

Gardens for 2008

1. Carole & Frank Ditomaso, 345 2nd Conc. Brock

Begin your tour with a short walk down the laneway to a large pond, where paths lead you through a woodland garden. This natural setting offers a diverse mix of unusual specimen trees, shrubs, evergreens and perennials. Carole, the gardener, brought 1,000 perennials in 2 gal pots from their previous home to start the garden. Frank with his talent for woodworking added many inspiring design ideas and a three stage composter.

2. Jo and Mike Whiston, 6 Deerfoot Dr.

“Lavender Cottage” Bed and Breakfast, a true English cottage garden. A variety of twig structures, designed and built by Jo using materials from the woods can be found throughout. Enjoy the fish pond, waterfall, perennial gardens and secluded back yard pool.

3. Louise Saunders & Dennis Misurka, 817 Brookdale Rd.

Large pine trees line the driveway as you begin your tour. Stone was used to blend the gardens with the natural setting of the forest and lead you to the stream, waterfall and pond. A favorite place to sit is under the arbor in front of the waterfall. Be sure to take a walk into the woods to see the chapel. To the east is the beginnings of a wild flower meadow.

4. Heather & Joe Toby, 181 Victoria Dr.

A teardrop garden in the centre of the driveway is the most eye-catching. Look for the flower “bed” as you begin your tour of numerous perennial gardens, a raised vegetable garden and a small greenhouse attached to the original henhouse on this historic 1/2 acre site. Heather believes in moving plants around to control growth and provide something new to think about.

5. Annabelle Murray, 162 Maple St.

The front garden is home to plants that are hardy enough to withstand a northern exposure. Pink azaleas, lavender and russian sage to match the blue shutters. Around the back, wood decking, a pool and stamped concrete take up all of the yard leaving room for containers and peripheral beds filled with sun loving hostas, rose bushes and lavender.

6. Sharon Nielsen, 54 Cedar St.

It is believed that some of the cedars date back to the 1870's when the house was first built. The concept of “rooms” is important to the garden and Sharon finds the “secret garden” to be a peaceful and private oasis in which to paint, entertain and relax. A “potting shed” gives Sharon the work space she needs as she is currently working on a plan for a Japanese inspired garden.

7. Rosemary & Michael Sparks, 34 Centre Rd.

This garden was started as therapy after a battle with cancer six years ago. The garden has grown and is now a labour of love. Rosemary's philosophy is to buy plants she likes, there is no grand plan to this mostly shaded garden. A large pergola and garden shed are the main architectural features, as well as numerous containers and window boxes.

8. Tracy Walker & Ken Schuller, 88 Planks Lane

The goal of this garden was to create a habitat for birds and butterflies, Tracy is an artist and uses her garden as a reference and inspiration for her paintings. Being eco friendly this organic garden

is a combination of low-water and xeriscape and completely fills both the front and back yard. Tracy prefers to not impose on the garden, but to watch how the plants respond and follow their lead.