

## Plant List for Floral Explosion

Obviously, where you live determines what plants to use. We're going to give you a general list to show your landscaper or nursery. We strongly recommend you show them your Floral Explosion Design Plan and get their recommendations also.

Flowers, blooms, and lots of color are the key to Floral Explosion. You could leave out the trees, but the shade they will cast will be welcome by you and your plants.

Start at the bed with the fountain then move clockwise around the yard. You want low-growing flowering shrubs here that won't block the view from the deck into the yard. Knockout Shrub Roses would be perfect. Around the fountain use Blue Rug Juniper or Cotoneaster. All along the edge use perennials like Moonbeam Coreopsis, Catmint, or Daylilies. This will also be a great place to plant different annuals each spring.

In front of and around the wishing well, fill with annuals. Wave Petunias would be gorgeous. Behind, put a row of Oak Leaf or some other Hydrangea. Use an Oak for the big tree. Around the big tree use a ground cover of Hostas. Behind them use Variegated Dogwood. Plant Hicks Yews along the fence as a dark backdrop for flowering Hydrangeas with Sweet Alyssum along the edge. The bridge peninsula has one big tree, like Oak or Crimson King Maple, and 2 under-story trees like Plum, Cherry, Amur Maple, or Japanese Maple. Plant Spireas on each side of the bridge. Under the big tree use Blue Rug Juniper or Cotoneaster again and lots of Daylilies!

Behind your pergola plant a big bed of flowering annuals each year. Try Petunias, Pansies, Chrysanthemums, or shade-loving Impatiens. In the middle, have a small tree with an interesting trunk and branch structure like an Amur Maple, Serviceberry, Dogwood, or Birch. Along the fence plant a hedge of Viburnum, Hollies, or Yews. White Diana Althea would also look great. Place a Royal Purple Smokebush next to the pergola for color contrast and interesting flowers.



## Plant List for Floral Explosion (continued)

Along the back fence is perfect for a Clematis display! In a ground cover of Vinca Minor have five trellises to grow different colored Clematis. These will catch the eye from all across the garden. Reliable performers include Jackmanii (purple), Niobe (red), Henryi (white), Nelly Mosser (striped), and the President (purple/blue).

If you want Maple trees, plant them around the fence border of your pond. You can just let their leaves lay where they fall! You want this area real woody for a shady strolling path. Plant several flowering trees like Crape Myrtle, Althea, Dogwood, Redbud, Plum, or Cherry, too. Also, plant lots of spreading Yews, Hollies, and Junipers. A couple of Crape Myrtle or Butterfly Bushes out in the sunny edge will be beautiful. Along the path plant multiples of Hosta, Fern, Bleeding Heart, and Columbine. Around your bench use Hosta and lots of annuals. Finish up with a grouping of Blue Rug Juniper or Cotoneaster to blend in with your other beds.

In the fall stretch a net across your pond for about 45 days to catch the falling leaves and keep them out of your pond.

The birdbath bed is highlighted by a Japanese Maple. Bloodgood or Crimson Queen would be perfect here. Plant lots of either Variegated or Wine & Roses Weigela around it Use Big Blue Liriope along both sides as a ground cover. And, add lots of flowering annuals under and around the birdbath. More Hostas under the Bloodgood would also be very eye-catching.

For the several trellises with Roses, use any climbing Rose. But, on the arbors at the garden entry use a thornless Rose like Zephirine Drouhine (very fragrant). Also, grow Clematis in with the roses for an exceptional Floral Explosion!

