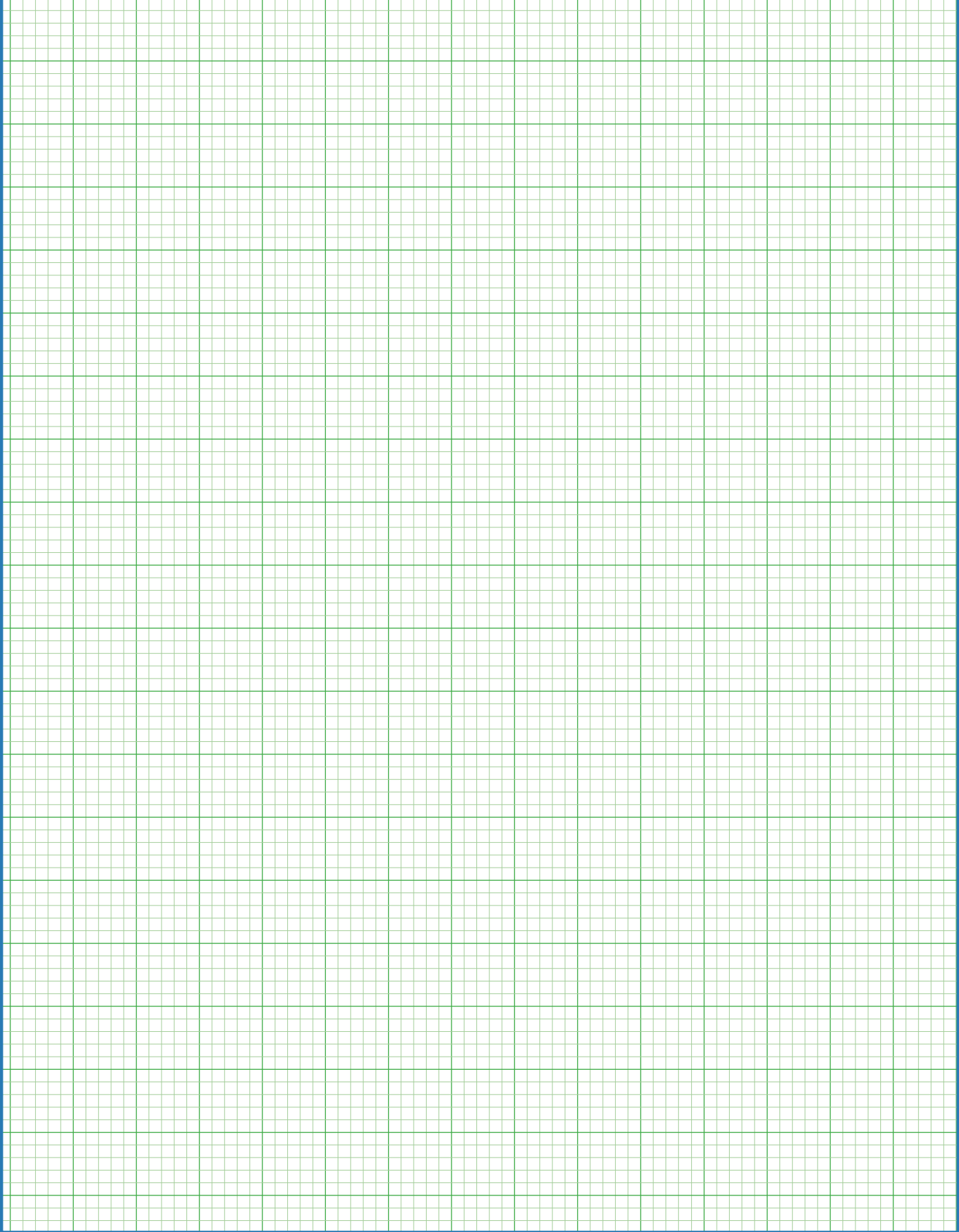
Helpful Facts

- Rain gardens are designed to decrease the amount of rainwater flowing off your roof and property into the City stormwater system.
- Rain gardens capture, hold, and release stormwater gradually back into the soil.
- The plants recommended for this lot design have been selected for their beauty, habitat creation, and local availability.
- This rain garden is designed to provide habitat and food for a variety of birds and pollinators.
- Looking for more information on rain gardens? The Sierra Club of Detroit has been running a rain garden program since 2012 and is happy to help.
- Working together, the Four Seasons provide year-round interest and vibrancy.

Planting Tips

- Looking for a more cost efficient planting option? Consider a rain garden seed mix, such as ERNMIX-180 (Ernst Rain Garden Meadow Mix).
- Call ahead to be sure the nursery or garden store has the plants you need for your lot design.
- The best time to plant is spring or fall. Do not plant in extreme heat.
- Water after planting and as needed. Do not let plants dry out. Weed weekly or as needed.

Draw Your Lot



Four Seasons Field Notes



**DETROIT
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**working
with lots**
A FIELD GUIDE

**Visit DFC-lots.com
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