



Gardening in LI

Here on Long Island there are tons of native plants!

Black-Eyed Susan



Evening Primrose



New England Aster



Common Ironweed



Purple Coneflower



Seaside Goldenrod



Helpful Resources



CCE Nassau Soil Testing



USDA Plant Hardiness Zone



Tips for Maintenance



Native Flowers, Grasses, and Shrubs



Gardening 101



How to start and maintain a successful garden!

How to Start Your Garden

Step 1

Determine your soil type*

By determining your soil type, you'll know what nutrients your soil has and needs. Additionally, the pH of the soil can also determine how well certain plants will do. You can give a soil sample to the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Nassau to test your soil's pH and nutrient profile.



Step 2

Decide the kind of garden you want to start

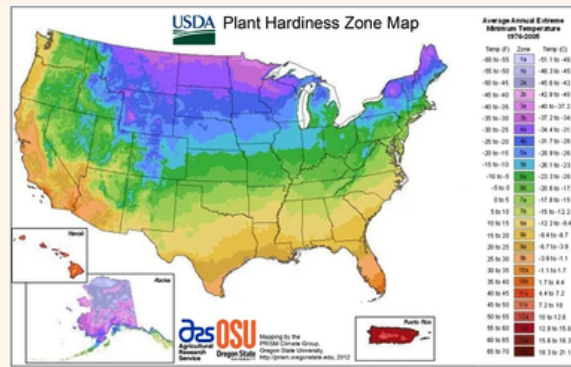
The type of garden you start dictates what materials you will purchase. For example, if you want to start a flower garden, you wouldn't want to buy a trellis for bean growth.



Step 3

Find out your USDA Plant Hardiness Zone *

USDA Hardiness Zones are standards set to help determine what plants grow best in a place based on the lowest annual temperatures. It is imperative to know your hardiness zone before choosing what to plant. Most of Long Island falls under Zone 7a/b.



Step 4

Pick a garden location*

You'll want to choose a spot in your area where you believe it will be optimal for growth. The ideal spot would be somewhere where water does not pool and drains well, but stays moist. Avoiding slopes and large rocks/roots also fosters a healthy garden.



Step 5

Choose the crops you'll be planting

Your soil type, region, and garden conditions should support the crops you choose to plant. Some plants do better with minimal sunlight, while others fail to thrive without it. Once you know all three criteria, it is time to get started!



<https://ccenassau.org/horticulture/soil-testing-services>

<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>

<https://www.greatnorthernregreenery.com/10-tips-keep-garden-healthy/>