

Garden Map



1 THE COLUMNS

The impressive columns at the entrance to the Garden, Children's Garden and in the Amphitheater were a gift from Madison County. They originally decorated the front of the Madison County Courthouse built in 1818. The columns have come to represent the Garden in pictures, literature and promotions.

2 GARDEN RAILWAY

Popular with children of all ages, the Garden Railway's perfect miniature landscape is maintained by the Living Art Bonsai Society. This complete community includes a village, farm, waterfall and pond, train trestle and tunnel. Watch for traditional engines and rolling stock, Thomas the Tank Engine, and the seasonal holiday train.

3 WASHIO ISHII BONSAI DISPLAY GARDEN

Opened in 2007, this display houses the Garden's extensive bonsai collection. Over 50 plantings are rotated in the display garden to show the many specimens in their best light.

4 CENTRAL CORRIDOR GARDEN

This garden covers over 5 acres and includes the Perennial Garden, Aquatic Garden and the Annual Garden. The Perennial Garden consists of landscaped beds filled with herbaceous perennials, flowering shrubs and trees, and annuals providing color and contrast throughout the year. The Annual Garden includes the Summerhouse, and is designed to display a wide range of tender plants and bulbs suited to the Tennessee Valley area. Flowering shrubs provide appealing displays in all seasons.

5 AQUATIC GARDEN

Alive with the music of dancing water and color throughout the summer months, the aquatic garden is a 110-foot pool bisected by the Aquatic Pavilion. Lotus, water lilies and many creatures make their home in this complete ecosystem.

6 HISTORIC DOGWOOD TREE

This magnificent dogwood is over 110 years old and was moved to the garden in a dramatic rescue in 1995. Local elementary school children raised over \$12,000 in pocket change to move the tree and save it from road construction. The beloved tree has taken to its new site and blooms profusely each spring.

7 NATURE TRAIL

Masses of wildflowers native to North Alabama thrive in the Nature Trail. This example of lowland, bottomland forest is home to many native plants and plentiful wildlife. The Nature Trail is an explosion of color in early April, with fall highlighting many additional blooming plants. A great many of the plants were rescued by the Huntsville Chapter of the Alabama Wildflower Society from areas slated for development. The Nature Trail contains the National Trillium Collection – one of the largest collections in the US.

8 DAYLILY GARDEN

Over 700 different daylily cultivars are planted in this garden, including some of the newest and best hybrids available today. The garden is in full bloom during June and July, with many daylilies still blooming into September. This is a labor of love for the daylily volunteers.

9 HERB GARDEN

Each bed has a different theme, including the Tea Bed, Medicinal Bed, Fragrance Bed, Dye Bed, Culinary and even a historical Biblical Bed. The Sundial Bed is planted appropriately with thyme and includes an analemmatic sundial that uses the cast of your shadow to indicate the time of day.

10 ROSE GARDEN

This fragrant garden features old fashioned shrub roses that are easy to grow, yet beautiful all summer long.

11 GARDEN OF HOPE

This unique garden is dedicated to cancer patients and their families. It offers a place of solitude and respite for all who visit. Underwritten by Intergraph Corporation, all sponsorship proceeds are donated to cancer victims, cancer research and maintenance of the garden itself.

12 FERN GLADE

Over 150 varieties of hardy ferns thrive in this shady glade. While many of these ferns are native to Alabama, most of the varieties are from Asia. Some of these ferns are evergreen, retaining their foliage throughout the cold months. The glade, maintained by the Huntsville Fern Society, features a pond, a gazebo and a waterfall.

13 COMPOST & VEGETABLE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

Maintained by the Master Gardeners of North Alabama, this garden includes various types of plots to serve as models for homeowners.

14 CHILDREN'S GARDEN

This garden is really 8 gardens in one! Children of all ages can explore the land of dinosaurs, travel into space, learn about prisms, see traditional nursery rhymes, create a maze, enjoy international plants, learn about bamboo and how plants grow.

15 NATURE CENTER & BUTTERFLY HOUSE

This education center is home to the nation's largest open-air butterfly house. Over 2,000 butterflies grace this 9,000 square foot structure. The nature center is also home to an assortment of critters including snakes, quail, hummingbirds, frogs, fish and turtles.

16 CONSTITUTION WALK

Constitution Walk honors the 55 delegates to the U.S. Constitutional Convention, held in Philadelphia in 1787. The October Glory Red Maples put on a magnificent fall show.

17 BOEING-TOYOTA AMPHITHEATER

Seating for up to 300 in an open-air classroom. Concerts, plays and special events are held here.

Please recycle – share with a friend!