



Evergreen Garden Club

# WILD IRIS



SEPTEMBER 2020

Hello EGC members,

As we begin this EGC year, having to continue our meetings via Zoom, I am hoping that many of you will be able to join us. We will be having live speakers join us after our 9:30 am business meeting.

It's been quite a summer – thank goodness for our gardens!

Here is one of my favorite garden quotes from Audrey Hepburn:

“To plant a garden, is to believe in tomorrow”

Wishing you peace, love and joy in the garden.

Cherie Luke  
EGC President

**WELCOME BACK!**

**NEXT EGC MEETING SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 VIA ZOOM**

Watch your e-mail for details on how to join in.

**SEPTEMBER PROGRAM WILL BE A LIVE SPEAKER VIA ZOOM**

*‘Putting your Garden to Bed to Benefit Pollinators’*

*By Chris Crouse*

Director, Clear Creek County Extension

*Our Program and live speaker will start directly following the meeting (approximately 10:15) Please join in at any time.*

**Evergreen Garden Club  
General Meeting  
June 9, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 10:10am by President, Carol Herczeg from her home using Zoom technology. In attendance were the President, First Vice President, Peggy Bertrand, 2nd Vice President, Donna Moore, Treasurer Helen McLeman, Secretary Janice Theobald, absent was Technology Officer Susan Garcia. A total of 15 club members were on the call.

**President's Report**

Carol started the meeting with a welcome and we acknowledged the members with June birthdays. Carol announced the Installation of our new President, Cherie Luke and new Technology Officer, Julie Ann Corim and Jan Parks as Hospitality lead. We thanked Annel Hoy for her service in Hospitality. Carol wanted to acknowledge Gwen Ginley (paid nonmember) who manages our website editing for us. We need your help and still have open positions for: Publicity Chair and Photographer. Carol asked that any members with photos of our gardens to please share them with Donna Moore (directory) and /or Louise for the Wild Iris. Thank you, Cindy Gibson, for taking over as Public Garden Coordinator and Hannah Hayes for Natural Resources!

We had an inquiry about someone seeking garden help for hire. Carol has the contact information. Alex Cox, plant representative for Star Roses and Plants has offered to donate roses for our community gardens. Many of our garden leads have been in touch with him and received these plants.

**1st Vice President Report**

Peggy is looking for fresh ideas for programs for next year. We are uncertain at this time what September and beyond will look like for our club meetings. Peggy will discuss with the fire station what the new restrictions and requirements are to hold meetings again. It was suggested to continue virtual meetings in addition to live meetings if we are able.

Peggy has had no response to "share your garden" at this time. If anyone is interested in sharing their garden this summer, please contact Peggy.

Dave from Sundance has been helpful in the redesign of the fire station public garden (street side). Changes should be apparent before next year's Garden Tour.

Peggy lead the Crazy Hat Contest. Donna Moore was our winner, with her handmade hat with waterfalls, mountains and wildflowers. (Thanks to her granddaughter Avery)

**2nd Vice President Report**

Donna gave membership update. Four new members at this time. Welcome!

**Treasurer's Report**

Helen discussed the budget.

**Secretary's Report**

May minutes have been approved without any changes, as they appear in the Wild Iris.

**Technology Officer's Report**

No Report

A short video on How to Successfully Plant and Grow Peonies was enjoyed by all. Thank you Peggy!

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10am

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Theobald, Secretary  
Evergreen Garden Club

**Evergreen Garden Club Welcomes  
our new in-coming President, Cherie Luke!**

**EGC would also like to extend a warm and heart-felt THANK YOU  
to our hard-working out-going President, Carol Herczeg.  
Thank you, Carol, for all you have done for EGC!**

**Thank you, Hannah Hayes,  
Our new Natural Resources Chairperson!**

**Thank you, Jan Parks,  
Our new Hospitality Chairperson!**

**A big thank you to Judy Black,  
EGC's new club photographer!**

**Thank you, Annell Hoy,  
Our new Public Gardens Coordinator!**

**Thank you, Julie Ann Courim,  
Our new Tech Chairperson!**

**And a warm heart-felt THANK YOU to all of  
our hard-working out-going Chairpersons.  
We couldn't do it without you!**

***WHAT SOME OF OUR MEMBERS  
HAVE BEEN UP TO THIS SUMMER...***



Garden club members Diana Aldridge, Dee Sacks, Mary Ellen Putnam and several other friends answered the call for help at the Buchanan Rec Center and spent a number of hours weeding and trimming much neglected plants and shrubs. Their community service is much appreciated by the BRC staff and the community!



**Evergreen Audubon**

Garden club members Dee Sacks and Jeannine Ashton have volunteered to work in some lucky person's garden if they are the top bidders in a virtual silent auction for Evergreen Audubon.

Need some competent garden help? Visit [Evergreenaudubon.org](http://Evergreenaudubon.org) to see the available auction items and bid on Dee and Jeanine's service all the while supporting Evergreen Audubon!





When the *Flowers for a Friend* garden at Hiwan Homestead put out the call for help, EGC members Pam Hinish, Janice Theobald, Dee Sacks, her daughter, Casey Sacks, Annell Hoy, Shelly Wickman and Krys Trieu came to the rescue with this amazing transformation. Thank you ladies!



Joy Young has a guest for tea in her garden.



Kristina Sherwood trying her hand at vertical gardening.



Some of our members attending and participating in the EGC June meeting 'Crazy Garden Hat' competition via Zoom technology. Will life ever be the same again?!

Annell Hoy is making home-made trellises.



## IT'S TIME TO RENEW!

**Membership dues are due Sept 1 – 30<sup>th</sup>\***

**for the 2020-2021 year!**

**Send checks to EVERGREEN GARDEN CLUB,  
PO Box 1393, Evergreen, CO 80437.**

**You can also PAY ON LINE or use Pay Pal at our website:**

***[www.evergreengardenclub.org](http://www.evergreengardenclub.org)***

**Personal yearly membership is \$30.00**

**Family membership is \$40.00**

**Business membership is \$60.00**

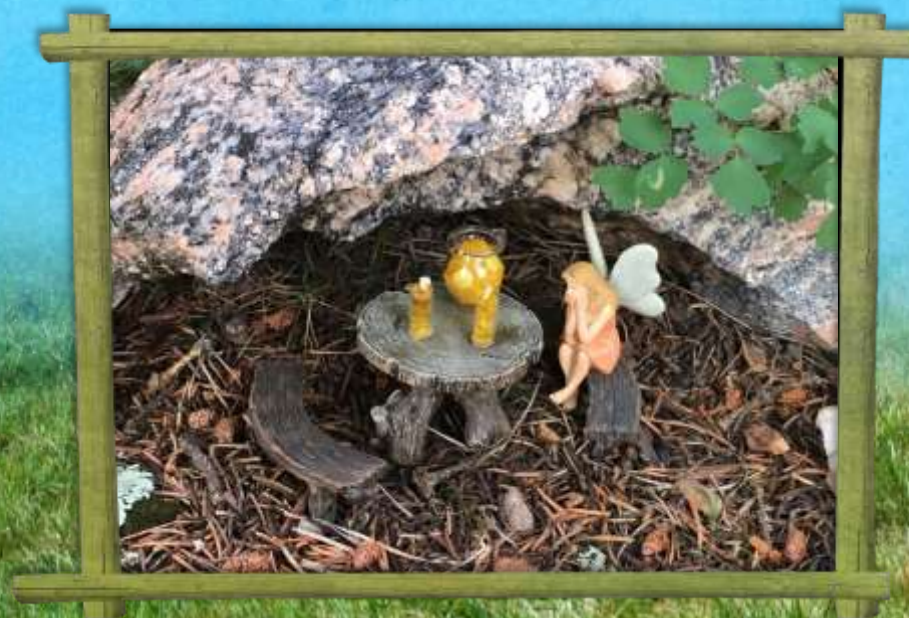
**\*Dues must be received by  
September 30, 2020 to ensure  
inclusion in the EGC Directory  
Thank you!**



### ***FAIRY GARDEN HEIST***

***By EGC Member Barbara Steger***

As part of every spring activity in her garden, Barbara set out her fairy garden display. There were no granddaughters to help this time, but she is a girl at heart anyway. Barbara had placed her pond, ducks, garden shed, rabbits, skunks, fairy, and other adorable accessories under the usual rock ledge. One week later, she was aghast to discover that several items were missing. Gone were the duck and ducklings, the skunks, one rabbit and the dancing fairy! Though hesitant to do so, she placed a call to the sheriff to report her loss. Since no prints were left at the site, there was little to do. Suspects include crows, squirrels, raccoons, and magpies, all of whom like to decorate their nests. So somewhere nearby, part of Barbara's fairy garden is decorating someone else's home. What could be better than that?





**BERGEN CIRCLE**







## FIRE STATION

Volunteers are needed to help  
with the Fire Station Garden.  
They meet Wednesday  
mornings at 8:00 am.  
Please contact Peggy Berstrand  
at [peggyberstrand@gmail.com](mailto:peggyberstrand@gmail.com)  
if interested.





DAM GARDEN



**POST OFFICE GARDEN**






HIWAN MUSEUM





**A BIG THANK YOU**  
to all the Community Garden  
Volunteers for keeping our  
Community Gardens looking  
their best despite this hot,  
dry summer!



**Best Wishes**  
to all of our  
September Birthday  
Boys & Girls!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**



# How To Make a Moss Dish Garden

## Miniature moss garden

This miniature moss dish garden includes *Brachythecium rutabulum* moss, *Dicranum scoparium* moss, reindeer moss (*Cladonia* spp.) plus an ebony spleenwort fern (*Asplenium platyneuron*) and stone accent for visual interest. Click or tap ahead for step-by-step instructions on how to make a miniature moss garden.



## Step 1: Gather materials

You'll need a drill with ceramic bit, pea gravel, fern, skewer, spoon, surgical clip, well-draining potting mix, accents, clippers, moss, landscape fabric and ceramic dish.



## Step 2: Drill a drainage hole

Pour water on the dish, enough to just cover the bottom of the dish. The water will settle the dust and cool the drill bit as it heats up. Begin drilling at a 45-degree angle to create a groove and stabilize the drill bit. Slowly turn the drill upward until it is flush with the dish and there is a hole through the center of the dish. Then wash the dish.



## Step 3: Create your base

Line the dish with the landscape fabric to prevent rock and potting mix from clogging the drainage hole. Top the landscape fabric with a thin layer of pea gravel.

## Step 4: Fill your dish

Layer well-draining potting mix on top of the pea gravel. Then lay the groundwork, like your stone accents and your fern. Use a kitchen spoon to dig holes for your plants, if necessary. Lay moss and lichen on top of the potting mix by firmly pressing down. Start with the largest piece and work your way down in size.





## Step 5: Cut moss to size

Use clippers to trim large pieces of moss, but the moss should still be a little larger than the space allotted so the edges can be tucked in.

## Step 6: Finishing touches

Last, tuck the edges of the moss into the dish. A bamboo skewer works well for tucking, but any tool will do. For a clean look, use a surgical clip to remove leaf debris. **Garden care:** Water thoroughly and press mosses down to make good contact with one another. To encourage the moss to attach, begin a two-month regimen of watering deeply every week, misting between waterings; adjust frequency depending on rainfall and time of year. **Where to put your garden:** Keep it in a shady spot on your deck, patio or garden with conditions that mimic those of mosses living in nature: indirect light and rainwater. You can supply the water or mist if nature isn't cooperating. It's OK to bring your dish garden inside for short periods of time, but it will do best outdoors. Click or tap ahead for more moss dish garden ideas.







## Petite birdbath

This small birdbath became a miniature landscape with the addition of ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*), bluet (*Houstonia caerulea*), mosses *Dicranum scoparium*, *Luecobryum glaucum*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Plagiomnium cuspidatum*, *Hypnum imponens*, *Climacium americanum* and *Thuidium delectatum*, and *Parmelia* lichen.

## Moss bowl

An oversized glazed bowl bursts with *Dicranum scoparium*, *Luecobryum glaucum*, *Thuidium delectatum* and *Anomodon rostratus* mosses. Non-moss accents include hosta 'Blue Mouse Ears' and ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*).



*Reprinted from Midwest Living*



## Tree trunk cavity

This tree trunk cavity holds the mosses *Dicranum scoparium*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Bryoandersonia illecebra*, *Climacium americanum*, *Thuidium delectatum*, *Anomodon rostratus* and *Entodon seductrix*. For contrast, the trunk also includes resurrection ferns (*Polypodium polypodioides*), Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), striped wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*), downy rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*) and ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*).

## Lush vintage box

A vintage livestock feed box has been transformed into a lush moss garden with the addition of *Luecobryum glaucum*, *Campylopus introflexus*, *Thuidium delectatum* and *Entodon seductrix* mosses and *Parmelia* lichen—all contrasting with the showcase plant, a 'Tamukeyama' Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum dissectum*). The box is underplanted with striped wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*) and ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*).



## Pedestal dish

*Dicranum scoparium*, *Dicranum scoparium* with saprophytes and *Plagiomnium cuspidatum* mosses make their home in this pedestal dish alongside dwarf mondograss (*Ophiopogon japonicus*) and striped wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*).



**EGC BOARD MEMBERS!**

**CHERI LUKE – PRESIDENT**

**HELEN MCLEMAN – TREASURER**

**JANICE THEOBALD – SECRETARY**

**PEGGY BERTRAND – 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**DONNA MOORE- 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**JULIE ANN COURIM – TECHNOLOGY OFFICER**



**Volunteers are still needed to help with  
the upcoming EGC Garden Tour 2021,  
specifically ticketing.**

**Please contact Annell Hoy if interested.  
Annell517@yahoo.com**

Please send any corrections, additions or submissions  
for the Wild Iris to [louiseheern@gmail.com](mailto:louiseheern@gmail.com)

Of all the perennials in the Post Office garden,  
Allium's are the flower I get asked about the most.  
Below is some inspiration for planting your own Alliums this fall.

## ALLIUM GARDEN DESIGN: BOUNTIFUL BLOOMS

The garden was designed for a sunny, 10' x 18' area, but you can easily modify it to suit almost any space.





The flowering season begins with Purple Sensation alliums. These 3-4" diameter blossoms are purple when they first open, and gradually change to violet-pink. Purple Sensation bulbs are relatively inexpensive, so feel free to add more bulbs than the number specified to get an even more impressive show.



The second allium to bloom is 'Gladiator'. It has large, 6" diameter flower heads on sturdy, 3' stems. Like all alliums, Gladiator is a magnet for pollinators, including the season's first butterflies. The flowers retain their color for 3 weeks or more and then gradually fade. You can leave the flower heads in place or cut the stems near the base and dry them to display indoors in a vase.

Gladiator will still be blooming when the buds of peonies 'Bowl of Beauty' and 'Bunker Hill' start opening. Planting peonies is an investment. It may be 3 years before you get a good show of flowers, but once these plants start blooming, they can produce 50 or more flowers per plant and will bloom for generations.

Lady's mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*) and geranium 'Rozanne' are low, spreading perennials that will weave themselves together in the front of the bed and give 4 to 6 weeks of color. (To stretch this garden's bloom time into early spring, consider planting some crocus and miniature daffodils in with the geraniums.)





From this carpet of lavender and chartreuse blossoms will emerge two additional alliums: [Star of Persia](#) (*A. christophii*) and [Drumstick](#) (*A. sphaerocephalon*). Not as well-known as other types, these flowers each have their own special look, and they stretch the allium season into early summer.

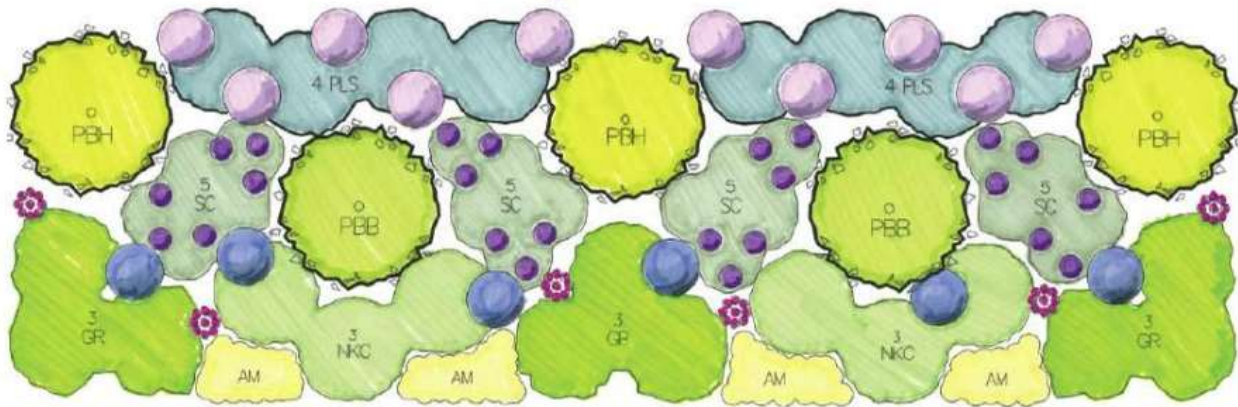
Midsummer brings another burst of purple from the spires of catmint ([Nepeta faassenii 'Kit Kat'](#)) and '[Caradonna](#)' sage (*Salvia nemorosa*). Both of these perennials have fragrant foliage and will re-bloom in late summer if you shear off the spent flowers.

Closing out the season is [Perovskia 'Little Spire'](#). This Russian sage is about a foot shorter than the standard type, and it has the same pretty grey-blue foliage and lavender flowers. Bloom time is August into September.

This article is reprinted from Longfield Gardens; visit the link below for full details.  
<https://www.longfield-gardens.com/article/Allium-Garden-Design-Bountiful-Blooms>

# Allium Garden Design

## *Bountiful Blooms*



### PLANT KEY

- |   |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| <br>10 bulbs   |    | <p><b>Giant Allium</b><br/><i>'Gladiator'</i></p> <p>Blooms late spring<br/>Plant fall<br/>Height 36"<br/>Plant 6" deep</p>                 | <br>6 bulbs     |    | <p><b>Allium christophii</b><br/><i>Star of Persia</i></p> <p>Blooms late spring<br/>Plant fall<br/>Height 18"<br/>Plant 6" deep</p> |
| <br>24 bulbs |  | <p><b>Allium aflatunense</b><br/><i>'Purple Sensation'</i></p> <p>Blooms late spring<br/>Plant fall<br/>Height 30"<br/>Plant 5" deep</p>    | <br>4 plants  |  | <p><b>Alchemilla mollis</b><br/><i>Lady's Mantle</i></p> <p>Blooms early summer<br/>Plant spring to fall<br/>Height 12-18"</p>       |
| <br>2 plants |  | <p><b>Paeonia lactiflora</b><br/><i>Peony 'Bowl of Beauty'</i></p> <p>Blooms late spring<br/>Plant spring or fall<br/>Height 36"</p>        | <br>3 plants  |  | <p><b>Paeonia lactiflora</b><br/><i>Peony 'Bunker Hill'</i></p> <p>Blooms late spring<br/>Plant spring or fall<br/>Height 32"</p>    |
| <br>54 bulbs |  | <p><b>Allium sphaerocephalon</b><br/><i>Drumstick Allium</i></p> <p>Blooms early summer<br/>Plant fall<br/>Height 24"<br/>Plant 5" deep</p> | <br>20 plants |  | <p><b>Salvia nemorosa</b><br/><i>'Caradonna' Sage</i></p> <p>Blooms early summer<br/>Plant spring to fall<br/>Height 12-24"</p>      |
| <br>9 plants |  | <p><b>Geranium x 'Rozanne'</b><br/><i>Cranesbill</i></p> <p>Blooms summer<br/>Plant spring to fall<br/>Height 15-18"</p>                    | <br>6 plants  |  | <p><b>Nepeta x faassenii</b><br/><i>'Kit Kat' Dwarf Catmint</i></p> <p>Blooms summer<br/>Plant spring to fall<br/>Height 18"</p>     |
| <br>8 plants |  | <p><b>Perovskia atriplicifolia</b><br/><i>'Little Spire'</i></p> <p>Blooms summer to fall<br/>Plant spring to fall<br/>Height 18-24"</p>    |  |  |  |

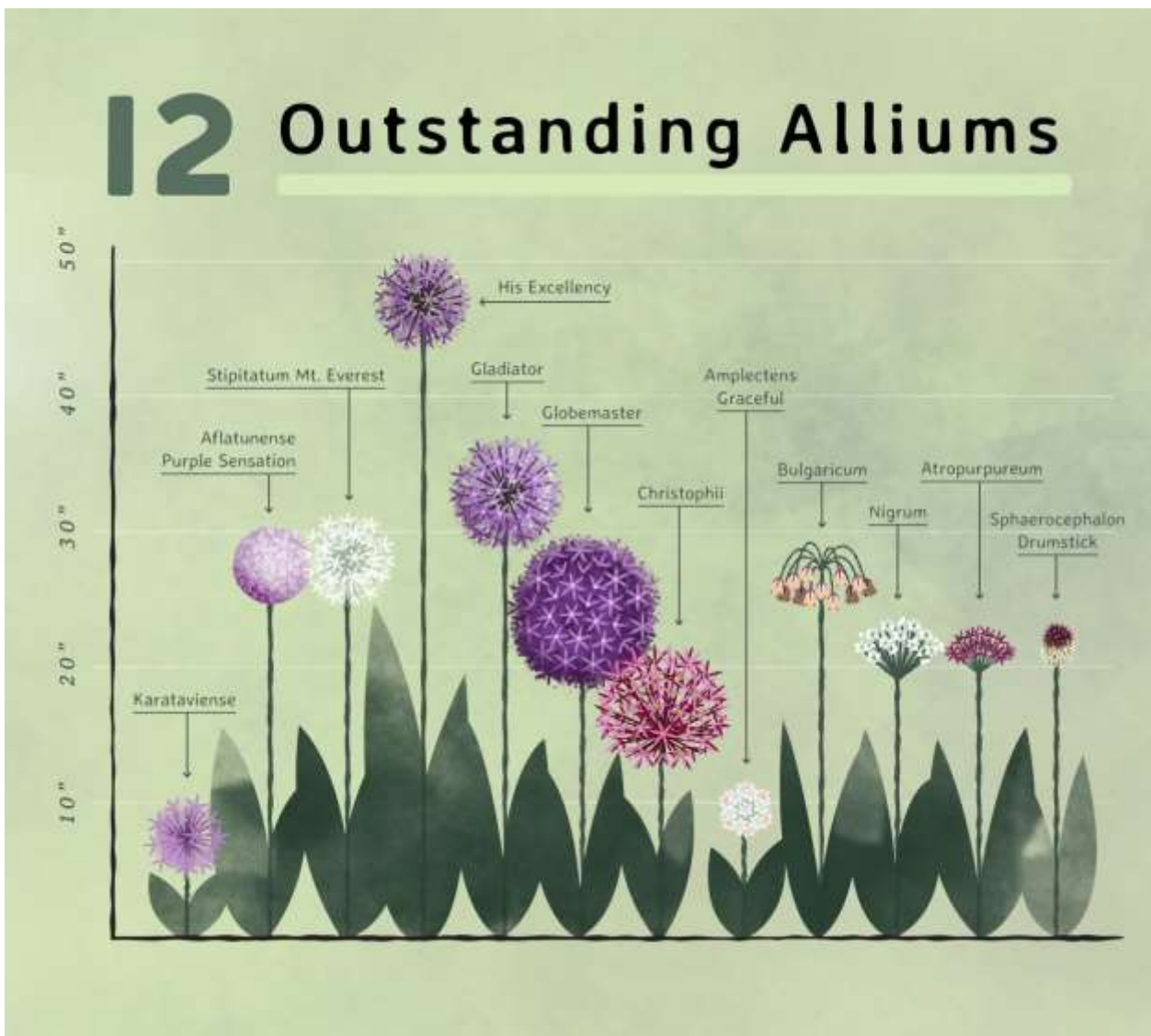




## Let the Seed Heads Linger

When alliums have finished blooming, don't be too quick to remove the spent flowers. The show continues! Most types develop decorative seed heads that will persist for weeks — and some for months. This year it was early September before I finally pulled out the *allium christophii* and brought the seed heads indoors to enjoy around the house.

In the garden, allium seed heads look best when they're in a relatively open area that's not too crowded with other plants. This makes it easier to appreciate their unique shape. Plus, good air circulation helps them stay dry and so they are less likely to fall apart.



## Plan for Contrasting Heights

Some alliums rise to a height of 4 feet, while others never get taller than 6 inches. This is why it's important to stop and think about which type of allium you're planting and where it's going.

Short ones like *karataviense* (6"), 'Graceful' (10") and *schubertii* (15") can be planted near the front of a flower bed where they're easy to admire. Locate mid-size types in the middle and the tallest ones at the back. You can also ignore all that and use tall alliums as "see through" plants



Waves of ornamental grass (*Nassella tenuissima*) were paired with big-headed alliums, possibly Gladiator



Allium karataviense works well in rock gardens and sedums are just the right scale to be good companions

Reprinted in part from Longfield Gardens.  
Visit the link below for the complete article.  
<https://blog.longfield-gardens.com/how-to-use-combine-alliums-with-perennials/>