

# Gardening with Nature

Green and Growing Lunch Seminar Series 2009

Sponsored by Keep Kingsport Beautiful, The Southern Appalachian Plant Society  
and The Kingsport Public Library

"Man is a part of nature, and his war against nature is inevitably a war against himself." ~ Rachel Carson

"God Almighty first planted a garden. And indeed, it is the purest of human pleasures." ~ Sir Francis Bacon

## Part One: Taking Inspiration from Nature

To have a landscape that is truly sustainable, it should nourish you as much or more than you nourish it. Dare to imagine that your landscape can be more than a pretty backdrop for portraits and parties.

## Part Two: Earth Friendly Gardening Practices

1. Right Plant, Right Place
  - a. Foundation is understanding the site- soil type (pH, structure, fertility), drainage issues, aspect, microclimates
  - b. Next comes knowledge of plants: what conditions do they need to thrive? Hardiness to cold *and* heat.
2. Use Mulch- the Right Way
3. Use Synthetic Chemicals Sparingly and as a Last Resort, if at all
4. Recycle and Compost- find a system that works for you
5. Conserve Water and Soil
6. Create a Safe Habitat for Wildlife
7. Avoid and Remove Invasive Exotic Plants; consider natives.

## Shy Valley Native Habitat Nursery & Herbarry

Philip and Christy Shivell

[www.shyvalley.com](http://www.shyvalley.com)

423/348-6570