

Plant List for Garden Party

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 Garden Party Design Plan and get their recommendations also.

Let's start with the rose garden. Use lots of Rose bushes, both hybrid Ts and Shrub Roses. Also, mix in white flowering shrubs like Dianna Althea, Natchez Crape Myrtle, Hydrangea, or White Profusion Butterfly Bush to accent the pink and red of the Roses. Use annuals like Sweet Alyssum right in front of the gazebo.

Fill the bed between the Rose garden and the patio with a variety of Japanese Maples. Have a few Autumn Ferns and Japanese Painted Ferns under them. Put some Sun Coleus by the big rock where the paths merge.

On your dining patio use lots of containers! Try the "thriller, spiller, filler" method - one center accent thriller, filler plants around it, and plants spilling down the sides.

Around the pond plant water-loving shrubs, like Henry Garnet Sweetspire or Winterberry. Use them in several places for a unified look. Plant a couple of Amur Maples and Crape Myrtles, or Lilacs behind the waterfall to give it a more natural setting. Place a nice, big Japanese Maple near the pond deck. Each year in the spring put Caladium bulbs all around the pond deck. If you use Cattails in the water, keep them in pots.

Around the picnic table we like several Hollies, especially Foster Holly. You want to make the picnic table area feel private and separate from the fire pit. Evergreens like Hollies or Yews will do this. Spread Hostas around the edge of the rocks for a woody, picnic area.

The fire pit area should feel like you are in a forest preserve. Plant lots of Pines, Hollies, Leucothoe, Junipers, Spruce, and an Oak. You want to be completely surrounded and enclosed here by nature.

In the rest of your yard plant a couple of more Pines, maybe a Maple or an Oak. Remember not to shade your Rose garden, though!

