

Shade – slope garden



SUN

Receives less than three hours of direct sunlight each day, with filtered sunlight during the rest of the day.



SOIL

Sloped gardens ideally have a heavier than average soil to help stop erosion. Adding of 5 cm (2 in) of organic material (e.g. compost, manure, leaf mold) every two years will help to create a heavier soil. If the soil is sandy and light, use more than 5 cm (2 in) of organic material. Addition of organic material will also feed plants and keep them healthy—no need to fertilize!



WATER

New plants may need extra watering until the roots are well established (one to two seasons). Dividing the watering time into two sessions will allow water to be absorbed. For the first few weeks after your new garden is planted, check to see that the soil is wet to a depth of at least 2.5 cm (1 in), even if it rains. Mulch doesn't always work on a slope, and you may need to experiment with different types of mulch materials.

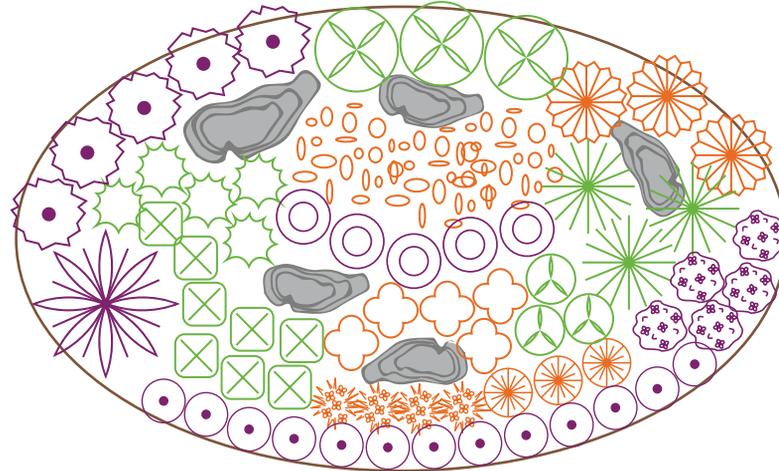


GENERAL

Once a slope garden is established, it will greatly decrease erosion. If the slope is steep, and soil, compost and water are drifting downhill, try adding rocks or terracing the garden to hold soil in place and slow the flow of water. Ensuring plantings cover the whole of the slope will also help slow water flow. Filling a slope with a mixture of plants—trees, shrubs, perennials and ground covers—forms an eye-catching garden that also helps soften the impact of rain on the slope.

- Spring interest
- Summer interest
- Fall interest

Ornamental rock



Rhus aromatica
fragrant sumac



Cornus canadensis
bunchberry



Asarum spp.
wild ginger



Polygonatum spp.
Solomon's seal



Anemone sp.
windflower



Bergenia spp.
elephant-eared saxifrage



Campanula rotundifolia
harebell



Aruncus dioicus
dwarf goat's beard



Heuchera spp.
coral bells



Hosta spp.
plantain lilies



Epimedium spp.
barrenwort



Adiantum pedatum
northern maidenhair fern



Pachysandra spp.
Japanese spurge



Hakonechloa macra 'Aureola'
Hakone grass



Deschampsia spp.
tufted hair grass