

# Right Plant in the Right Place

Grouping plants in the Landscape

Responsible landscapes make  
wise use of plants, their  
arrangement, and water  
requirements

# Soil moisture

## Sunlight levels

- Determine existing conditions
- Moist/Shade
- Moist/Sun
- Dry/Shade
- Dry/Sun
- Wet
- Plants have ranges of conditions they will tolerate
- 'Shade to part sun' may mean morning sun on a dry site, afternoon sun if wet
- A full sun plant may need part shade due to our hot summers

# Walking Iris

Partial sun to shade, moist to dry



# Group plants by their requirements

Water tolerant/dependant plants

Drought tolerant plants

Put the different groupings in different irrigation zones

Don't put grass and shrubs in the same zone

Some zones can be turned off after plants are established

# Choose the plants for your grouping



# Society garlic and Lantana perform well in dry sunny conditions



Yellow anise and aspidistra can both thrive in moist partial shade



# What function do the plants serve?

- Background
- Screen
- Foreground
- Specimen
- Groundcover
- Foundation planting



# Specimen, Screen or Foreground?



# How to determine the best size plant for the spot

- Know the natural mature height, not the height you wish it would stay
- Ligustrums and viburnums don't belong under low windows
- A Ligustrum makes a good specimen
- Viburnums make a good screening hedge
- Azaleas come in many sizes, choose the cultivar that best fits your needs

# Specimen Ligustrum framed by blank wall



# Small Back Yard

- Confederate jasmine to cover trellis
- African Iris under window
- Lantana and roses by the fountain
- Fashion azaleas anchor foreground



- Background, screening and foundation plantings should be evergreen to have year round effect
- Annuals and Perennials frequently used as foreground, many have high water demand

# Is a groundcover the best choice?

- Grass won't grow there
- Too shady
- Too dry
- Too steep to mow
- Grass is too much work
- Too close to pond, lake, or river
- Adds textural interest to yard

# Dwarf mondo between stones in path



# Mondo where grass won't grow



# Asiatic jasmine beds



# Perennial peanut instead of grass

- Beach house without irrigation system
- Groundcover to stop erosion
- Salt tolerant



# Low water requirements when established

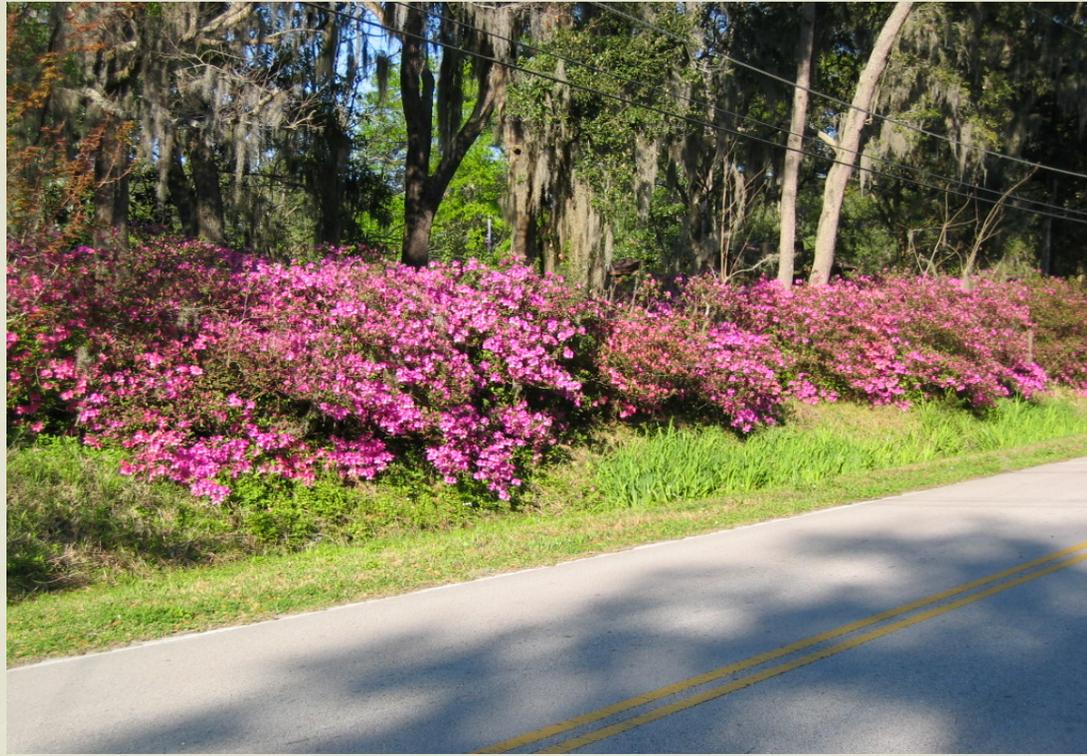


# Native vs. Non-native plants

- Natives are well adapted to our conditions
- There may be improved cultivars available
- The best plant for the site may not be native and that's OK
- A non-native choice may be invasive and that is not OK. Know the invasives
- Some natives are extremely slow growing and do not move well once established, if you find these on a property and can work them into the final landscape, do it.

# Coontie (native) as foundation planting





With some planning, the plantings we install can be water efficient and appealing