Welcome To Our Class

Designing Summer Flower Beds
2006
It Is Presented By
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Thanksgiving Point
The Class Is Done Through A Cooperative Arrangement Between Utah State University Extension Service And Thanksgiving Point
Thank You For Being A Part Of Our Educational Offerings
Designing A Flowerbed Does Not Have To Be A Daunting Task
Flowerbeds Are: Way To Express Your Creativity
Indulge Your Horticulture Passions
Make Your Home And Garden Look Better
Designing Flowerbeds Is A Great Part Of Gardening
This Class Will Help You Create Living Works Of Art That You And Those Around You Can Share
It Will Give You Ideas For Putting A Flower Bed Together Using Your Creativity And Planning
It Will Help You Learn To Make The Flower Bed Work For You, Not The Other Way Around
Class Guidelines

- Be On Time
- Turn Off Cell Phones
- Respect Others Who Are Taking The Class
Class Guidelines

- Take And Collect Pictures
- Make Lists Of Your Favourite Plants
- Ask Questions To Understand
- Have Fun
Let's Start With Some Definitions For The Class
Flow·er (Flou“…r) N. 1.A. The Reproductive Structure Of Some Seed-bearing Plants, Characteristically Having Either Specialized Male Or Female Organs Or Both Male And Female Organs
Flower (Flou“...r) N. 1.A. Such As Stamens And A Pistil, Enclosed In An Outer Envelope Of Petals And Sepals.
Flower (Flou“…r) N. B. Such A Structure Having Showy Or Colorful Parts; A Blossom. 2. A Plant That Is Cultivated Or Appreciated For Its Blossoms.
3. The Condition Or A Time Of Having Developed Flowers:
4. Something, such as an ornament or a figure of speech, that resembles a flower in shape, fineness, or attractiveness. 5. The period of highest development; the peak.
What Is A Bed
Bed (Bud) N. This Word Has Twelve Different Definitions 1.A. A Small Plot Of Cultivated Or Planted Land: A Flower Bed
What Is A Garden
Gar·den (Gär“dn) N. 1. A Plot Of Land Used For The Cultivation Of Flowers, Vegetables, Herbs, Or Fruit.
What Is A Design
De·sign (D¹-z⁰n“) V. De·signed, De·sign·ing, De·signs. --Tr. 1.A. To Conceive Or Fashion In The Mind; Invent. B. To Formulate A Plan For; Devise:
To Plan Out In Systematic, Usually Graphic Form: 3. To Create Or Contrive For A Particular Purpose Or Effect
To Have As A Goal Or Purpose; Intend. 5. To Create Or Execute In An Artistic Or Highly Skilled Manner.
Design N. 1. A. A drawing or sketch. B. A graphic representation, especially a detailed plan for construction or manufacture.
Design N. 2. The Purposeful Or Inventive Arrangement Of Parts Or Details.
Class Definition: To Make Or Execute Plans Or To Create Designs For A Plant That Is Cultivated Or Appreciated For Its Blossoms On A Small Plot Of Cultivated Or Planted Land
Class Definition: To Plant Flowers So They Look Good And Grow Well Together
Before You Start
Planning Or Planting,
Ask Some Questions
So You Can Start
With A Purpose In
Mind
The Reason For Having A Flowerbed Can Be Nothing More Than For Enjoyment And Enhancing The Landscape
Having A Focus Or Theme Can Make The Design Process Much Easier
Possible Themes Include

- Water Garden
- Fragrance Garden
- Woodland Garden
- Cottage Garden
Possible Themes Include
- Cutting Garden
- Butterfly Garden
- Moonlight Garden
- Hummingbird Garden
Other Possibilities Include A Collection Of One Type Of Plant
- Hostas
- Iris
- Peonies
- Daylilies
A Garden Devoted To A Particular Season
- Spring
- Summer
- Autumn
The More Focused The Theme, The Narrower The Choice Of Plant Material To Use In The Garden
Our Focus here will be spring gardens
- Who Is Going To Take Care Of The Flowerbed?
- How Much Time Do You Want To Spend Planting And Maintaining The Flowerbed?
While Thumbing Through Flower Books And Magazines, It Is Easy To Get Inspired By Beautiful Photos Of Grand Flowerbeds Overflowing With Annuals And Perennials
The Next Thing You Know, You Are Tilling Up Large Sections Of Lawn For A Huge Flower Border
Fantasy Meets Reality When It Comes Time For Planting, Weeding, Deadheading And Other Maintenance
Choose A Size That Is Realistic But Can Be Enlarged As Needed
If You Cannot Devote Much Time To Maintenance, Focus On Low-maintenance Plants Or A Style (Prairie, Cottage, And Meadow) That Do Not Demand As Much Attention
How Much Do I Want To Spend?
Setting A Budget Helps Dictate The Size Of The Flowerbed And The Amount Of Plant Material You Purchase
Do Not Purchase All The Plants In One Season. With A Plan, Add Plants Each Year And ‘Build’ Your Flowerbed Over Time Rather Than Making An Instant Flowerbed
As The Flowerbed Evolves, The Look And Your Ideas, Will Change
What Is The Site Like?
Before You Grab The Shovel Or Buy Any Plants, Take An Inventory Of The Location Where You Want The Flowerbed. Consider The Following Items:
Soil Quality - Annuals Will Grow Even Though They Do Not Thrive In Poorly Prepared Soil
Soil Quality - Perennials Seldom Survive More Than One Year If The Soil Is Not Properly Prepared
A Rich, Black Loam With Abundant Organic Matter Is Preferred. In The Fall Add Organic Matter To Improve Soil Quality
Spread 4 To 6 Inches Of The Material On The Flowerbed And Till It In. In The Spring, Before Planting, Till The Soil Again
Do Not Waste Your Money On Expensive Plants Until You Correct Any Serious Soil Problems
Do Not Use Peat Moss In Clay Soils Because They Both Hold Water Like Sponges
Organic Matter Must Be Fully Decomposed Or You Must Add Extra Nitrogen To Speed Decomposition
Drainage - Soil Drainage Is Also Crucial. Create Well-drained Soil For Most Flowers Except Few (Marsh Marigold, Bee Balm Etc.) That Thrive In Wet, Boggy Conditions
Poorly Drained Soils Are A Problem For Many Perennials. Some Plants (I.E. *Scabiosa*, *Chrysanthemum*) Winterkill If The Soil Is Too Wet In The Winter
To Test A Site For Drainage, Dig A Hole Two Feet Deep And Fill The Hole With Water. Allow The Water To Soak In. Fill The Hole With Water Again
If Water Remains In The Hole After 2 Hours, Correct The Drainage Before Planting Most Perennials
Soil Ph –

The Ideal Soil Ph For Most Flowers Is Near Neutral

Soils In Utah Are Always Alkaline
In Spite Of Many Recipes You Can Do Little To Change The Ph
Control Tough Perennial Weeds Before Planting. Check The Label To See How Long After Application You Must Wait Before Planting
Existing Elements – Take Stock Of Your Plants And Planting Areas
Existing Elements – When You Landscaped Your Home, You Created A Plan And Selected Plants That Enhanced The Architecture And Property
Flower Beds You Design Should Fit Naturally Into The Landscape Rather Than Appear To Be An Afterthought
Consider the style of your home. If you have a cottage, a formal flowerbed looks out of place but a mix of old-fashioned perennials are right at home.
A Large Home Benefits From Bold Plantings With Formal Elements
Make A Sample Plan
Most Flower Bed Failures Can Probably Be Attributed To Lack Of Planning. Careful Planning Almost Guarantees Success
There Are Two Approaches:
First Approach:
Select A Landscape Site Where You Need Color. It Can Be A Small Bed Near The Mailbox, Or A Long Perennial Border Near A Fence Or Hedge
Select Plants That Are Adapted To The Site
What Are The Characteristics Of The Site?
How Much Sun Or Shade Does It Get?
How Much Water Does It Get?
There Are Flowers For Every Site! Many References Are Available To Help You Select Plants. Contact Your USU County Extension Office, Local Bookstore Or Library
Second Approach
Select Plants First. For Example, It May Have Been A Childhood Dream To Have A Formal Bulb Garden
Second Approach
Perhaps you like particular flowers at a garden center or a neighbor’s yard and decided you need them in your design.
Select A Site That Is Appropriate For The Chosen Plants. There Are Many References Available To Help Determine The Needs Of Specific Plants
Do Not Be Afraid To Try Something Different! Remember The Maintenance Requirements And How Much Time You Are Willing To Invest
Making A Plan Can Sound Like A Daunting Task But It Does Not Have To Be
A Plan Can Be Something As A Rough Pencil Sketch On A Piece Of Scrap Paper Or As Elaborate As A Detailed, To-scale Drawing
The Idea Is To Get Your Thoughts Down On Paper. It Is Much Easier To Shift Plants Around On Paper Rather Than Doing It After They Are Planted
A Plan Gives A Feel For Whether The Flowerbed Is Large Enough For The Plants You Intend To Grow, And If They Are Compatible For The Site
This Plan Also Serves As Your ‘Blueprint’. When You Go To Plant, You Will Have Their Location Right At Your Fingertips
To Make A Sample Plan, Measure The Flowerbed Area. Use A Scale Of 1/4 Inch, 1/2 Inch, Or 1 Inch Equal To One Foot
If Your Flower Bed Is 20 Feet By 10 Feet (200 Square Feet), Draw A Bed 20 Inches By 10 Inches (200 Square Inches) On A Piece Of Paper
Graph Paper Makes This Job A Little Easier Since The Grids Are Already Marked
The Next Step Is To Draw In The Plants You Intend To Grow. You Need To Determine The Width The Plants At Maturity
Generally, the width is equal to the height but there are exceptions. Use a catalog or other reference to find this information.
You Can Either Draw The Plants Directly On The Plan, Or Use Cutouts To Move Them Around. Use The Same Scale You Did For Drawing The Flowerbed Outline
Assuming you used 1-inch equals 1 foot for your flowerbed plan, a plant that spreads 4 feet is represented by circle 4 inches in diameter.
This Exercise Eliminates A Problem For Gardeners
The Problem Of Not Having A Plan Is You Go To The Garden Center And Return Home With A Carload Of Plants And Start Shoehorning Them In Randomly
Pick A Focal Point
Place Beds Where You Can View Them From Inside Your Home And Where You Spend Time Outdoors
Locate Them In High Visibility Areas, Such As A Front Yard, Near Windows, The Porch Or Patio
Keep In Mind Factors Such As Soil Type, Drainage, Ph, And Light
Tentatively Decide Where The Flower Bed Should Be. You May Find There Are Several Locations That Need Flowers
Create A Courtyard Bed, A Patio Bed, Or A Bed Near The Front Door – Rather Than One Large, Overwhelming Flower Bed
Incorporate Flower Borders In The Front Yard In Place Of Foundation Shrub Plantings If The Area Has The Best Light And Visibility
Make A ‘Wish List’ Of Plants
A Good Place To Start In Making Your Plant List Is To Think About Your Favorite Flowers
They May Be Family Favorites, Flowers You Remember From Childhood Or Those That Give You Special Memories
You Might Look Through A Catalog And Pick Out Plants That You Like Based On The Photos
Do Not Buy On Photos Alone. Make A List And View The Plants At Garden Centers, In Display Beds, Or At Local Gardens
Before You Actually Purchase The Plants, Ask Questions About Its Suitability For Our Climate
Experienced Salespeople Can Recommend Adapted Plants And Steer You Away From Plants That Will Not Perform Well In Your Locale
Does It Grow In My Area?
Find Out What Plant Hardiness Zone You Live In

The USDA Divides Utah Into Several Hardiness Zones Running From Zone In Northern) To In The Southern Part Of The State
Most Flower Books And Some Catalogs Have A Picture Of The Zone Map In Them
The Average Annual Frost-free Days And Minimum Winter Temperatures Determine Zones
Most Of Utah Falls Within Zones 4b To 5b. Zones Are Important When Selecting Plants From Catalogs Or Nurseries
Flowers Can Usually Grow Plants In Their Zone As Well As Two Or Three Zones Higher. For Example, If You Live In Zone 4B, You Can Grow 5A, 5B And Higher With Little Problem.
Attempts At Lower Zone Plants (Below 4b) Will Require Significant Winter Protection
An Exception To This ‘Rule’ Involves Microclimates That Exist And Are Particular To Various Sites
Microclimates Are Areas That Are Unique For Ability To Support Plants That Are Technically Planted Outside Of Their Hardiness Zone
For Example, If You Live In Hardiness Zone 5, There May Be Areas Unique To A Particular Property That Could Support Zone 6 Or 7 Plant Material
These Areas Are Usually Located Where There Is Some Protection During The Colder Parts Of The Year
Areas Protected By Buildings, Fences, Hedges, Or Other Structures Or Land Features Can Often Be One Or Two Planting Zones Different Than Other Parts Of The Yard
Because These Areas Are So Unique And Individualized, They Are Often Found Only After Working And Observing Your Flowerbed For Several Seasons
Winter Temperatures Are Not The Only Consideration In Choosing Perennials. Summer Temperatures Also Influence Plant Growth And Survival
A Plant Heat-zone Map, Similar To The Plant Hardiness Zone Map, Divides The U.S. Into 12 Heat Zones Based On The Average Number Of Days Per Year Above 86 Degrees F
Utah Is Divided Into Four Heat Zones:
Note That The Hardiness Zones And The Heat Zones Are Not The Same Numbers.
This Week We Are Going To Put Together Some Flower Beds.
We First Will Consider Several Other Factors Of Design.
How Long Does It Flower?
Annuals Provide Color Constantly From Spring To Frost
Most Perennials Bloom For One To Three Weeks With Some Having Repeated Flowering Seasons
With Careful Selection, You Can Have Something In Flower During Spring, Summer, And Fall
Add Plants With Winter Character (Ornamental Grasses And The Seeds Of Some Perennials), For Four Seasons Of Interest
While Budget And Maintenance Issues Affect The Final Decision Of What Plants Are Used, Careful Plant Selection Helps You Get The Best Display For The Investment.
Is The Foliage Attractive?
Most Gardeners Ignore The Importance Of Choosing Plants That Have Attractive Foliage
Too Often, A Designer Selects Plants Based On The Type Of Flower And Usually Its Color
With Perennials, There Are Times When Only The Plant And Its Foliage Are Showy
Make Sure That The Foliage Is Attractive Enough To Serve As Filler Or Backdrop For Other Plants In Bloom Or Locate Them Where They Are Not In The Most Prominent Beds
Be Careful Where You Locate Plants That Are Susceptible To Foliar Diseases Or Other Problems That Make The Plant Unattractive
Plants That Fit In This Category Include Iris, Peony, Monarda And Zinnia
Exposure - Annuals And Perennials Are Grouped According To Four Sunlight Requirements
*Full Sun* - Receives Sun For Six Or More Hours Each Day

*Partial Sunlight* - 3 To 5 Hours Of Sun Each Day
Partial Shade - No More Than A Few Hours Of Dappled Sun

Full Shade - Absence Of Direct Sunlight
Few Plants Can Grow In The Full Shade Of A Forest Or Grove Of Trees. Full Shade Plants Must Still Receive Some Filtered Light
It May Be Possible To Thin Out Trees And Shrubs Branches To Allow More Light For Growth. Do This Carefully To Avoid Destroying The Plant Shape
Plants Growing Near Trees And Shrubs Must Compete For Nutrients, Light And Moisture
In Addition To Choosing Plants Based On Hardiness And Personal Likes, There Are Other Considerations
Take specific plant characteristics such as height, width, flowering time, and texture need to be taken into account.
*Height* - Annuals and perennials differ in their height and width. Place shorter plants in the front, medium height plants in the middle, and taller plants in the back.
This Progression Is Broken Up To Create Interest And Appear More Natural. Experiment With Varying Heights Until You Get A Pleasing ‘Skyline’
Spread – This Varies By Species. Newly Planted Bed Look Sparse When Plants Are Set At Recommended Spacing, But This Allows Them To Fill In Without Overcrowding
Plants That Are Set Too Close Compete For Nutrients And Moisture And Infringe On Each Other Causing Lopsided Growth
Annuals Planted At Recommended Distances Will Fill In During The Growing Season
In a perennial bed, it may take 2 or 3 years for the plants to fill in. During these times, it is helpful to add colorful annuals to the bed.
Form - Form Takes Into Account The Shape Of The Entire Plant As Well As Its Individual Parts
Herbaceous Plants Grow In Five Basic Shapes

- Rounded
- Vertical
- Open
- Upright
- Spreading Or Prostrate
Rounded
Vertical
Open
Upright
Spreading Or Prostrate
The Use Of Varying Forms Is A Design Consideration. Using Only One Form Gives A Monotonous Display
– Individual Flowers Have Various Forms.
– Some Of The More Common Ones Are
Bell-shaped ([I.E. Campanula])
Daisy-like (I.E. Shasta Daisy, Aster, Zinnia)
Spherical (Peony, Marigold)
Frilly Or Lacy (I.E. *Dianthus*)
Star-shaped (I.E. Amsonia)
Trumpet-like (I.E. *Hemerocallis*)
- **Texture** - Texture Refers To The Plant’s Appearance, Not The Way It Feels To The Touch. It Is Fine, Medium, Or Coarse With Variation In-between (I.E. Medium Fine)
Density of the foliage, form of the flower, flower size, and foliage size determine texture. Small, dissected, lacy leaves are considered fine textured (i.e., Baby's-breath - Gypsophila paniculata)
Plants With Large Leaves Are Generally Considered Coarse-textured. Some Examples Of Coarse Plants Are Castor Bean And Canna
Coarse-textured Plants Appear Closer To The Viewer While Fine-textured Plants Appear To Recede
–If your flower bed is a considerable distance from where it will be viewed, use plants with large leaves so that they show up
–Texture is important in creating interest. A flowerbed with a variety of textures creates interest. A flowerbed composed of similar textures is visually boring.
The Key To A Successful Planting Is To Put Together Pleasing Combinations Of Plants
What Makes One Planting Stand Out Better From Another? The Following Key Elements Will Help You Create Top-notch Plantings.
Color - When you begin to think about a flower bed and plant selection, often the first thing that comes to mind is color.
While this is not necessarily the most important item, it is worth considering since it is one of the qualities we use to determine whether or not we like a particular flower bed.
Color is a very personal thing. There are no 'wrong' colors! Flowerbeds made up of many colors can be just as beautiful as those where the designer painstakingly chose various tints and shades.
Do Not Be Trapped Into Designing An Elaborate Scheme Based On Color. Choose What Pleases You
—If You Decide To Go The Route Of Designing Your Flowerbed Based On Color, There Are Some Guiding Principles.
Color can be used to your advantage. Warm colors (red, yellow, and orange) are the boldest, the most exciting, and tend to be the strongest.
–They Show Up From A Distance, Make A Statement, And Are Good For A Dramatic Display
Red Is The Strongest You Can Use. In Large Areas, Red Shows Up And Gives A Splash Of Color
Likewise, Yellow Captures The Eye Quickly. It Also Looks Good With Most Other Colors
Orange is difficult to use and can be harsh to view. In the right combination, it can add a bit of the unexpected.
–Cool Colors (Blue, Green, And Purple) Are Recessive, And Therefore Tend To Get Lost In The Distance
Cool-colored Flowers Look Best In Bright Light And In A Location Where They Can Be Viewed Up-close, On A Patio, For Example. They Also Contrast Beautifully With Brighter-colored Flowers.
–Use White And Silver/Gray Plants For Blending The Colors. Plantings Of Red, Purple, Or Blue Are Greatly Enhanced With White Or Gray
Likewise, Plants With Colorful Or Variegated Foliage (I.E. Coralbells, Coleus, Plectranthus, Or Hosta) Can Provide Texture And Season-long Interest.
—*Contrast* - Contrast Is Defined As Two Opposing Elements
–The Most Eye-catching Designs Incorporate This Element, Allowing The Flowerbed To Have Some Interest Rather Than Looking Like ‘Floral Mush’
–The Easiest Way To Accomplish This Is To Contrast Colors (Red And Green, Violet And Yellow, Orange And Blue, Yellow And Blue, Orange And Red, Or Red And Violet)
Another Way To Provide Contrast Is To Use Different Plant Forms Or Flower Forms.
Plant Forms May Be Conical, Mounded, Rounded Or Vertical. Plants With Distinctive Forms Create Interesting Groupings
–For Example, Tall, Vertical Plants Create Emphasis Among A Grouping Of Shorter, Rounded Perennials
Individual Flower Forms Also Vary From Rounded (Daisy-like) To Spiky. Matching Up Plants That Have Different Forms Of Flowers Creates Contrast
–For Most Flowers, Plant At Least Three Of Each Variety -- Meaning The Same Color, Height, And Spread
–The Plants Within The Group Eventually Merge To Form A Showy Clump. Plants Do Not Have To Be Massed If Flowerbed Space Is Limited And/Or The Plants Are Large (I.E. Peony, Castor Bean, Or Canna).
Drift - Never Line Up The Masses Or Plants In Straight Rows Unless You Are Designing A Formal, Symmetrical Flower Bed
Instead, let one mass of plants embrace, overlap or drift into an adjoining mass. The overall appearance is more natural.
Think About How Nature Does It; Rarely, If Ever Are The Plants Lined Up
Repetition - Repetition Provides A Sense Of Unity In A Flowerbed. In A Small Flowerbed, This Is Not As Important As It Is For A Larger Border
Using This Technique Moves The Eye Through The Flowerbed And Gives A Finished, Harmonious Look
You Can Achieve Repetition By Repeating The Same Color Or Plant Material Throughout The Flowerbed
–For Example, You Could Use Splashes Of Red-flowered (Or Yellow, Or White, Or Any Other Color) Plants Throughout The Flowerbed Or Simply Use The Same Plant Scattered Through The Border
Plant Placement - Plants are divided into these categories based on height.
• Edging, Less Than 1 Foot
• Foreground, 1 Foot To 2 Feet
• Mid-border, 2 Feet To 3 Feet
• Background, 3 Feet To 5 Feet
• Specimen Or Accent, Any Height
Groundcover Plants Are Usually 6 Inches To 1 Foot In Height And Are Used For Larger Areas Or Under Trees
Specimen or accent plants are placed for emphasis anywhere in the planting.
—In A One-sided Border (A Border Next To A Fence, Wall, Structure Or Hedge) The Plants Nearest The Viewer Are *Edging* Plants
Next Are Foreground, Followed By Midborder, And Finally Background So That The Plants Are Stair-stepped Shortest To Tallest
– Using The Drift Technique Described Previously Prevents The Planting From Appearing Too Staged
–Occasionally Bringing Taller Plants To The Front Of The Bed Adds Interest And Breaks Up The Formality
Island Beds Are Not Placed Against A Structure But Are Placed Apart In The Landscape And Are Viewed On All Sides
–These Beds, Which Are Round, Oval, Half-moon, Or Kidney Or Any Other Shape, Look Best When Surrounded By Expanses Of Lawn
- The Same Rule For Plant Placement Applies:
  - Shorter Plants At The Edge
  - Medium Plants In The Middle
  - Tallest Plants In The Center
–This Gradual Placement Of Plants By Size Is Easier On The Eye Of The Viewer
A Jump From A 12 Inch Edging Plant To A 12 Foot Plant Is Usually Too Drastic Unless That Was The Design Intent
Diversity – The Well-rounded Flowerbed Includes A Variety Of Plant Materials
Most Gardeners Focus On Using Annuals And Perennials
A ‘Mixed Border’ Incorporating Vines, Trees, And Shrubs Provides An Ever-changing Display Through The Seasons
• The Larger The Flower Bed, The More Opportunity For Including A Diverse Palette Of Plants
A Small Flowerbed Offers The Same Challenge. Because Space Is Limited, You Want To Include As Many Different Plants As Possible.
– Be Creative – Think Outside The Box
Guidelines Are Only Guidelines, Not Rules
– They Are Meant To Be A Starting Point, Not The Law. Let Your Creative Juices Flow As You Plan Your Flowerbed And Choose Plants
You Will Find The Flowerbed Is Not The Means To An End
Just When You Think It Is Finished, You Will Come Up With Ways To Change It
– The Flowerbed Is Ever Changing, Too
Plants Die And Need Replacing, Become Too Large And Need Dividing, Or Do Not Meet Your Expectations
These Need To Be Removed And You Always Want To Add Something New
Use The Natural Soil And Amend It According To What Is To Be Planted
A Good General Mix Is 75 Percent Topsoil And 25 Percent Composted Organic Matter
Place Beds Or Border Where They Can Be Readily Seen And Admired From Inside Your Home As Well As Outdoors
–Try To Locate Them In Areas Of High Visibility, Such As A Front Yard, Near Windows, The Porch Or Patio
Curved Flowerbeds Are Usually More Restful To The Eye Than A Sharp, Angular Pattern, And Preserve An Informal Effect
- Straight, Angular Lines Are Usually Uninteresting And Monotonous Because They Occur As Walks, Houses And Property Lines
– Round Backyard Corners With Curved Planted Areas
–Keep The Flower Border In Proportion To The Rest Of Your Landscape
–Maintain A Sharp Edge On The Flowerbed Or Border To Contrast With The Lawn And Form A Strong, Dominant Line And Pattern
–Lawn Edging Or Bricks As A Mow Strip Are Acceptable
– Avoid Tacky Distracting Edges Like Rows Of Painted Stones In Front Of A Bed Or Border
• In Conclusion
• Chose The Plants That Will Grow In Your Garden
• Amend Your Soil So It Will Grow Attractive Plants
• Fight Weeds Diligently
• Add And Remove Plants As Needed
• Keep Experimenting And Having Fun With Your Gardens
Thank You For Being A Part Of Our Education Program For Utah State University And Thanksgiving Point Institute
• Come Back Often And Enjoy Our Programs Gardens And Many Other Activities
Leaving Open Spots Means You Can Add Plants To Fit Your Taste And Improve The Overall Look Of The Flowerbed
A Successful Flowerbed Usually Has Combinations Of Annuals And Perennials
Perennials Form The Backbone Of The Flowerbed And Give It Permanence
The Advantage Of Using Perennials Is That They Have A One-time Cost And Live For Several Years
Annuals Are Less Expensive Plants But Only Live For The Season
During The First Year Or Two Fill The Border With Annuals To Give Color And Mass Until The Perennials Fill In
Roses, For Example, Require Frequent Care, While Verbena Thrive On Neglect.
Select Drought Tolerant Plants To Cut Down On Your Water Bill
Since the plants are not mature, the tendency is to plant them closer than they should be.
Within A Few Years, The Plants Mature And Begin To Crowd Each Other, Resulting In Poor Growth, Competition For Nutrients And Moisture
This Creates Lopsided Growth, More Disease Problems, And The Need For Immediate Division/Replanting