Funded by contributions from the residents of Wellesley

TOWN OF WELLESLEY

# A Guide to the DEMO GARDEN

## The Demonstration Garden

presents some perennials and foliage grasses that require no fertilizer or pesticides and only rainwater to thrive. Many other native and non-native perennials, shrubs and trees might be used to help reduce chemical use in Wellesley.

When carefree plants like the ones in the Demo Garden are used to edge fertilized lawns, separating them from street drains or water bodies, they act as buffers, soaking up toxins and excess nutrients and helping to keep our brooks, ponds and drinking water clean. The wider the buffer and the deeper its roots, the better. In this location the planting combines with the natural buckthorn and alder to slow down siltation of the pond.

The Demo Garden lets you compare the heavy turf necessary for playing fields with the unfertilized grasses growing between Memorial Grove and the skating pond, where they survive shade and tree-root competition but not heavy traffic. The playing fields are fertilized with slow-release nitrogen to give the turf the boost it needs because of heavy use. The uncut shrubby growth between the playing fields and the pond helps to prevent nitrogen from migrating to the pond. Ideally, the buffer zone would be larger.

When planting near water, never disturb the soil or the plants on the bank or at the water's edge. If you must break into protective sod, be sure to check with the Wetlands Protection Committee about preventing erosion.

Please join us in a townwide effort to reduce the amount of fertilizers and pesticides entering our ponds!

NRC 5/97

# PLANT KEY

## Scientific Names

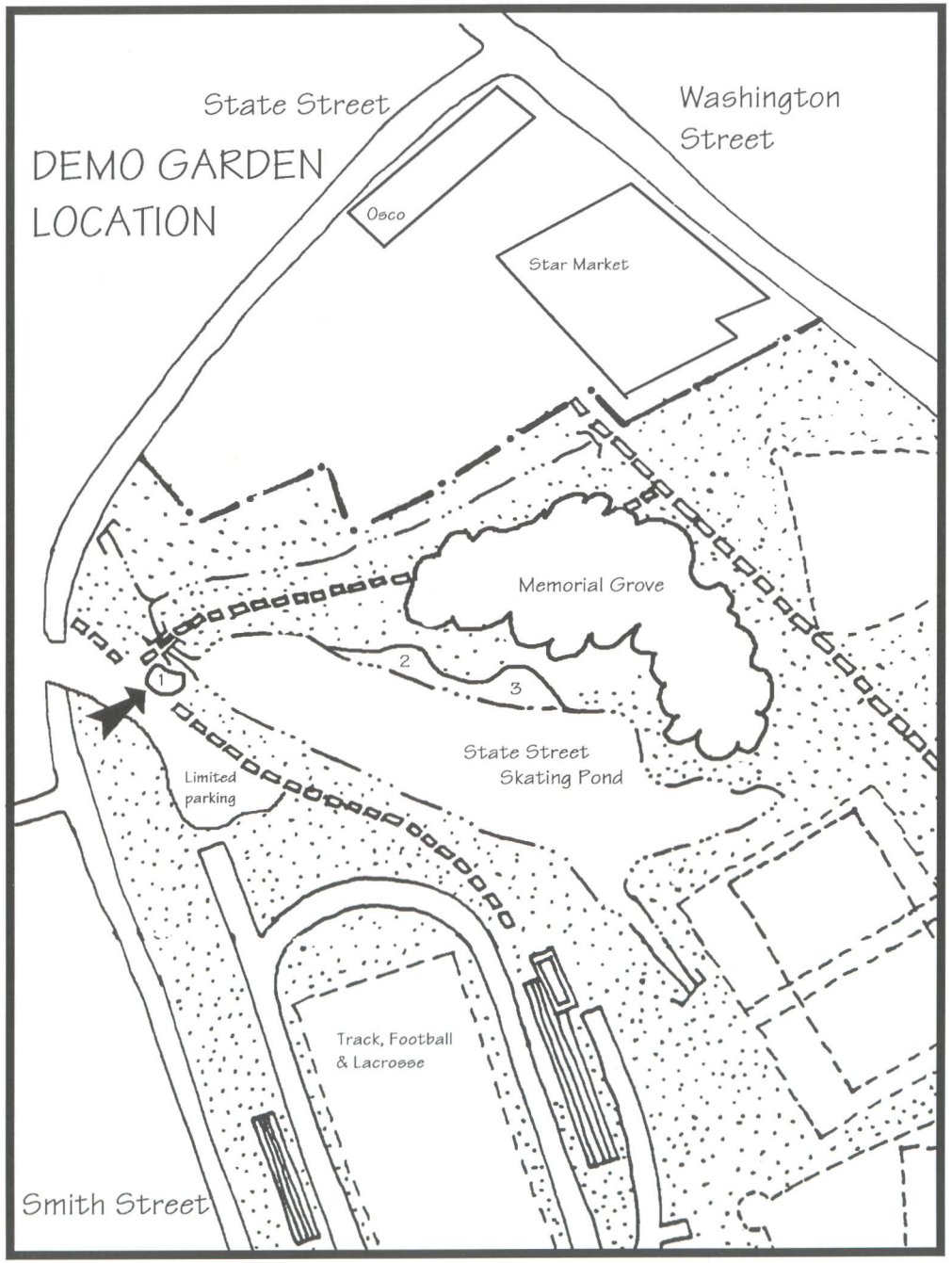
1 *Chrysanthemum maximum 'Alaska'*
2 *Filipendula rubra 'Venusta'*
3 *Iris pseudacorus*
4 *Hemerocallis species, mixed*
5 *Miscanthus sinensis 'Morning Light'*
6 *Panicum v. 'Heavy Metal'*
7 *Pennisetum alopecuroides 'Hamelin'*
8 *Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Longin'*
9 *Phalaris arundinacea 'Freesey's Variety'*
10 *Rodgersia pinnata*
11 *Rudbeckia f. 'Goldsturm'*
12 *Viola x w. 'Maxim Marina'*
13 *Daffodil 'King Alfred'*

## Common Names

1 Shasta daisies
2 Queen of the Prairies
3 Beardless iris
4 Day lilies
5 Foliage grass
6 Ornamental grass
7 Rose fountain grass
8 Russian sage
9 Ornamental grass
10 Saxifrage
11 Coneflower
12 Garden pansy
13 King Alfred Daffodil

# The DEMO GARDEN in Detail

Landscaping by Leonard E. Phillips, DPW Park & Tree Superintendent


DEMO GARDEN
LOCATION
State Street
Washington
Street
Osco
Star Market
Memorial Grove
1
2
3
State Street
Skating Pond
Limited
parking
Track, Football
& Lacrosse
Smith Street