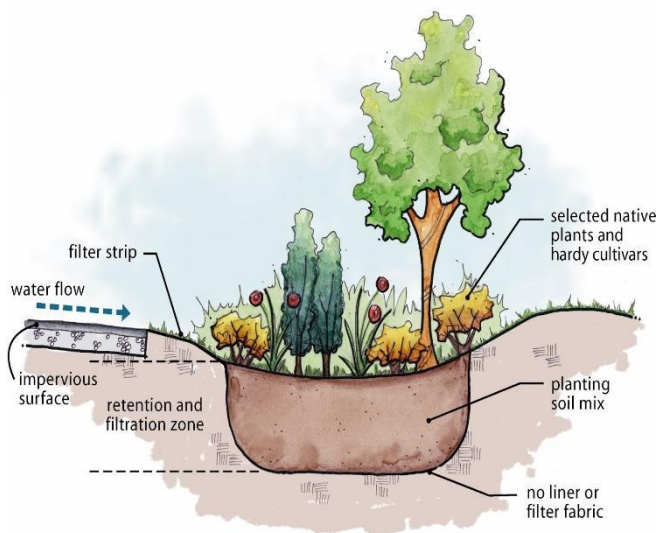


St. John's Campus has twelve gardens. There are five rain gardens, six pollinator gardens, and one conservation garden.



A **rain garden** functions like native forests to help slow down, soak up and filter polluted runoff from hard surfaces. A rain garden is a shallow depression planted with a variety of flowers, shrubs, and grasses that tolerate wet winters and dry summers. When planted with the right types of plants, rain gardens also attract birds and butterflies. Think of it as a sponge that gently soaks up water, preventing floods and keeping our rivers clean.



A **pollinator garden** is a type of garden designed with the intent of growing specific nectar and pollen-producing plants, in a way that attracts pollinating insects known as pollinators. Pollinators aid in the production of one out of every three bites of food consumed by humans. Pollinator gardens are a way to offer support for these species. In order for a garden to be considered a pollinator garden, it should provide various nectar producing flowers, shelter or shelter-providing plants for pollinators, and avoid the use of pesticides.

St. John's Rain Gardens



River Jordan

This long rain garden hugs the main drive on the left as you head to the historic church. It is filled with native plants and bushes to attract birds, bees and other beneficial critters to our campus. It also serves to hold and filter storm water runoff from the road and parking lot.

Pools of Bethesda

Howard EcoWorks revitalized this rain garden in recent years. It features a variety of native plants and shrubs and collects and filters rainwater through a system of pools created with rocks and drains. It is on your left side as you turn right off the main drive to go toward the school.





Garden of Standing Stones

This colorful rain garden is filled with painted stones and next to the PDS outdoor classroom. It will be on your right as you leave the Historic Church's back parking lot. The rain garden collects and filters rainwater and is bursting with native plants.



Mary & Martha Gardens

These two rain gardens are on either corner behind the Historic Church. Martha's Garden is at the side entrance to the church and Mary's Garden is across from the Garden of Standing Stones. The gardens are filled with some showy native plants and collect rainwater and help with erosion on these two corners.

St. John's Pollinator Gardens



The Gardens of Rose Hill These two pollinator gardens in the front of Rose Hill have beautiful flowering shrubs and flowers to attract butterflies, bees, hummingbirds and other pollinators. The two gardens were installed in 2024 by Howard EcoWorks. As the flowers and shrubs continue to grow, you can expect to see a showcase of colors.



Brittany's Memorial Garden

Brittany's Garden is at the original front gate of St. John's. There is a beautiful fountain in the center of a garden filled with a variety of native pollinator plants. In the spring, Brittany's Garden is a showy wonderland of yellow daffodils swaying in the breeze. In the summer, expect to see lots of bright purple and orange coneflowers.



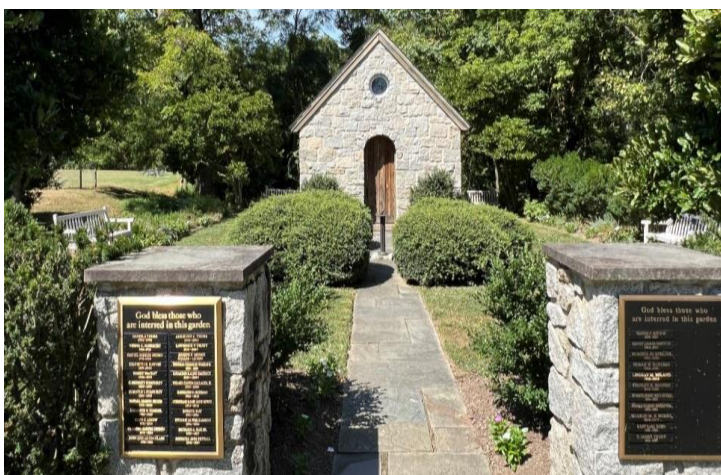
Bird Bath Garden

This “purple” pollinator garden was created around a bird bath outside the Historic Church along the sidewalk to ASH. Native purple and blue pollinator plants have been planted around the existing trees. This is one of our newer gardens.



Labyrinth Garden

The shrubs, trees, and plants surrounding the labyrinth provide shade and beauty to this sacred place on the St. John’s Campus. We are currently in the planning stages to expand the garden to include native plantings and new seating areas.



Alda’s Memorial Garden

This garden is a peaceful refuge for meditation, contemplation, and remembrance of those interred there. The formal garden is surrounded by perennial beds, herbbery, and flowering trees that provide year-round color and texture, as well as food and shelter for a variety of pollinators, birds, and other wildlife.

St. John's Conservation Garden

St. John's newest garden is called a **conservation garden**. You will find this garden on the hill outside of the kitchen near ASH and the Auditorium. It is filled with a large variety of native plants to provide habitat for wildlife and help preserve local species including native insects, birds, and other wildlife.

Conservation gardens are particularly relevant to the reduction of stormwater pollution.



Become “plant smart”!



Our QR coded plant signs are a new addition to our gardens thanks to our partner relationship with Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake (IPC).

You can explore the wonders of plants on campus effortlessly with our plant QR codes. The QR codes link you to websites like the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center www.wildflower.org or Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake www.interfaithchesapeake.org.

Your smartphone has a built-in QR code reader. When you use your smartphone's camera to scan a QR code, a link to a website will pop up on the screen. Tap on the link to go to the website and unlock instant details about each plant or learn about the importance of stormwater management for the health of our planet.

