



# QUILT GARDENS

ALONG *the* HERITAGE TRAIL

2020 MASTER GARDENER'S GUIDEBOOK



ELKHART GOSHEN MIDDLEBURY NAPPANEE BRISTOL WAKARUSA





# QUILT GARDENS *ALONG the* HERITAGE TRAIL

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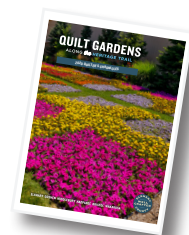
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## BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE 2020 QUILTER'S CHRONICLES!

Every quilt garden has its own intricate pattern - many are original designs - and each has its own unique story. The Quilter's Chronicles gives you detailed information about each pattern from a quilters viewpoint.

**Visit [QuiltGardens.com](http://QuiltGardens.com) to download today!**



# ABOUT THE QUILT GARDENS *ALONG the* HERITAGE TRAIL

Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail is an innovative, creative, one-of-a-kind experience designed to interest a widerange of audiences and promote the area as a premier visitor destination. It offers a variety of opportunities for partnerships with local businesses and communities and creates widespread community involvement.

The project was initiated as a concept by the Elkhart County, IN Convention & Visitors Bureau (ECCVB) in early 2006 and tested in 2007 with 2 pilot locations. 2020 is the 13th anniversary for the season-long attraction that continues to grow and now features 16 Quilt Gardens presented in six communities along the Heritage Trail driving tour, viewable annually May 30 to September 15.

Recognizing the importance and value of high quality in both the gardens and murals displayed, each garden and mural is required to meet 10 standards and related product / service specifications. Based on those standards, all official sites and patterns are juried into the program by a committee that includes landscapers, designers, horticulturists, growers, quilters, and park professionals. Official garden partners are responsible for performing all of the work necessary to plant and maintain the gardens throughout the season.

The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail has garnered national media attention and draws significant audience interest from three of the largest hobby groups in the nation – gardeners, quilters and photographers. It has also been favorably received by the group motor coach audience, having been named an American Bus Association (ABA) Best of the Best Event and a seven-time Top 100 Event.



Share your pics and experiences with us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using #QuiltGardens



## Sonya L. Nash, Project Manager, Elkhart County, IN CVB

It is often times said that creating anything worthwhile takes time, money and a lot of effort. The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail embodies that statement, even more so in a year that has been disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic.

In 2020, this project continues on supported by the devotion and pride of the Elkhart County, IN Convention & Visitors Bureau's community partners. These partners are the heroes of the 2020 Quilt Gardens, coming together to overcome challenges presented by the pandemic. This project means a great deal to all of us, for the beauty it offers to all who visit but also the community pride that is expressed in every square inch of the gardens. Our partners contribute than 200 volunteers in six cities and towns. They work on soil content, site beautification, planting, weeding and maintaining gardens for four months, sometimes during difficult weather conditions, doing their part in welcoming visitors.

The ECCVB leadership and staff supports these dedicated volunteers, working year-round on planning, preparing and promoting the Quilt Gardens. Countless man hours including graphic design, website updates, ad placements, journalist inquiries, group tour planning, and yes, even paying the bills and answering the phones all occur under the parameters of the ECCVB. Through our collective efforts, the Quilt Gardens offer a beautiful and serene refuge, one that is ideal for the social distancing and health precautions required of us in this year.

My role is to keep everyone working together on the same page while steering this project in a positive future direction. Over 13 years, we have learned through trial and error a multitude of things about transforming quilt designs into living gardens that flourish throughout the viewing season. Educational sessions, working with garden experts and experimenting with plant types are all part of the event too. While gardening can be a science, we have learned that sometimes Mother Nature overrules our efforts to excel, and sometimes we are amazed at how our plans come to fruition in a fantastic way.

Yes, the Quilt Gardens project is a work of art. It's also A LOT of work involving A LOT of people. It has become an annual event in our destination that our residents love to share with visitors. Definitely it's time, money and effort well spent and enjoyed by all. We look forward to your visit and hope you return time and again as we continue to learn and grow along with our gardens.

**Elkhart County, IN Visitor Center**  
3421 Cassopolis Street | Elkhart, IN

w: [QuiltGardens.com](http://QuiltGardens.com)  
p: 800.262.8161  
e: [sonya@eccvb.org](mailto:sonya@eccvb.org)

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

### **Loanne Harms** **Gold 1000 Level Master Gardener**

My introduction to gardening was captured on video when I was about 3 years old. My brother, one year younger, and I were carefully pulling every one of my mother's iris flowers off their stalks. In my family, every time we watched this movie, my father would yell out, "Put those flowers back!", and he would run the film backwards while we watched the two of us dutifully place each bloom back onto its stem. Thus, it seems, I have been putting flowers back into the ground ever since.

Currently we moved to a new build with woods and wetlands. My husband and I are busy trying to tame the wildness with natives and color. The birds, butterflies and wildlife seem to approve as they make regular visits. Our experience with clay soils is coming in handy as we once again find ourselves hauling composted duck manure and other nutrient-rich materials to our site. This will be summer three for our flower beds and we are both ready to see them spring to life.

When my husband began a groundskeeping job at a local high school, he took the Master Gardener training class. I was intrigued, but still employed at the time. The summer after I retired, our garden was on the 2010 Master Gardener Garden Tour. I had worked hard that spring preparing our yard and found the chance to share my work and love of flowers and gardening with close to 500 people invigorating. Soon after, I signed up for the Master Gardener class. Together, my husband and I have been an active part of the organization, helping plant the Quilt Gardens, teaching about flower growing in the community, and spreading the love of gardening whenever we can.



## ABOUT THE GROWER

### **Corstange Greenhouse, Official Grower Dave, Ilene and Todd Corstange, Owners**

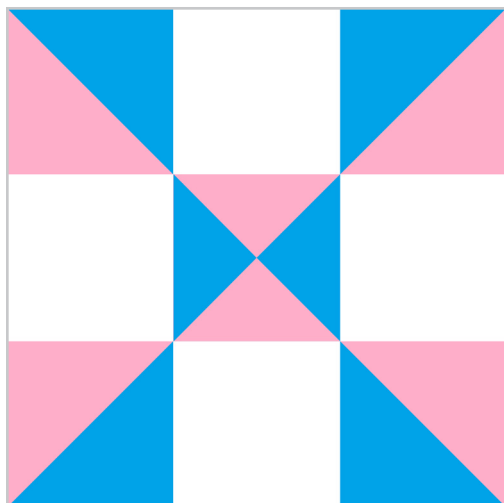
In 1971, on property purchased from his grandfather, Dave Corstange built several small greenhouses in Portage, Michigan. Now in its 49th season, Corstange Greenhouses are operated by the family team of Dave, his wife, Ilene, and their son, Todd. The attributes which set this family of “growers” apart are their commitment to quality, service and customer satisfaction.

The Corstange Greenhouses provides the best quality product possible by allowing their plants to easily grow to their natural size and beauty. This goal is achieved by appropriate selection of containers and soil, careful timing of fertilizer and pesticide application and minimal use of plant growth regulators. This process produces a high-quality plant with some residual nutrients and pest resistance, yet no residual growth retardant.

The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail is an exciting project for this family-owned greenhouse and they look forward to seeing their superior plants add to the beauty of the project.

Corstange Greenhouses  
1749 E. Centre Ave. | Portage, MI

P: 269.323.1094  
W: [CorstangeGreenHouses.com](http://CorstangeGreenHouses.com)



*Aloha Blue Ageratum*



*Deep Rose Tequila Bronze Leaf Begonia*



*White Whiskey Bronze Leaf Begonia*

## D1 “Practical Orchard” - Elkhart County Historical Museum

SIZE: 30'w x 30'h

Visiting the Elkhart County Historical Museum Quilt Garden site gives one a chance to experience history inside and out. The museum itself was founded in 1968 as a partnership between the Elkhart County Historical Society and the Elkhart County Parks Department, using a building once used as Bristol High School from 1928 to 1966. The Elkhart County Historical Museum is dedicated to preserving and fostering appreciation of the history of Elkhart County and the surrounding region. The museum offers exhibits for all ages. Today it houses 10 permanent exhibits, two additional rooms for special showings, and over 20,000 artifacts of local historical interest. Explore the past where the beautiful and the useful were never far apart. The museum is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and is free, although donations are always appreciated. The Quilt Gardens generate focus and interest in the quilting heritage of the local community, which the museum is especially prepared to further celebrate. The museum has a collection of more than 60 historic quilts and offer many quilting-related programming opportunities.

The museum staff has teamed up with a group of Master Gardeners to prepare (and care for) the Practical Orchard Quilt Garden you see outside the museum. The museum staff has enjoyed working with Michiana Master Gardeners and has appreciated their knowledge and energy on this project.

The Practical Orchard design was chosen for its simplicity. The site team has found that simple geometric designs are easy to lay out and plant. It has been created using over 79 flats of begonias and ageratum to cover the 841 square feet of space.

Blue is a desirable color for quilts and quilt gardens, but blue is not an easy flower to find. This garden uses *Ageratum houstonianum*, an F1 Hybrid. A F1 hybrid is the first generation of offspring of distinctly different parental types that produces a new uniform trait with a combination of characteristics from each of the parent plants. Subsequent generations are called F2, F3, etc.

All of which is to say Aloha Blue was created to produce fluffy puffs of lavender blue flowers that are densely clustered above dwarf, uniform, 6–8-inch plants. Aloha Blue ageratum makes an ideal low summer border or addition to mixed containers. Although not a fussy plant, it prefers a rich, well-drained, moist soil, and benefits from a layer of mulch to help retain moisture. It is early to flower, and the strong vigor of the plant makes it an excellent garden performer. An added bonus is that it attracts pollinators.





### Elkhart County Historical Museum

304 West Vistula Street | Bristol, IN

w: [ElkhartCountyParks.org](http://ElkhartCountyParks.org)

p: 574.848.4322



-  *Bright Orange Double Zahara Zinnia*
-  *Taishan Yellow Marigold*
-  *Dracula Celosia*
-  *Silver Dust Dusty Miller*

## B2 “Star Light, Star Bright” - Central Park

SIZE: 40'w x 40'h

Elkhart's Central Park is at the center of the Gateway Mile and a great spot for a Quilt Garden. With the RiverWalk at their back, local walkers enjoy stopping throughout the summer to watch the flowers and pattern develop. The Civic Plaza is just above and a handy place to meet up before heading out into the growing Arts & Entertainment district with its many eateries and pubs. The restored majestic Lerner Theatre is just up the block and offers musical and theatrical options to visitors and locals.

Art is all around Central Park. Along Elkhart's downtown RiverWalk, there's an impressive marching band sculpture and a jazz saxophonist, a nod to the musical instruments produced here.

Central Park's “Star Light, Star Bright” compliments the vibrant, active nature of Elkhart downtown, and challenges gardeners, new and seasoned to see possibilities beyond the usual. The Central Park gardeners wanted a challenge this year. Their use of bold colors and some new, unusual plants add dramatic results to the quilt pattern. Silver Dust Dusty Miller provides a neutral background for the pop of bright orange of Double Zahara Zinnias in the middle. Big flowers, superior disease resistance (no mildew) and drought tolerance assure a carefree, season-long show. Zahara performs in sunny, hot and dry conditions. Colorful Zahara is perfect for brightening garden beds and borders. It even attracts butterflies!

The outside corners introduce us to a relative newcomer to the quilt gardens, Dracula Celosia. Celosias, commonly called cockscomb, are warm-weather flowering plants that thrive in hot, humid Mediterranean areas. Dracula is a novelty Celosia introduced in 2017. It is one of a kind, with one large 6-7-inch “flower” on top of each plant. In the garden the foliage grows darker and changes to purple tones. The comb will also grow to a darker purple color. With its unusual shape and eye-catching color, Dracula Celosia adds drama.

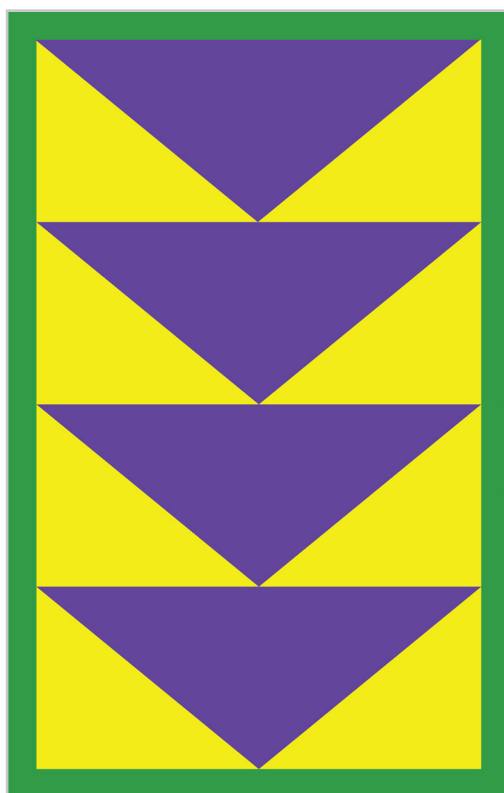
To grow your Dracula Celosia, make sure to plant in full sun. They need rich soil with lots of compost to produce their big, dramatic plumes. Make sure the soil is moist, but not wet and that it drains well. Water them regularly during the dry periods. Add a general-purpose fertilizer once or twice a month. To produce more plumes, pinch back the first one. This may make you nervous for those first bright cockscombs but have faith! This will promote more branching and reward you later.

When many of these “flowers” are next to each other, they collectively resemble fire, which is why the name Celosia, meaning burning in Greek, was chosen, and help make this quilt “Star Bright.”

**Elkhart Building & Grounds Department**  
Waterfall Drive & Franklin Street  
Elkhart, IN

w: [ElkhartIndiana.org](http://ElkhartIndiana.org)  
p: 574.295.7275





*Pretty Grand Midnight Petunia*

*Lemon Delight Melampodium*

*Triple Curled Parsley*

## B2 “Renewed Direction” - Elkhart Environmental Center

SIZE: 40'w x 40'h

The Elkhart Environmental Center is a learning center that strives to educate the community on its environmental impact. The EEC is situated on the former Lusher Dump, but over the last 40 years has remediated and restored the site to include more than 65 acres of enriched greenspace. The public is welcome to walk the trails and browse the gardens, woods and prairies. There is also a canoe launch available onto the Elkhart River. The EEC serves thousands of people a year. The Elkhart Environmental Center is committed to making the site a haven not only for residents and environmental professionals, but wildlife as well. The Center is part of a 120-acre River Greenway system that links to Studebaker Park along the Elkhart River. The trail is a great spot for wildlife watching on the edge of the city. Deer, river otter, muskrat, beaver, coyote, fox, pileated woodpeckers, screech owls and nesting wood ducks have all been sighted in this area. Bird watchers can find many migrating species as well.

Five wetlands have been constructed at the center which creates habitat and aids in reducing storm water runoff. The Elkhart Environmental Center continues to blend urban and natural environment in order to demonstrate how they can successfully co-exist. This urban setting is a resting place to over 86 different types of birds throughout the year and is home to over 200 types of plants. Many frequent guests have said it's the best kept secret in Elkhart.

Their first-ever entry into the Quilt Gardens highlights the beautiful and the useful in their quilt, *Renewed Direction*. Parsley encloses a colorful design with a powerful purple petunia punch and a bright splash of yellow with melampodium. Melampodium boasts bright green foliage that contrasts proportionately with its cheerful yellow daisy-like flowers.

Melampodium is a genus of flowers whose sunny yellow flowers bring a smile to the most confirmed curmudgeon's face., but not to the person trying to sound out its name. Pronounced mel-am-po'de-um, it's often confused with a zinnia. Most of the plants in the species are native to tropical to sub-tropical regions from the Caribbean to South America, and in parts of Central America to the southwestern United States.

Melampodium will easily grace any garden with bountiful golden color. Blooming nonstop from spring through frost, this plant can be used in containers for mounds of color that work well with other sun-loving annuals. Melampodium plant care is very similar to most sun loving perennials. Melampodium is a hardy and drought tolerant little plant that prefers its soil on the dry side, although some stems may flop over in overly dry soils. They thrive in any type of soil except perhaps heavy clay. The flowers do not have any serious pests or disease problem although it is susceptible to powdery mildew in humid areas.

There is no need to deadhead as part of Melampodium plant care and the little seedlings you might find won't make it through the winters. For a wonderful sea of golden color, let the little guys go and you will be amazed by their consistent sun colored blooms.

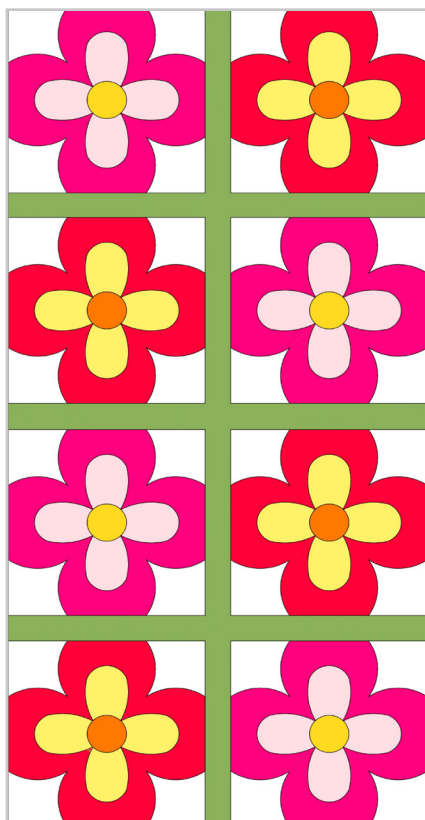
Sun Coleus (*Solenostemon Scutellarioides*) has been around only slightly longer (1993) than *Interspecific Impatiens*. There are a multitude of colors available today, ranging from yellow to red with many combinations. Wasabi Coleus sport large, scalloped leaves that combine a deep burgundy center with chartreuse netting pattern at the edges that hold their color without fading. Redhead Coleus has the truest red of all the varieties, and *Vino Coleus*' attractive serrated pointy leaves remain deep purple in color with distinctive white edges. Since the flowers are not wanted, many of these premium varieties bloom very late to not at all. These low-maintenance, high-impact plants are perfect for large pot programs and landscaping.

### Elkhart Environmental Center

1717 East Lusher Avenue  
Elkhart, IN

w: [ElkhartIndiana.org/EEC](http://ElkhartIndiana.org/EEC)  
p: 574.293.5070





-  *Orange Glorious Plumosa*
-  *Happy Hour Yellow Portulaca*
-  *Deep Salmon EZ Rider Petunia*
-  *White Easter Bonnet Alyssum*
-  *Yellow Glorious Plumosa*
-  *Peppermint Happy Hour Portulaca*
-  *Deep Pink Pretty Grand Petunia*
-  *White Gypsy Alyssum*

## C2 “Rosies Posies” - Linton’s Enchanted Gardens

SIZE: 66'w x 32'h

Linton's Enchanted Gardens is Indiana's largest home and garden facility, boasting over 50,000 square feet of indoor shopping and over nine acres of outdoor displays that are sure to spark your imagination. The Garden Cafe at Linton's features fresh and healthy meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as decadent desserts and handcrafted hot and cold drinks. Linton's Enchanted Gardens began in 1982 as a small landscape design company and has added attractions as they have grown and evolved. Their continuing goal of connecting to the community while showcasing the new and traditional in horticulture drives their business spirit.

Linton's has introduced parakeets to the menagerie of colorful birds at the Enchanted Gardens. A trip around the grounds on the Enchanted Gardens Railroad goes past the Quilt Garden, Lake Linton, the petting zoo, and through the tunnel to see it all. A special stop at the Parakeet Encounter House allows the riders to enter and interact with the vibrant and musical birds. Linton's prides itself in being a family-friendly destination. Their Quilt Garden is located on the north end of the gift shop and has the advantage of an observation bridge to give guests a better vantage point for snapping the perfect picture.

The 2020 Quilt Garden expresses a celebration of the 2019 spring birth of two of their Dwarf Diamond Doves. They have been named Rosy, for the early spring blooming Primrose, and April, for the month both have hatched. They chose the Primrose quilt block and named it Rosies Posies.

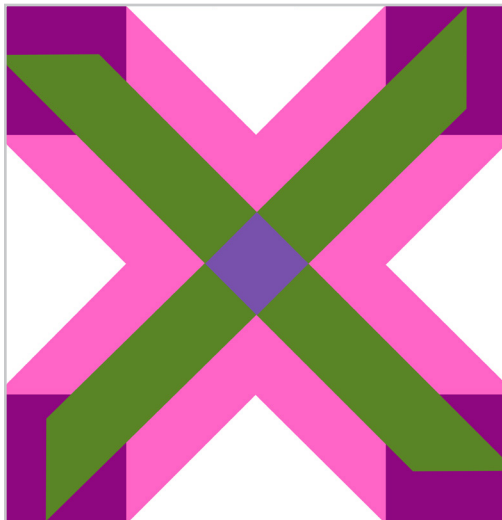
Linton's has a unique opportunity with their Quilt Garden to partner with the Vera Bradley Breast Cancer Foundation. Each year they incorporate the organization's current Breast Cancer Awareness pattern into their Quilt Garden theme. Since 1999, Vera Bradley has designed special breast cancer awareness colors to celebrate their commitment to the cause. Using Vera Bradley's 2019 floral pattern, “Pretty Posies,” Linton's has created the Rosies Posies Quilt Garden block which echoes the vibrant colors in the Vera Bradley fabric. Linton's goal is to bring awareness to those past and present who have endured breast cancer's life-altering grip.

Amid a mix of alyssum and petunias you'll find portulaca, a widely cultivated South American succulent herb of the purslane family with showy flowers and small conical leaves. Portulaca, also known as moss rose, is an annual flowering plant, hardy in all zones of the United States, but will die back after the first frost. Portulaca is valued for its ease of care, jewel-toned blossoms and adaptability to hot, dry areas of the garden where other plants may not survive. All portulaca need sun for their flowers to open. The flowers of older varieties close around noon, but most plants sold today have blooms that stay open all day. They do stay closed at night and on cloudy days.

The Happy Hour series is mounding with narrow, green leaves and uniform flowering among the collection. Butterflies and hummingbirds flock to the bright colors. It is at home when placed in a hot, dry place such as a border, along a driveway or sidewalk. Can also be used in rock gardens, walls, containers, or as a mass planting in the garden. If it is exposed to the sun and can avoid wet feet, you should be good to go. It does not appear to be a favored snack for deer.

**Linton's Enchanted Gardens**  
315 County Road 17 | Elkhart, IN

w: Lintons.com  
p: 888.779.9333



*Violet Impatiens*



*Super Olympia Green Leaf Rose Begonia*



*Wasabi Coleus*



*White Impatiens*



*Scarlet Wizard Coleus*

## B2 “Ruth’s Chrysanthemum” - Ruthmere Museum

SIZE: 30'w x 30'h

The Ruthmere campus is made up of two historic properties that engage visitors with a unique experience of history, art and architecture. Part historic house museum, part world class art collection, part performing arts venue, such is the unique nature of Ruthmere. Ruthmere overlooks the confluence of the St. Joseph and Elkhart rivers, residing at the heart of the Beardsley Historic District Neighborhood, a nationally recognized site on the National Register of Historic Places. Albert Beardsley, nephew of one of the founding fathers of Elkhart, Dr. Havilah Beardsley, had Ruthmere Mansion built in 1910. The mansion is filled with lavish one-of-a-kind furnishings and stunning works of art. The magnificently restored Beaux Arts-style mansion boasts a fine art collection which includes sculptures by Auguste Rodin, Antoine-Louis Barye and William Ordway Partridge and artworks by renowned artists such as George Peter Alexander Healy, William Morris Hunt and Albert E. Sterner. Art comes in many forms at Ruthmere. The iconic greenhouse and Ruthmere’s gardens provide the perfect bridge for visitors to appreciate both the Ruthmere property and the annual Quilt Garden found just outside of Ruthmere’s perimeter wall.

Set among this upper-class mansion, with ornate iron fences and sturdy brick walls, you can find this year’s Quilt Garden. Ruth’s Chrysanthemum was selected due to its diversity in color and the way it looks in a flatbed for viewing. The chrysanthemum was loved by the late Victorians and became especially popular in the early 20th century, when Ruthmere was built. Pink was the chosen color in remembrance of Ruth, the infant daughter of Albert and Elizabeth Beardsley and Ruthmere’s namesake who died when she was still a baby.

Because of the amount of shade this garden receives, Ruthmere’s Quilt Garden makes use of shade-loving old faithfuls begonias, coleus and impatiens. In fact, Impatiens is among the relatively few readily available, inexpensive flowering plants that will put on a great floral display even when grown in full shade.

Impatiens flowers take their name from the Latin, *impatiens*, meaning “impatient.” They are so-called because their ripe seed pods will sometimes burst open from even a light touch (as if they were impatient to open). This characteristic is especially apparent in a relative named “jewelweed,” which is indigenous to eastern North America. The current flow of evidence points to Impatiens originating in Southeast Asia migrated overland into Africa at least twice.

When you are planting impatiens, give them rich, well-drained soils. Ruthmere has worked diligently to amend the soil to provide a balanced pH, good drainage and enriched soil. If you have heavy clays, it is best to add some organic matter like compost or peat moss to loosen it up and add nutrients. Impatiens are not very tolerant of drought, and during long dry spells the plants will quickly wilt. Luckily, they are very quick to bounce back once watered.

Once your impatiens are in the ground, they will need at least 2 inches of water a week if planted in the ground. Impatiens do not need to be deadheaded. They self-clean their spent blooms and will bloom profusely all season long. Impatiens are tropical plants. Once the first frost comes, they will turn to mush.

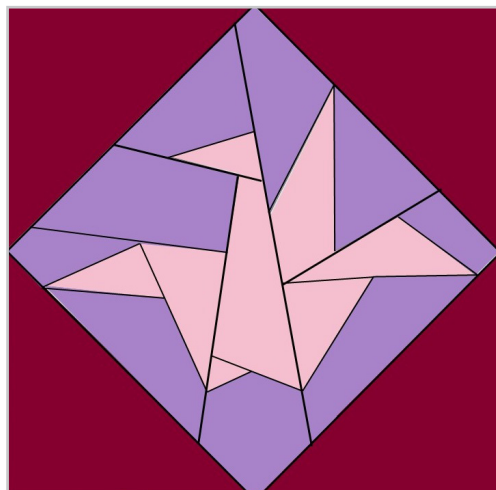
Impatiens usually grow to no more than a foot tall, but the Wasabi Coleus is listed as 18 to 36 inches. It will be interesting to see what this difference means in the overall appearance, and if pruning the coleus can keep it in step with the shorter impatiens and begonias.

### Ruthmere

302 East Beardsley Avenue | Elkhart, IN

w: [Ruthmere.org](http://Ruthmere.org)

p: 888.287.7696

*Pacifica Burgundy Halo Vinca**Pacifica Icy Pink Vinca**Cabaret Sky Blue Calibrachoa*

## B2 “Peace Crane” - Wellfield Botanic Gardens

SIZE: 30'w x 30'h

Founded by the Elkhart Rotary in 2005, Wellfield Botanic Gardens' purpose is integral to both the quality of life and authenticity of place. Wellfield's mission is to promote the inseparable relationship between water, plants and animals, inspire creativity and education while celebrating nature, foster stewardship for the natural world, and bring people together to build community. Thirty-six acres in size, half of which are water, Wellfield resides on a historical piece of property originally known as the North Main Street Well Field. The property has been a source of hydraulic energy and drinking water for the city of Elkhart since the mid-1800s and continues to provide most of the drinking water for the community.

Wellfield's Quilt Garden is located just outside its gates, where it is showcased in a new stone-lined bed. For a small admission fee, step inside and get in touch with nature as Wellfield leads visitors along winding stone paths dotted with charming pump houses and whimsical sculptures. Vantage points from walkways and bridges offer panoramic views while shaded benches invite quiet reflection. As a botanic garden, every day is different throughout the seasons and Wellfield's diverse and interesting garden spaces make it a special place to visit. Always growing and evolving, to celebrate the opening of their newest themed garden, the Japanese-inspired “Island Garden,” a generous gift from Don and Jurate Krabill, Wellfield Botanic Gardens is dedicating 2020 to highlighting Japanese culture and its many artistic contributions to the world.

Wellfield presents Kisetsu: The Year of the Island Garden 2020. “Kisetsu” translates to season or the time of year. The Japanese have a sensitivity to the ephemeral or impermanence of all things as seasons change, a concept called *mono no aware*. In other words, the only constant is change itself. It is wonderful to walk the garden on a daily or weekly basis throughout the year watching the subtle and not so subtle natural changes marking the passage of time.

Wellfield Botanic Gardens is a natural fit to feature a living Quilt Garden as it is a chance to showcase horticultural experience and provide an aesthetic addition to the Heritage Trail. Crane, designed by Margaret Rolfe, features over 2,000 plants in its origami design and a viewing platform that allows you to see it at the best angle, this is sure to present a picture-worthy opportunity. The crane is the real star of the quilt, but the sturdy *Vinca Pacifica* in burgundy and icy pink are what bring it to life. *Vinca*'s ability to bloom early and profusely all summer will keep the crane fresh and full all summer. *Vincas* are a low-maintenance plant, requiring no deadheading and reasonable watering.

*Calibrachoa*, commonly called million bells or trailing petunia, plays a supporting role in this themed garden. *Calibrachoa* is a tender perennial that produces mounds of foliage, growing only 3 to 9 inches tall, along trailing stems and flowers in shades of violet, blue, pink, red, magenta, yellow, bronze and white. Introduced in the early 1990s, all cultivars of *Calibrachoa* are hybrids with the original species native to South America. Thriving in full sun with six to eight hours of direct sunlight each day, *calibrachoa* also tolerates partial shade, where it blooms somewhat less profusely. The plant needs regular watering every week in the growing season, and more if you grow it in a container. Allow the soil to dry out completely between watering. *Calibrachoa* is drought tolerant but performs best with adequate water. Unlike petunias, *calibrachoa* will not benefit from pinching off spent flowers; as a hybrid, *calibrachoa* doesn't produce seeds from spent flowers. The flowers will simply drop off on their own accord. But you can cut back trailing stems to encourage more bushy, compact growth in the plant.

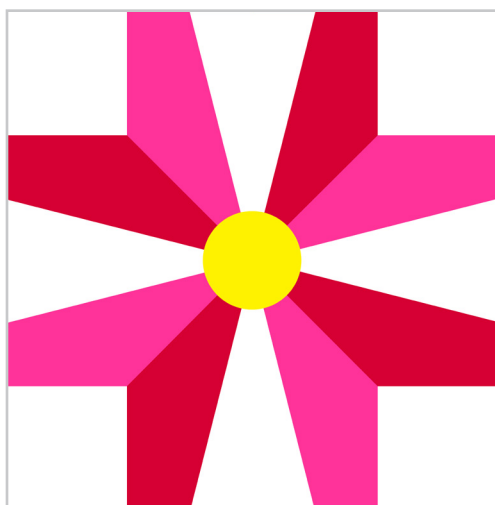
### Wellfield Botanic Gardens

1011 North Main Street | Elkhart, IN

w: [WellfieldGardens.org](http://WellfieldGardens.org)

p: 574.266.2006





- Red Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Begonia*
- Super Olympia Pink Green Leaf Begonia*
- Taishan Yellow Marigold*
- Snow Crystals White Alyssum*

#### D4 “Lulu May’s Daisy” - Abshire Park

SIZE: 31’w x 31’h

The Goshen Parks and Recreation Department enjoyed its first Quilt Garden last year, as the gardens are a perfect way of expressing art with nature. It speaks to their mission of providing and embracing programs that benefit area residents and which contribute to Goshen’s environment, wellness and sense of community.

The garden, located in Abshire Park, is a place where people gather. Donated to the Parks and Recreation Department in 1986, this is the third largest park in the city spanning 75.5 acres. Abshire Park helps to maintain balance in the park system between active and passive recreational opportunities. The park lies adjacent to, and is accessible from the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, a leg of the Maple City Greenway trail network. Abshire Park offers a beautiful trailhead and ample parking for the abundance of trail enthusiasts this park attracts. The north end of the park is a managed natural area and includes a prairie restoration, wetlands and traditional forest. Rock Run Creek borders the park to the southwest. The many different landscapes that come together in Abshire Park provide an ideal habitat for animals and birds. Abshire Cabin, a rentable enclosed pavilion, is located on the property.

The park offers tranquility and green space for picnics, a game of catch or to stretch out in the lawn for a rest or to read a book. It is often used as a SAG stop for numerous running, walking or biking events that take place along the adjacent trails.

“Lulu May’s Daisy” is representative of the park’s creating and fostering friendships among bicyclists, walkers, runners, and the larger community. This sunny spot is a perfect backdrop for the vibrant colors of the quilt achieved with three plant varieties, begonias, marigolds and alyssum. Nothing likes a bit of sun better than alyssum.

Snow Crystals Alyssum is bathed in stunning clusters of fragrant white star-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from mid spring to mid fall. Snow Crystals Alyssum brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and is used to its full effect here, highlighting the bright petals of Lulu May’s Daisy.

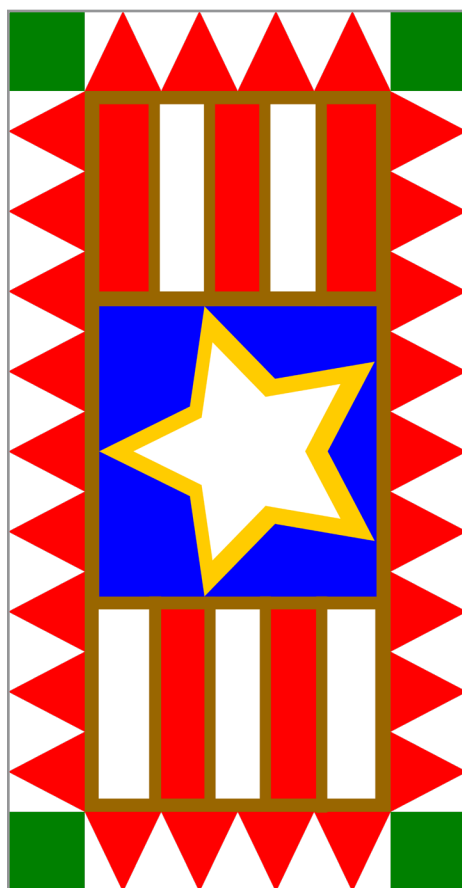
This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth but will die in standing water. This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats.





Inspect alyssum every two weeks during the summer flowering season. Trim the plants when the stems become leggy with sparse foliage and display dry, dead blooms. Trim back individual trailing stems that have finished flowering and have begun to develop sparse or unattractive foliage. Cut back these stems to a bud near the lush portion of the alyssum. Remove the trimmed plant materials from the bed and dispose of them. Dead plant material left in the garden can attract diseases and pests. Alyssum is difficult to over-prune, so trim as often as needed to maintain the appearance and size of the plant. Always use clean shears for pruning to avoid spreading plant diseases.

#### Abshire Park

Goshen Parks Department  
1302 E. Lincoln Ave. | Goshen, IN

w: [GoshenIndiana.org/parks-rec](http://GoshenIndiana.org/parks-rec)  
p: 574.534.2901



-  *White Green Leaf Begonia*
-  *Choco Chili Alternanthera*
-  *Red Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Begonia*
-  *Curled Leaf Parsley*
-  *Gold Mulch*

## D4 “Purdue Extension Elkhart County Star” - Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

SIZE: 20'w x 40'h

The Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds is a busy place year-round with RV, motorhome and motorcycle rallies, weddings and receptions, plus corporate and community events. This garden is a cooperative partnership between four organizations: Purdue University Co-operative Extension Service, Michiana Master Gardeners Association, Elkhart County Extension Homemakers and the Elkhart County 4-H Fair Board. While planting and maintenance are primarily done by the Master Gardeners, the Extension Homemakers help and have contributed the design. All four organizations help with expenses. Each group brings with it a membership of knowledgeable and generous individuals committed to the mission of the Quilt Gardens project.

The Quilt Gardens at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds have varied greatly over the years, but one constant has been their selection of designs with four parts or components to represent the four groups involved, and they always include green to represent life and agriculture. If you've visited gardens in the past, you might recognize “Star” as a repeat design for the fairgrounds, but it has a new introduction this time around- Choco Chili Alternanthera.

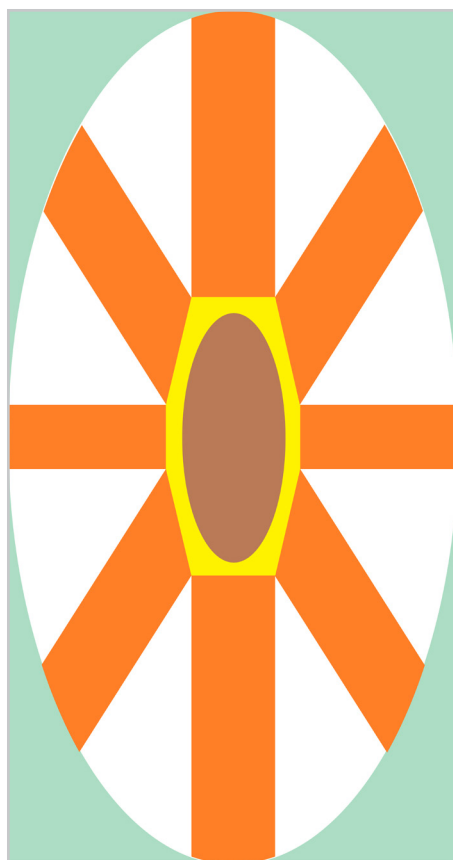
This quilt location, although sunny at times, never receives the minimum six hours of sun that would register it as sunny. Alternanthera likes full sun or part shade. Alternanthera, sometimes known as Joseph's Coat, Choco Chili has stunning foliage all year round. It is nearly black purple on top and a bright ruby on the bottom giving a multi-dimensional look. It is naturally compact and heat tolerant. Its vigorous and spreading habit means it combines well with almost anything for summertime combination containers and baskets or use as an ornamental garden plant.

Alternanthera types are native to moist, tropical areas, so it's important to keep their soil evenly moist, not allowing it to dry out completely at any time. Although it will tolerate part shade, it is darkest in full sun. The amount of pinching you put into your Alternanthera plant care routine determines the growth habit of the plant. If you pinch out the growth tips regularly, the plants form a neat mound that looks fantastic in formal borders, and you can also use them in knot gardens. They remain attractive but take on a more casual appearance when you leave them alone.

And then there's the parsley. Parsley is not only a sumptuous deep green herb with great texture and easy care, but it's also high in vitamin C. It allows one to see, feel and taste while promoting health as part of the health, head, heart and hands pledge of the 4-H program.

**Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds &  
Purdue Co-Operative Extension Service**  
17746 County Road 34 | Goshen, IN

w: 4HFair.org | Extension.Purdue.edu  
p: 574.533.FAIR | 574.533.0554



*Bright Yellow Janie Marigold*



*Orange Taishan Marigold*



*Super Olympia White Green Leaf Begonia*



*Silver Falls Dichondra*

## D4 “Flowering Sunshine” - Elkhart County Courthouse

SIZE: 20'w x 40'h

Goshen is fast becoming a center for cultural and visual arts all revolving around a historic downtown which embraces its past. In an area once inhabited by the Miami and Algonquin tribes, Goshen was established in 1831 and is the Elkhart County seat. Few towns Goshen's size (just over 30,000 residents) can boast about a thriving downtown cultural arts scene, beautiful historic architecture and intriguing places to eat and shop. The Goshen Historical Society, which plants and maintains the Quilt Garden at the Elkhart County Courthouse, also operates a museum downtown where they exhibit artifacts, documents and images from Goshen's past. Their goal is to preserve the past for future generations.

Because of its central location, the Courthouse is a good place to park and explore downtown. It is within easy walking distance of a great many unique and locally owned shops and eateries, and the Goshen Historical Museum. Looking at the skyline one can see testament to the good bones of a historic town. The Courthouse building, over 100 years old in the Renaissance Revival style, is stately and the magnificent Neptune Fountain adds to the town's ambiance.

Perhaps one of Goshen's greatest boons is its bounty of independent restaurants. Foodies need look no further than downtown for artisan pizza and bread, craft beer, chocolates, burritos, gelato and spicy curries. The city is home to five artists' guilds for clay artists and you'll find several galleries and shops around town showcasing artists' work.

Taking a break from past years' triangles and squares, Flowering Sunshine Quilt Garden literally bursts forth in its plot. Nothing says sunshine like marigolds. The change in shape allows for a few more walking paths as marigolds require deadheading throughout the growing season. This garden receives its best sun in the morning, a plus for any garden. Begonias prefer some shade and late afternoon offers them a respite.

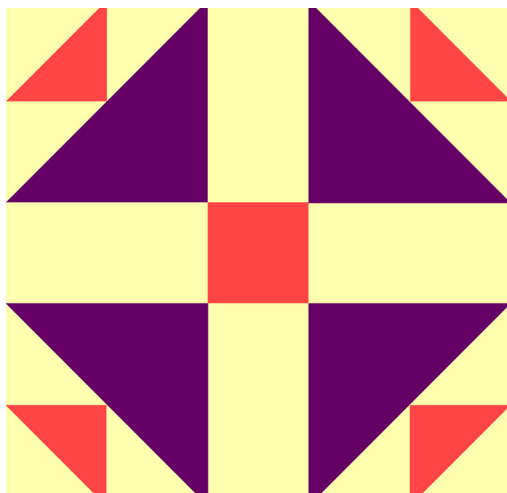
A less well-known plant in this garden is Silver Falls. Silver Falls is the common name for *Dichondra argentea*, used as an herbaceous annual. *Dichondra* has small, rounded leaves that resemble miniature water lily pads. Native to Texas and Mexico, it can be grown as a low groundcover or as a plant that trails over the edge of a raised bed or container. The name Silver Falls comes from the unique coloring of the leaves, a silvery pale green. The trailing stems branch well without pinching. It is heat and drought tolerant and will recover quickly if watered after wilting. In the Midwest, *dichondra* has no serious insect or disease problems.

Not typically grown inside, Silver Falls does well in containers and there is no reason you shouldn't try it. Silver falls *dichondra* care is simple and you'll find that if you give your potted plant the right conditions it will thrive and grow vigorously.

**Elkhart County Courthouse**  
in partnership with the Goshen Chamber  
of Commerce and the Downtown  
Economic Improvement District of Goshen  
101 North Main Street | Goshen, IN

w: ElkhartCountyIndiana.com  
w: Goshen.org  
p: 574.533.2102





*Red Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Begonia*



*Aloha Blue Ageratum*



*Wizard Golden Coleus*

## C4 “Hen & Chickens” - Old Bag Factory

SIZE: 29'w x 32'h

In 1896, J.J. Burns opened the Cosmo Buttermilk Soap Co. in Goshen. The production building, constructed expressly to facilitate Burns' new business, took up nearly 80,000 square feet of space. Inside, workers manufactured laundry soap, fine bathing soap and toilet paper. In 1910, the plant was renovated and purchased by The Chicago-Detroit Bag Co. A 1924 merger put the building under the control of the Chase Bag Factory and became part of a colossal enterprise. The Goshen plant was one of the largest and most important of the 15 plants owned by the company. The range of bags extended from waterproof burlap sacks to the fine, sheer paper used in Hershey's Kiss wrappers. The term “bagology” which is painted across the building was coined during this period, meaning “to elevate the production of bags to the level of science.”

In 1984, the Old Bag Factory was restored, and artists and merchants began making this nostalgic building and its surroundings their home. The Old Bag Factory thrives on craft and commerce just as it had in the past. One can watch hand-thrown pottery being processed, or steel structures being welded into place. Jewelry, rolls and artwork are offered in shops throughout the historic building. Now, instead of transporting goods by train, the Old Bag Factory's artists and merchants can send their crafts away in — what else? — shopping bags.

The Old Bag Factory has chosen to cut away panels of sod to form a permanent template for use each year. This is one way they create a path from which to care for the flowers, but it also requires continual vigilance to keep the openings neatly edged and to size.

Hen and Chickens, chosen for its simple, geometric design and the vibrant colors of the flowers, contrasts well with the surrounding landscape. The Quilt Garden struggles some with semi-shaded conditions, so shade-loving begonias and coleus are sound choices. Ageratum will tolerate some shade, but too much and it won't flower as well.

As in all gardens, a well-drained soil is important. Few plants enjoy having wet feet, and most are prone to root rot if water stands around them too long. The slope of this garden helps the drainage and provides a perfect angle for viewing. If you care to see it from the top down, you'll find three benches waiting for you. The design is perfect either way.

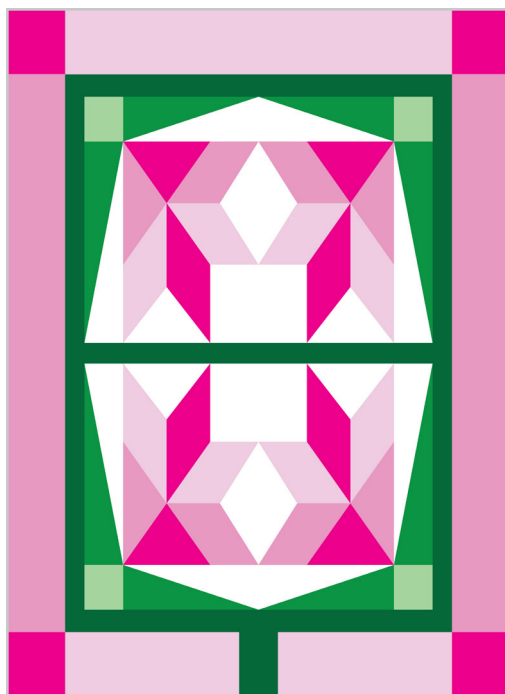
With so many new coleus on the market, it's sometimes difficult to know where to plant it. It's always a good idea to read the plant label for plant preferences since some will sunburn if too sunny and some won't show good color if too shady.

Wizard Golden Coleus does best in partial shade to shade. The large rich-chartreuse leaves will light up shady areas of your garden, providing outstanding contrast for darker colored (especially purple) plants. Growing to 12 to 14 inches tall, Wizard Golden coleus tolerates sun, heat and humidity better than most coleus. It can even be grown indoors on a sunny windowsill. This is a relatively low maintenance plant. The flowers of this plant may detract from its ornamental features, so they can be removed as they appear. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats.

### Old Bag Factory

1100 North Chicago Avenue  
Goshen, IN

w: OldBagFactory.com  
p: 574.534.2502



## E2 “Pink Peony Kaleidoscope” - Das Dutchman Essenhaus

SIZE: 49'w x 57'h

Since 1971, Das Dutchman Essenhaus is dedicated to providing each guest with a wholesome, safe environment, warm hospitality, outstanding service, and consistent quality. What began as a 120-seat family-style restaurant has grown to become Indiana's largest restaurant with over 1,100 seats. In addition to the flagship of the organization, the campus offers overnight lodging at the charming Inn, shopping opportunities in boutique-style stores, a home-style bakery, live theatre at Heritage Hall, and abundant outdoor recreational options. The Essenhaus has been a part of the Quilt Garden project since its inception and states that “creating a large-scale quilt pattern of living flowers is special and unique in our ‘patchwork community’ and we’re thrilled to have the opportunity to participate.”

The pattern they have selected, “Pink Peony Kaleidoscope” is brought to life with an explosion of color from petunias, begonias, zinnias and coleus. The largest Quilt Garden on the tour with over 3,100 square feet is set on a grassy hill with plenty of room to roam around or sit awhile in their gazebo. You're sure to find the perfect spot to take a picture.



Garden designers know that when it comes to annuals, it's not just about the flowers — foliage matters, too. And when it comes to foliage, coleus tops the list. Though it has fallen in and out of favor over the past couple of centuries, this member of the mint family is popular again, and the selection is better than ever. Coleus has long been a staple for shade gardening, but new hybrids have brought it into the light. PartyTime coleus, used here, is a new line of Solenostemon hybrid coleus, and comes in an array of seven intoxicating colors, including Lime, Sangria, Pink Berry, and Ruby Punch, colors that offer full sun to shade tolerance and are ideal as component plants in mixed containers. Used here, Ruby Punch has burgundy leaves with chartreuse centers and PartyTime Lime has lemon centers with lime green edges.

The other coleus, FlameThrower Salsa Verde Sun Coleus, has narrow, serrated leaves that are bright lime colored. They are called Sun Coleus due to the ability of these varieties to perform well in full sun and should not be confused with regular coleus varieties that require shade. Sun Coleus can tolerate full sun and that's what they are all about, but most coleus grow best in semi-shade. The varieties with dark leaves tend to tolerate more sun, while lighter varieties need more shade to minimize leaf scorch. Morning sun and dappled afternoon shade tends to maintain consistent foliage coloration. Too little light will encourage a weak stemmed, less vigorous plant without the best color.

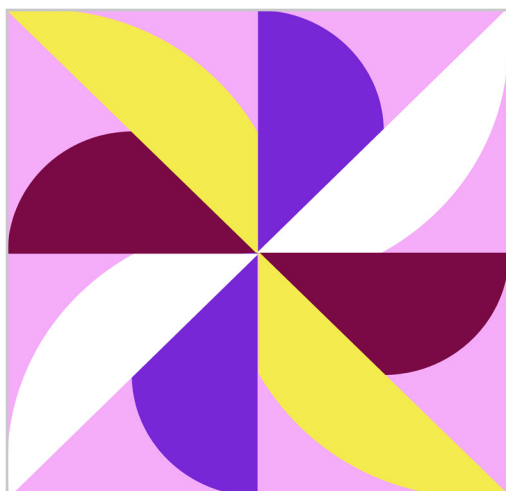
These coleus are compact plants, dense and well-branched and feature trailing to semi-trailing habits. They are low maintenance plants that are heat tolerant with unique, multicolored, fine foliage that are late to never flowering (since the coleus flowers are nothing to write home about). All coleus need plenty of water and for bushier coleus, pinch off flower stalks and other spindly stems. Pinch just above a set of leaves or branching junction for the best appearance; don't leave a stub. Some gardeners leave the small flowers, but it's best to pinch them off to direct more energy into stem and foliage growth, and it's helpful to fertilize monthly. Coleus is deer resistant and butterfly and hummingbird friendly.

### Das Dutchman Essenhaus

240 US 20 | Middlebury, IN

w: Essenhaus.com

p: 800.455.9471



-  *Easy Wave Yellow Petunia*
-  *Easy Wave Blue Petunia*
-  *Easy Wave Burgundy Velour Petunia*
-  *Easy Wave Silver Petunia*
-  *Super Olympia Pink Green Leaf Begonia*

## F2 “Dahlia” - Dutch Country Market

SIZE: 45'w x 45'h

In 2005, Norman and Katie Lehman used Katie's Homemade Noodles to launch Dutch Country Market. As the business has grown, so has the selection of noodles: four widths, two thicknesses, white and whole wheat, and an average of 400 pounds a day. Weekday mornings one can watch them rolling out the noodles. They also have a large selection of other products — jellies, pickles, preserves, salty snacks and another local favorite, Amish peanut butter. Outside, local produce of amazingly high quality can be found in season, as well as locally made lawn furniture.

And there's honey, another of their specialties. Norman has tended bees for over 20 years and produces 36,000 pounds of honey products a year! The store carries jars of honey in many sizes and varieties, comb honey, honey sticks, bee pollen, beeswax candles and soap, and nine flavors of whipped honey. They also have a working honeybee hive in the store where you can view the bees at work.

But follow the bees outside and you'll find many of them heading straight for the huge “Dahlia” Quilt Garden full of flowers. You'll find the bees seem to appreciate the Quilt Gardens just as much as the residents and visitors. The bees and other pollinators can often be seen nestled among each of the 16 Quilt Gardens in the county, and growers like Norman and Katie are careful to avoid harmful pesticides and to use natural fertilizers so the bees stay healthy and productive.

This garden is full of bees and waves, Wave Petunias that is. Wave petunias (*Petunia x hybrida*) are a strain of petunias that spread and trail while staying low to the ground. These vigorous plants were developed by a Japanese company and brought into commerce in the United States by Ball Seed in 1995. Wave petunias have a unique trailing growth habit and are highly prolific in their blooming. They drape over the sides of containers and raised beds and are great summer performers. A regular petunia has an upright or bush growth habit. It may spread slightly but will not drape down as dramatically as a Wave petunia. The Easy Wave Series offers the greatest color selection in all of the spreading petunias available. Fast-growing plants bloom freely all season in landscapes and containers without cutting back and tolerate both heat and cooler conditions very well.

Plant them in full sun in moist, well-drained soil. Feed them with an all-purpose fertilizer when you first plant them, and every two weeks after that until the middle of summer. Trim back petunias in midsummer if they become leggy, overgrown and begin flowering poorly. Remove half of the plant stem's length by cutting the petunias down with garden shears. Shearing back forces the petunias to send out new compact stems.

Avoid wet foliage going into night. Petunias are subject to root and crown rot, a result of uneven watering. When watering, do it thoroughly and then allow petunias to dry out, almost to the wilting stage. Be warned against watering on a schedule. Always check the soil; if it's damp, don't apply water.

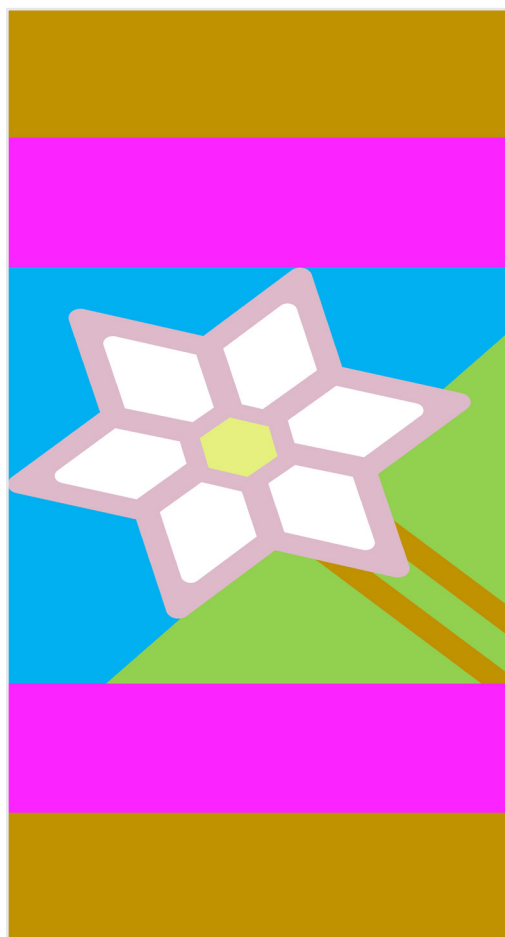
### Dutch Country Market

11401 CR 16 | Middlebury, IN

w: [visitelkhartcounty.com/listing/dutch-country-market/137/](http://visitelkhartcounty.com/listing/dutch-country-market/137/)

p: 574.825.3594





## E2 “Flower of the Woods” - Krider World’s Fair Garden

SIZE: 20’w x 40’h

The history and beauty of Krider World’s Fair Garden managed by the Middlebury Parks Department adds to the Quilt Garden experience. Not only are visitors able to see a beautiful Quilt Garden, but they also learn about the Krider family history and can enjoy the pleasant park and botanical garden atmosphere. The current garden serves as a historical and botanical icon to the Krider Family and Nursery. It was formed by Vernon Krider in the late 1800s and was known as the largest plant nursery between Cleveland and Chicago. The gardens were originally designed for display in the 1933-1934 Chicago World’s Fair. The Krider garden then began as display gardens for the nursery after bringing back many of the structures from the World’s Fair exhibit. The nursery was an important and meaningful business for the town of Middlebury. It once was the largest employer for the local economy and was a major reason the Pumpkinvine railroad was built through Middlebury.







Vernon Krider’s grandson, Rex Krider, has been active restoring the garden’s history with replicas of original garden structures from the 1930s, and propagating the “Festival” thorn-less rose (a 1944 Krider patent and pictured on the center mural as part of this year’s quilt design). The mural is hand-painted by local artist Linda Pieri. Krider Garden continues the tradition of using patterns that relate to Krider World’s Fair Garden and/or the Middlebury community.

While strolling through the gardens, one can find a multitude of photo ops among the structures. The concrete mushrooms from the 1933 Chicago World’s Fair are a great photo spot, as are the windmill, water features and gazebo where one can also sit in the gliders and rest a while.

This location provides some challenges as it is one of the most shaded gardens on the tour. This garden then is done with shade-loving coleus and shade-tolerant parsley. But the star performers are Super Olympia Begonias also known as wax begonias. They are compact, tender, ever-blooming herbaceous perennials normally used as disposable annual bedding plants in temperate regions. Their roots are fibrous and dense, giving rise to another common name — fibrous begonia. The Super Olympia Series wax begonias are vigorous plants, flowering constantly in mild weather. They prefer a shaded location that gets a little sunlight each day. Begonias prefer a rich, slightly moist soil. Enriching the soil with humus is beneficial in beds.

Watering correctly is important in the care of begonias. Soil should remain moist, but not too wet. A well-draining soil or potting mix simplifies this task. Begonias should not be watered in the heat of the day to avoid burning the plants. Water wax begonias at the base to avoid leaf spot and the possibility of fungal diseases.

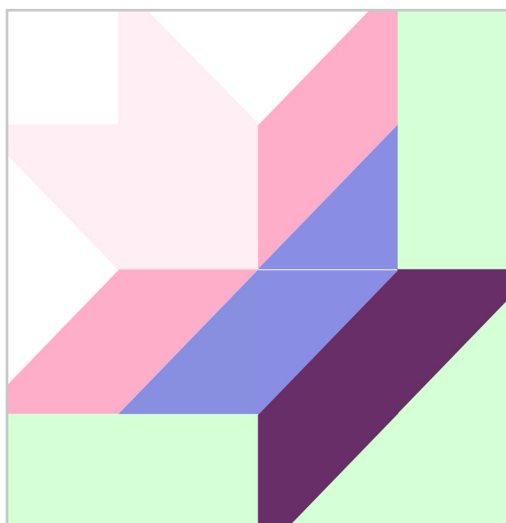
To keep begonias in top form, feed every 10 days during the summer with a dilute solution of liquid fertilizer. The most compact and healthy wax begonias result from deadheading and pinching back regularly. Annual begonia plants are also deer resistant, so keep them in mind for trouble spots in the landscape.

-  *Bronze Coleus*
-  *Super Olympia Pink Green Leaf Begonia*
-  *Tripled Curled Parsley*
-  *Super Olympia White Green Leaf Begonia*
-  *Super Olympia White Bronze Leaf Begonia*
-  *Ageratum*
-  *Yellow Coleus*

### Krider World’s Fair Garden

302 West Bristol Avenue (County Road 8)  
Middlebury, IN

w: MiddleburyIN.com  
p: 574.825.1499



	<i>Cocktail Brandy Light Pink Begonia</i>
	<i>Cocktail Gin Pink Begonia</i>
	<i>Ageratum</i>
	<i>Sweet Potato Vine</i>
	<i>Silver Falls Dichondra</i>
	<i>Cirrus Dusty Miller</i>

## A6 “Angles in the Garden” - Coppes Commons

SIZE: 30'w x 30'h

Nappanee's colorful history comes alive at Coppes Commons. Here, you'll get a glimpse of the fascinating history of the Coppes Kitchens, once featured in department stores such as Gimbel's and Macy's and installed in prestigious homes including those of Frank Sinatra and President John F. Kennedy. The Coppes factory famous for its Hoosier cabinets has a long and colorful history. In part the growth of Nappanee in its formative years was due to the success of Coppes cabinets. Their prestige in woodcraft is such that Herbert Hoover, then secretary of commerce, conducted a study that found that using a Coppes Hoosier cabinet saved the average American 75 percent of the time and energy spent in the kitchen. Coppes is the only Hoosier cabinet producer that still builds kitchens today.

The Coppes factory's proximity to the railroad allowed it to ship cabinets across the growing country. The company built more than 2 million of the highly collectible Nappanee Dutch Kitchenettes, shipping a train carload each day. The furniture and kitchen cabinets known as “Hoosiers” were built right here in Nappanee in what is now known as Coppes Commons. The 100,000-square-foot renovated factory enjoys new life and now houses a variety of shops offering locally made handcrafted and freshly baked items and more. An observation deck on the second floor of this historic building offers the best view of the beautiful floral display and is also the best place to get an overhead photo.

Looking a lot like a basket of flowers, “Angles in the Garden” showcases foliage as well as flowers for their color. You'll find begonias and ageratum flowers blooming brightly and dusty miller, dichondra, and sweet potato vine adding strong color with their leaves. Foliage plants such as these offer consistent color, low maintenance and good coverage.

Gardeners turn to the sweet potato vine for its ability to power through just about anything while bringing interesting shapes, sizes, and colors to a pot or plot. A vigorous annual, it takes off in summer heat. The vines can reach up to 10 feet long and are most often used as a trailing accent in containers but can also be used as a ground cover or grown up a trellis.

Sweet potato vines, a close cousin to the morning glory, rarely flower. They love the sun and do best in full heat. This plant is grown primarily for its wonderful foliage and tropical feel. The dark varieties look best in intense sun. In part shade, the nearly black fades to muddled purple and the golds and chartreuse to muted greens.

They thrive in well-drained soil but need to be fertilized regularly during the growing season. Keep an eye on these sneaky plants, though. Sweet potato vines can get unruly. Sometimes they even attempt a takeover and try to dominate the container, in which case they need to be pruned. Tubers are edible but not meant for consumption. Leaves contain the same principal ingredient as LSD, and can be highly toxic to pets if ingested.

### Coppes Commons

401 E Market Street | Nappanee, IN

w: [CoppesCommons.com](http://CoppesCommons.com)

p: 574.773.0002



-  *Limoncello Supertunia*
-  *White Supertunia*
-  *Curley Parsley*
-  *Really Red Supertunia*
-  *Yellow Marigold*

A6

**“Flower of the Cross”****- Nappanee Center & Chamber of Commerce**

SIZE: 30'w x 30'h

Nappanee sits at the crossroads of U.S. 6 and S.R. 19, two major highways in the northern sector of Indiana. It's a community of people that thrives on being a tight-knit community. From the construction of the downtown pavilion completed through a community effort that resembled an old-fashioned barn raising, to city employees who strive to provide the best possible government services to its residents and guests, the city lives “community.”

The quarter-block area where the Quilt Garden resides sits on the Heritage Trail and in the backyard of the Nappanee Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber shares space with the Nappanee Center/Heritage Museum and the John Hartman Home, a structure that dates to 1897. The Heritage Museum has an impressive collection started by former librarian Evelyn Culp in the Nappanee Public Library but was later moved to this site. Over the years this collection has expanded to include a collection of historic Hoosier cabinets and many other items of interest.

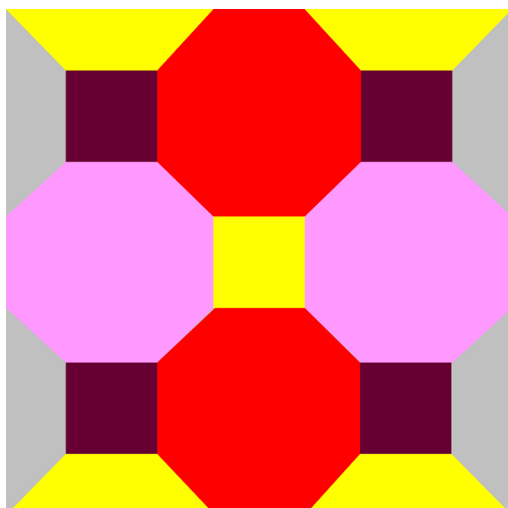
The “Flower of the Cross” design highlights a single dogwood flower which legend holds was marked to tell the story of Christ's crucifixion; two short and two long petals like a cross, rusty brown marks at the edge of each like nail prints and a crown of thorns in the center. This garden combines a variety of plants to create a simple yet distinct design with high contrast of colors, textures and mass. Foliage and flowers combine to offer sheen and style. The deep rich green of the parsley contrasts with the vibrant yellows, reds and whites of the marigolds and Supertunias. Regular Supertunia petunias are vigorous with slightly mounded habits that function as both fillers and spillers in containers. They are also excellent landscape plants. They have medium- to large-sized flowers.

This location is one of full sun so Supertunias are happy to produce flowers in profusion. Plants like consistent water. They can tolerate a little more or a little less, but the key is to be consistent. The more they receive their needed water on a regular basis, the more reliable they are in producing new flowers. Planted in the ground, they have it easy: They have unlimited space to grow and the ability to send out roots to find food if it's not there. As a result, plants planted in the ground can do with a bit less fertilizer and water than plants in containers.

To keep all the Quilt Gardens looking like quilts requires work. Not only in regular maintenance like watering, weeding, and fertilizing, but also with deadheading, pinching and trimming. For you to see the quilt pattern, strong color, defined edges, and consistency in height are essential. Quilt Gardens are a labor of love by the many who work (often as volunteers) to make them perform well and look their best all summer long.

**Nappanee Center  
& Chamber of Commerce**  
302 West Market Street | Nappanee, IN

w: [NappaneeChamber.com](http://NappaneeChamber.com)  
p: 574.773.7812



*Red Cocktail Bronze Leaf Begonia*



*Pink Sprint Plus Green Leaf Begonia*



*Cirrus Dusty Miller*



*Yellow Taishan Marigold*



*Scarlet Wizard Coleus*

## A5 “Meadow Flower” - Downtown Wakarusa

SIZE: 30'w x 30'h

Wakarusa is one of those towns where the rush of the big city is left behind and old-fashioned is an honored trait. Centered around the town's only stoplight, you can find historic buildings featuring tin ceilings, a hardware store open since 1904 with a wall of 1,000 drawers ready to serve you, and a dime store. Wakarusa Dime Store was begun by a German immigrant in 1907 as Wolfberg's Department Store. Today, Wakarusa Dime Store is home to the Giant Jumbo Jelly Bean, big enough to share.

This year's Quilt Garden continues Wakarusa's tradition of bold design, in rich jewel tones, which pairs well with the Dancing Leaves mural nearby. In fact, this is a good spot for some great photo-taking, capturing not one, but two display quilts. Meadow Flower with its over 3,000 plants is reason enough to pull out the camera. The bright contrast of flowers, foliage and design lines should give one a chance to get creative.

Creativity abounds with the use of color and flower types in this garden. Marigolds, coleus and Dusty Miller make bold statements. This year a new garden site manager has transitioned into the position, keeping the creativity flowing but keeping the design simple for an easier start. This garden uses paths of mulch as part of the pattern, but also to get in there to weed and care for the plants. Every garden must work at a way to maintain their plants.

Many of you probably remember the old Dusty Millers of the past — thick-leaved, fuzzy plants that were a standard for adding to pots of geraniums. Cirrus D. Miller is a new generation. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. These woolly plants come from southern Europe, north West Africa and far West Asia.

This plant has large and round silver leaves and is known for outstanding weather resistance properties. The Cirrus color lends a beautiful accent to other bedding plants with their white woolly leaves that provide an excellent contrast. Cirrus Dusty Miller is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth.

The plant is adaptable to many soil types, ranging from sandy loam to acidic clay. Just be sure to drain the soil well to prevent the roots from rotting. If you're going to grow this plant at home, be advised to water it immediately after planting and withhold watering until the time the root has developed and the plant starts to grow. It is drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type or pH and is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This plant does best in full sun to partial shade.

Cirrus Dusty Miller is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a “thriller” in the “spiller-thriller-filler” container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges.

### Wakarusa Chamber of Commerce

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