



Shelter Planting

An outdoor oasis was created in a Northwest Gainesville neighborhood after the installation of solar panels spurred homeowner Jo Anne Mallory-Cross to beautify her front yard. Birds and butterflies now flock to feeders and find shelter in buffer plantings as well. Native black-eyed Susans provide nectar and

seeds. A bubbling water feature, planted with bog plants welcomes thirsty animals and even a few frogs. A pine tree "snag" or stump was left for woodpeckers to forage, though now it features a decorative pot. Raised vegetable beds, ready for planting, are surrounded by gravel pathways.

Outdoors with Jon George

A Wild Retreat in the City

By Jon George



Jon George is the owner of Cottage Gardens, Inc., a Gainesville-based landscape design and installation firm. Jon has been gardening in North Central Florida for more than 30 years. You may contact his staff at www.TheCottageGardener.com or at cottagegardensinc@yahoo.com.



Vegetable Garden



Water Feature

Blackeyed Susans!

Gravel Path

