



# SHAWNEE COUNTY EXTENSION MASTER GARDENERS

## PERENNIAL DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

### PERENNIAL PLANTS

A perennial plant is one that can live for 3 or more years. Although the foliage may die back seasonally, the roots remain alive and the foliage will emerge again once the temperature is consistently above freezing. Some will require division after 3 to 5 years to keep them flowering and looking their best. Perennials also require less fertilizer throughout the season than do annual plants.

### RIGHT PLANT, RIGHT PLACE

The SCEMG Demonstration Perennial Garden showcases a variety of perennial plants that grow well in the native soil, climate and full sun conditions in Northeast Kansas. These plants also are resistant to both deer and drought as is required by its specific location. Helping to identify what grows well in one's location is the first step in creating a successful garden.

### DESIGN

Many perennial plants flower for just a few weeks. To help create interest throughout the year, this garden includes plants that have an array of blooms from March through November. This garden shows examples of how to use the plant shape and size, the foliage color and texture and the bloom color and shape to create interesting plant combinations in a striking design.

### SPECIAL FEATURES

Additional interest can come from a few feature plants and hardscaping. Some specific plants that are not often seen in local gardens include, the Gas plant, Joe Pye Weed and the Desert Candle Yucca plant. A few strategically placed boulders, the fence backdrop and the arbor help provide spots for your eye to rest and help to create a sense of flow from one space to another.

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