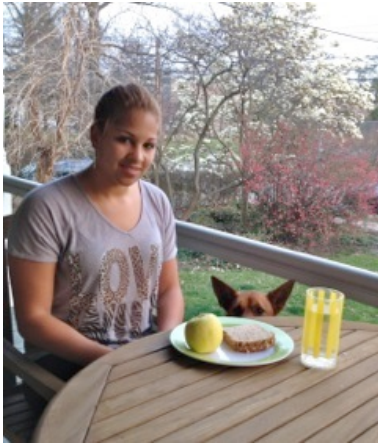


TIP #1: Create places for people to sit, eat, relax, or walk in your garden.



Overwhelmed by all the things you feel you're supposed to do in your garden or you have no idea what to do? Well, relax! No, really, that's the best way to begin: look for a place to relax in your garden. Make a place for you and your family to sit down, maybe room enough for friends too. For summer, have a place to eat dinner, perhaps lunch on weekends.

You could make a pathway through the thicket in back, so kids have a way to take a shortcut. This is a good thing; children add life and vitality to a garden. And their curiosity is infectious, so make

room for it.

Pathways are always inviting. People always want to follow them, so provide vignettes along the way and interesting destinations, such as something that's visually appealing on or next to the porch or the patio.

The more you enjoy your garden, the more you will notice the details of nature. As you become attuned to the particulars of your garden, it becomes easier, more spontaneous, to make it a great place for people, animals, and plants.

This is one of nine Green Gardening Suggestions from the Swarthmore Horticultural Society, www.swarthmorehorticulturalsociety.org, compiled by Kit Raven.