

Extension Master Gardener<sup>SM</sup> Volunteers of Buncombe County

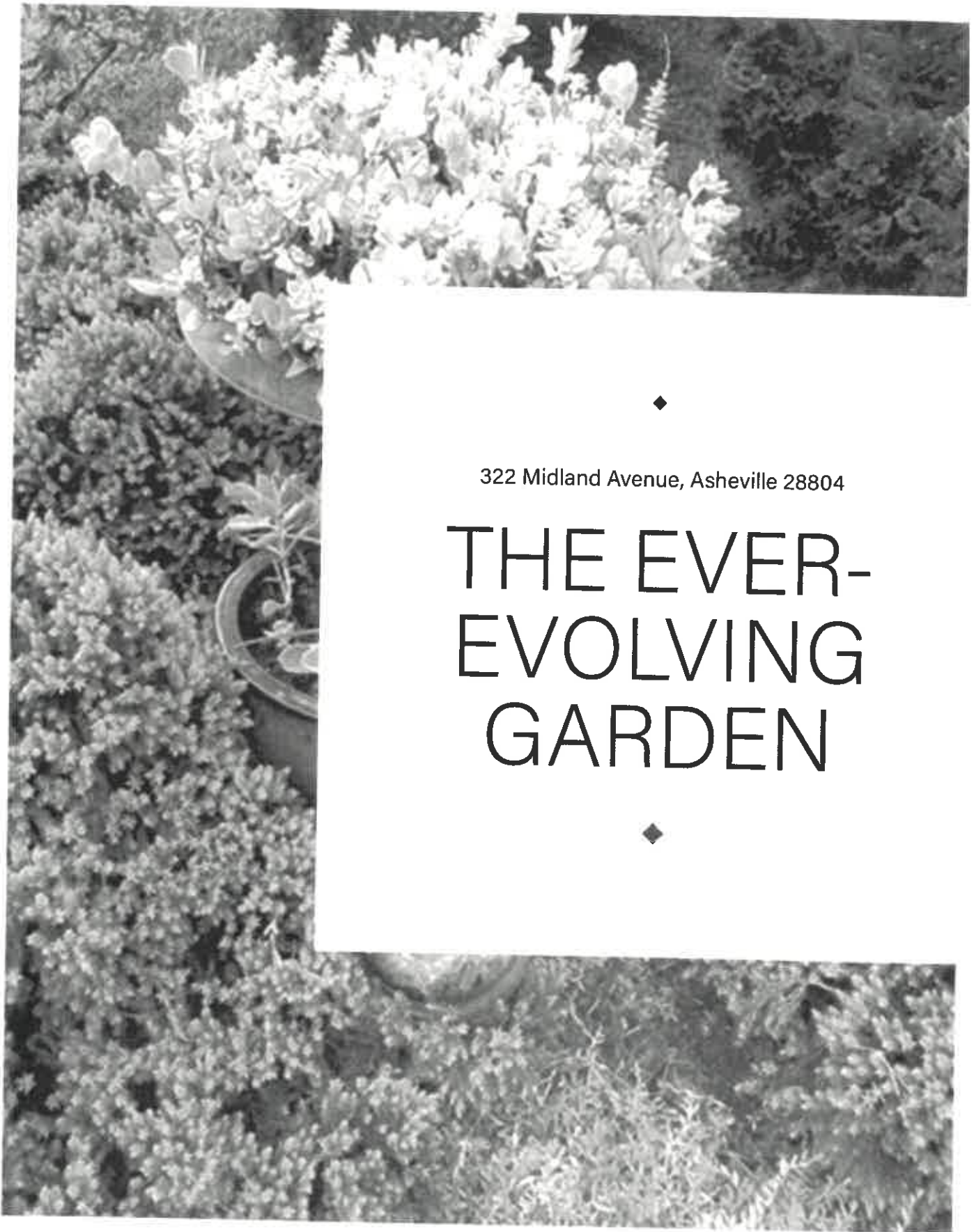


Photo: Laura Fine  
Botanical: Firestone Dahlia

SATURDAY | JUNE 1, 2019

9am to 3pm | Rain or Shine

*Garden Tour* 7th BIENNIAL  
explore ♦ learn ♦ grow!



322 Midland Avenue, Asheville 28804

# THE EVER- EVOLVING GARDEN





This calm, restful garden is a refuge filled with a huge variety of native and non-native plants. For nearly 30 years, Master Gardener Kathleen has nurtured the grounds and created spaces that are both intimate and open. "Ever-evolving" best describes this garden.

The front garden displays a newly created bed of lavender, mixed with Knock Out® roses relocated from another area of the yard. The back garden is centered by a magnificent sugar maple tree (*Acer saccharum*) shading a quiet exuberance of Japanese painted ferns and hostas. This tree has recently been honored with the designation of being an Asheville Treasured Tree by Asheville Greenworks. A screened porch overlooks a bed planted with Encore® azaleas and bee-friendly perennials. At the side of the house, an espaliered white camellia is anchored with white azaleas. Benches placed throughout the garden invite rest and reverie.

The owner removed long-standing hemlocks along the back property line to make room for a sunny perennial bed. Plants were selected to offer four-season interest and carefully layered to appear well-established and lush. Many plants in this garden are "Perennial Plants of the Year," selected by the Perennial Plant Association.

The Ever-Evolving Garden, always in flux, is currently developing a new planting area designed to attract pollinators. It features raised beds, companion planting, and vertical growth. Carrots are planted amongst lettuce and onions; marigolds are used to deter insect pests; trellises support climbing and tall-stemmed plants. Plants are carefully selected and placed to heed the "right plant, right place" gardeners' mantra.

Another evolution is to enable the idea of gardening for a lifetime—adjustments to meet both a gardener's advancing age and changing interests. Options include simplified plantings, walkways designed for safety, raised beds to reduce back strain, tools that are easier to handle, and sit-to-work locations. The resulting garden is one of beauty and a deep, personal expression by the owner.



## What to Look For

- ♦ Conifers unifying the garden
- ♦ Stone inukshuk saying "you are welcome here"
- ♦ Bee-friendly lavender patch
- ♦ Profusion of pollinator plants
- ♦ Winter-blooming *Edgeworthia* (the paperbush plant)

Top Left: Euonymus and a crabapple tree shelter a bird bath.

Top Right: A pair of heron sculptures pose elegantly among hellebores.

Center: Stone walkway lined with dwarf Solomon's seal curves by the stone inukshuk.

Bottom: Variegated hostas with the namesake Griffin.