

# Native Garden Design

## *Planting your Ecotype Garden*

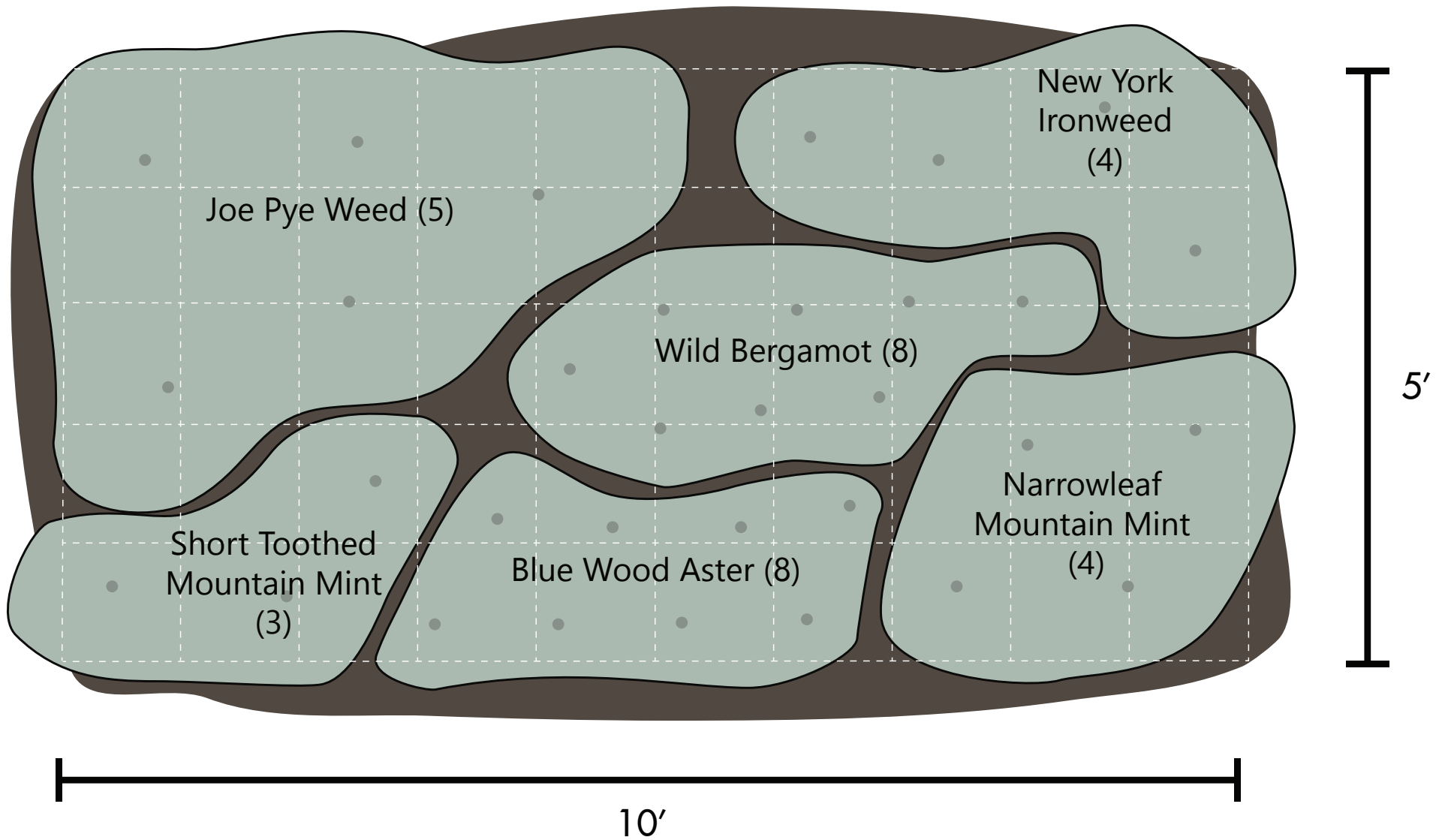
Did you know that most native plants sold in the Northeast come from the Midwest? A single species of plant will have different genetic information based on the environment it evolved in. This means that plants from around here are actually adapted better for this area! We have harvested seeds from local native plants. Collaborating with local nurseries, we grew these plugs to plant throughout Fairfield County. By planting this garden, you are helping these local plants thrive, not to mention our lovely pollinators! Simply plant, and watch the magic unfold.



### Who will visit?

These plants are only half the fun! Your new garden is sure to attract some new neighbors. Avoid pesticides at all costs. They will poison our pollinators. Keep an eye on your garden to see who visits!

	Caterpillars	Bees	Butterflies + Moths	Hummingbirds
Narrowleaf Mountain Mint			X	
Wild Bergamot		X	X	X
Short toothed Mountain Mint		X	X	
Joe Pye Weed		X	X	X
New York Ironweed	X	X	X	
Blue Wood Aster	X	X	X	

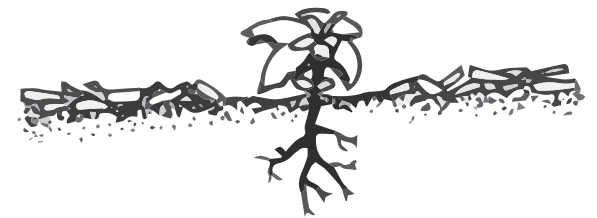


NOTE: This garden will do well in a sunny spot with moist, well drained soil. We encourage you to adapt this plan to your own site. This spacing is to give you a full garden sooner. As the plants mature, you may have to transplant some to give them space.

# Planting Instructions

Before you start, you may want to measure out your 5' x 10' space. There is no need to be exact with the spacing; the plan is intended to be used as a guide. Mulch is a good idea, as it helps keep weeds down and the soil moist. We suggest using dried grass, dried shredded leaves or clean straw as mulch. We suggest watering your plugs before planting as well as after planting. This process can be stressful for plants, but with a good watering they'll feel at home in no time!

1. With small plants such as these, it is easiest to mulch before planting. Spread the mulch 1" deep across the area.
2. Using any kind of markers (stones, sticks etc.) map out a rough plan for the plugs.
3. At a given spot, push the mulch to the side and dig a small hole for the plant, as deep as the plug. Be careful not to mix the mulch with the soil.
4. Gently break the roots if the soil comes out in a rigid shape. Place the plant in the hole with the soil level to the ground. Replace loose soil from around the plant and gently press around the edges. Replace mulch.
5. Water thoroughly.



**Welcome to the Aspetuck Green Corridor.  
Congratulations on your new garden!**

