

[Perry's Perennial Pages](#)

Vermont Perennial Display Gardens **listed alphabetically by region**

The following historic and perennial display gardens in Vermont, and within a few miles of the borders, are updated from past printed brochures. All have certified that they have at least 1000 square feet of beds, with plants established more than one year and labelled. Changes as they occur will only appear on these web pages so you may wish to print these for reference. Most are only open *seasonally*, so it is always best to call before visiting, just to confirm any time changes.

This listing is **not** inclusive of all such display gardens and perennial firms in Vermont, nor is it meant as a recommendation of those listed to the exclusion of those not mentioned. Check local yellow pages, chambers of commerce, other web sites and the like for further listings. This listing made possible by support from New England Grows--a conference providing education for industry professionals and support for Extension's outreach efforts in ornamental horticulture. Return to [Perry's Perennial Pages](#) or to [Other Sites](#) page.

Key to symbols: P=Plants for sale C=Catalog available

HG=Historic garden

ATF=featured garden on [Across the Fence](#) (visit this link for streaming videos)

Please help rate these! If you visit any of these, I would appreciate your rating to post (which will remain anonymous) to help future viewers and visitors. You may send these to me at: leonard.perry@uvm.edu ***excellent, definitely worth visiting **good, visit if in the area *okay, but could use some improvement (no stars)--should be removed, not as described, insufficient plants, poor or no labeling Thanks!

Introduction

Plant your flower garden or border with perennials and watch with satisfaction as you are rewarded with flowers year after year. Perennials are herbaceous plants which bloom yearly. For this reason, they don't have to be planted each year as do annual flowers. Generally, they are low-maintenance, requiring periodic dividing. Perennials love Vermont's relatively cool summers. As a result, they don't go dormant in midsummer as they would in warmer climates, providing a full summer of bloom. The blooms of perennials often don't have the massive show of annuals, however, the variety of perennials is enormous and the gardener has a much greater selection from which to choose. Choose carefully, and your garden will be in bloom throughout the season.

Northern Vermont

Arcana Gardens & Greenhouses, Jericho, (802) 899-5123. (1000' up Schillhammer Road, off Barber Farm Road, 1 mi from Route 117). *Open April – October, call for seasonal hours.* Farm stand and greenhouse offers the most diverse selection of certified organic seedlings, perennials and produce in the region, as well as homemade culinary treats, herbal products, and pottery. Beautiful display gardens for self-guided tour, live tour on Open Farm Day, or by appointment. Environment aims to educate and celebrate the rewards of organic farming. Plenty of parking, picnic spots, a sand box for kids, and friendly, knowledgeable service. **P, C** <http://www.arcana.ws/>

Burlington Community Boathouse, Waterfront Park and Promenade, Burlington, (802) 865-3377. (Located at the foot of College Street, Burlington) *May 15-September 15, 24 hours, seven days/week.* Stroll down the Waterfront Park Promenade and enjoy the landscape, featuring 100+ All-American Selections and annuals, select perennial display gardens, and 525 mixed daylilies displayed in beds surrounded by shrubs and ornamental trees. The Boathouse offers a wide variety of water-based recreational opportunities, highlighted with boat rentals and sailing lessons.

Cady's Falls Nursery, 637 Duhamel Rd., Morrisville, Vt. 05661. (802) 888-5559. *Open 10-5 Closed Mondays in May and June. Closed Sundays and Mondays July and August. Call ahead after September 1.* This is an old fashioned retail nursery, propagating and growing a wide selection of zone 3 hardy plants. Don and Lela Avery are avid collectors and propagators, serving discriminating gardeners and professional plants people throughout New England. Reflecting twenty five years of intensive work, the Cady's Falls gardens are one of the horticultural highlights of New England. The setting is a 1850's farmhouse and post and beam dairy barn nestled in Vermont's Lamoille River Valley. The gardens are meticulously maintained, well marked and include many comfortable benches inviting visitors to linger and enjoy. There is a woodland garden featuring Meconopsis and showy lady slippers in early summer, a numerous rock gardens hosting a large collection of dwarf and unusual conifers, especially the genus Larix, a series of small ponds with water lilies and naturalized primroses, nicely established perennial plantings including many mature specimens of peonies, hosta, siberian iris and old fashioned roses. There is also a sphagnum bog garden containing a collection of pitcher plants and other native species. **P,**

Evergreen Gardens of Vermont, Waterbury Center, (802) 244-8523. (Route 100 Waterbury Center, VT 05677) <http://www.evergreengardensvt.com/>; *Open Monday-Saturday, 9-6; Sunday, 10-5.* A large collection of hardy perennials, colorful and unusual annuals, herbs, ornamental fruit trees and shrubs surround a pond and picnic table. The store offers books and tools, garden ornaments, gifts and pottery; window boxes and planters planted to your order. Staffed by garden enthusiasts who welcome questions from beginners and enjoy visits with experienced gardeners. There's so much to learn! **P**

Horsford Gardens & Nursery, Charlotte, (802) 425-2811; www.horsfordnursery.com (Route 7, Charlotte, VT 05445) *April through December, Monday-Saturday, 8-5. Sunday, 10-4.* Enjoy the unique atmosphere of Vermont's oldest nursery. Perennial and herb display gardens, acres of lilacs and crabapples. Garden shop. Free garden classes, newsletter and catalogue. **P, C**

Horticulture Research Center, South Burlington, (802) 658-9166. (Route 7 south behind Heritage Ford, Department of Plant and Soil Science. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405). *Weekdays (closed holidays), call for hours.* Display gardens. Cary Award winning woody ornamentals. School tours. Crabapple and lilac collections, perennial display gardens. Periodic clinics, tours, open houses, as announced by <http://www.friendsofthehortfarm.org> Free plants, newsletter, gift certificates for [Friends of the Garden](http://www.friendsofthehortfarm.org) program.

Labour of Love Landscaping & Nursery, Glover, (802) 525-6695; labouroflovegardens.com (Route 16, Glover Village, 2.5 mi south of exit 25, I-91). *Flowering from early April bulb bloom until hard frost, open for viewing daily until dark.* For group or guided tours, guest accommodations or weddings, call ahead or email. Over 700 varieties of zone 3-hardy perennials (available field-grown or potted), fill-ins of selectively bred annual poppies in rainbow colors, and picnic tables among the flowers and along the river's edge. The restored 1800s Greek revival home with its antiques, craft, and gift shop is open evenings and weekends (other days by chance or appointment). From alpine miniatures to background giants, English cottage gardens to formal displays, we offer a full-service array of design, installation, and maintenance options: site clearing, stone work, tree planting, pond work and more. **P**

Lamoille County Nature Center Wildflower Meadow Gardens. Morrisville, (802)888-9218; (Cole Hill Road, Morrisville, Vermont 05661) . The gardens serve as an educational resource for the people of Lamoille County and Vermont, a place where one can identify by name, and learn about, many of New England's showiest wildflowers. Now in their 11th season, the gardens are home to more than 40 species of native wildflowers. Apart from their educational value, the gardens are also a place of quiet beauty, where from early June through mid-October one will find a continuous, dazzling display of natural color, and hundreds of butterflies and birds. Gardens are open, Memorial Day to mid-October. Admission is free. Visit us at: <http://www.lcnrcd.com/>

Lang Farm Nursery, Essex Junction, (802) 878-5720. (51 Upper Main Street, Route 15, Essex Junction, VT 05452) *April-December, seven days a week.* Beautiful display gardens and plantings for new design ideas and inspiration. Extensive selection of Vermont-grown annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs. Enjoy a complete horticultural experience with the eclectic collection of unusual garden gifts and home accessories in the garden center. Knowledgeable staff help with design and plant selections. Popular seasonal special events during the spring and fall seasons-- call for details and schedule. **P**

Perennial Pleasures Nursery, East Hardwick, (802) 472-5104; <Http://www.perennialpleasures.net/> (63 Brickhouse Road, East Hardwick, VT 05836) *May-September, Tuesday-Sunday, 9-5. Garden viewing best June through August.* Gift and garden shop. Gardening workshops. Specializing in old-fashioned hardy perennial flowers and herbs, including those common in 17th, 18th, and 19th century gardens. Over 900 varieties of field grown flowers, herbs and shrubs, featuring medicinal, culinary, dye and ornamental plants, garden statuary and furniture. Extensive display gardens. English Cream Teas served Memorial Day to Labor Day, 12:30 to 4:30, in the garden or gazebo, reservations suggested. Mail order. **P, C, ATF.**

Pine Tree Farms, Bristol, (802) 453-2587; (140 North Street, Bristol, VT 05443) *Open end of April-end of October. Seven days a week.* Offering unusual annuals and easy-to-grow perennials and herbs. Greenhouses, water garden and display gardens, pottery and gardening needs. **P**

Rocky Dale Gardens, Bristol, (802) 453-474; <http://www.rockydalegardens.com/> (806 Rocky Dale Road [Route 116], Bristol, VT 05443) *Open 9-6 Daily May and June, all other months Wed-Mon 9-6, Tuesdays - Open by Chance or Appointment. Good garden viewing all season.* Extensive display gardens feature island beds covering 3 acres in a beautiful country setting with dramatic rock outcroppings. Retail nursery specializing in perennials, dwarf conifers and unusual trees and shrubs. **P, C**

UVM Horticulture Club Gardens, University of Vermont campus, Burlington. (802) 656-2630. *Open every day. Peak display is in August.* Parking is available at the visitor lot near the water tower on campus. *The greenhouse is open 8:30-4 weekdays.* Large groups, please call ahead for greenhouse tour 656-0465. A 150ft-long display garden with bulbs in spring followed by annuals and perennials during summer. Color schemes and plant materials change annually, creating a new and exciting garden each year! New and unusual annuals and perennials are showcased along side traditional favorites. Plants are labeled during the growing season. Other attractions include a rhododendron garden, a collection of hardy vines and climbers and the greenhouse <http://www.uvm.edu/~grnhouse> with tropical plants on display.

Vermont Daylilies, Greensboro, (802) 472-6138; Vermontdaylilies@aol.com (Box 95, Main Street, Greensboro, VT 05841). *Display gardens open May-October. Gardens peak June and July. Daylilies peak mid-July to mid-August. Daylily sales staff Wed-Sun, 12-5, June – Labor Day.* Lunch groups, tours or weddings by appointment (802-553-2291). *Now located behind the newly-renovated Lakeview Inn/Deli overlooking Caspian Lake.* This 20-year-old perennial nursery specializes in hearty and classic field-grown daylilies. Nearly 500 AHS-registered varieties, many award-winners with 50 new varieties to be offered this year. Large selection of potted perennials featured in the Inn's many, varied display gardens always available. Enjoy a delicious lunch on the screened porch overlooking the gardens or spend the night in Yankee Magazine's 2001 "Editor's Pick" Bed and Breakfast. Photo album of all daylilies. **P, C**

Vermont Flower Farm, Marshfield, (802) 426-3505; FAX (802) 426-3505; www.vermontflowerfarm.com (256 Peacham Pond Road, Marshfield, VT 05658). *Open daily 9-5, mid-May until Labor Day.* Scheduled tours for garden clubs and interested groups. Located near Groton State Forest and scenic Owl's Head. Specializing in hostas, daylilies and astilbes featured with lilies and perennials in display and

cutting gardens. Includes an extensive hosta, shade and wildflower garden within a granite and fieldstone barn foundation. Weekly garden blog about events and bloom times available at <http://thevermontgardener.blogspot.com> P, C

The von Trapp Greenhouse, Waitsfield, (802)496-4385; www.vontrappgreenhouse.com (208 Common Road, Waitsfield, VT 05673). *Open Mon-Sat, 9-6, and Sun 10-4 in May; Mon-Sat, 9-5, and Sun 10-4 in June and July; same as above Aug and Sept only closed Mondays. . Call ahead when traveling from a distance.* Located on Waitsfield Common, approx. 2mi. east of Route 100. Large (half acre) display garden featuring hundreds of perennial varieties in a mountain setting with breathtaking views. In addition to the many unusual perennial varieties, the greenhouse also offers an outstanding selection of annuals, herbs, vegetable plants, hanging baskets and flowering tropicals. P

Central Vermont

Countryman Peony Farm, Northfield (802) 485-8421; FAX (802) 485-9421; countrymanpeonyfarm@netscape.com (818 Winch Hill Road, Northfield, VT 0563) *Open daily, 10-dusk, June 1-July 10.* Visitors always welcome. One of the world's largest herbaceous peony collections, over 1000 varieties; species, hybrids, singles, Japanese, semi doubles and doubles; early, midseason and late bloomers. Choose varieties for cut flower, garden accent or landscape use. Many antique types as well as the latest varieties on display. Peonies sold anytime but will only be delivered in Sept. - Oct. (the proper planting time). Orders may be shipped or picked up at the farm. Phone or write for information or directions. P, C, ATF.

Frost Hill Farm Peony Nursery, Belmont (802-259-2716); <http://www.frosthilfarm.com/> (979 Frost Hill Rd, Belmont, Vt.) *Open from about the 1st week in June to mid-July.* Call ahead for days and hours of operation, or visit our website for seasonal information. We are a nursery specializing in Peonies and Siberian Irises. We have over 225 different varieties of peonies with about 2 acres under cultivation. One can see and choose cultivars in bloom and either purchase them as one year potted plants or order root divisions for Fall planting. This year we have over 50 different cultivars ready for Spring planting.. P

Greatwood Gardens. Goddard College, Plainfield, VT 802-322-1666

(http://www.goddard.edu/greatwood_gardens). Early 20th century historic gardens designed by Arthur Shurcliff, recently restored, featuring lower and upper gardens, maze, borders, water features. Teas served by reservation in summer. **HG, ATF.**

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller estate. Woodstock, VT 802-457-3368x22 <http://www.nps.gov/mabi/>

Former estate of George Perkins Marsh, Frederick Billings, and Laurance Rockefeller, all prominent conservationists in US history. First and only national park in Vermont, and only one in the US dedicated to sustainable forestry. Formal gardens, lawns, many large trees, rock gardens, and vistas. Excellent visitor center and documentary. **HG, ATF.**

Morrill Homestead. Strafford, VT. 802-828-3051 (<http://www.morrillhomestead.org/>) Home of Justin Smith Morrill, founder of land grant colleges in the US, and US congressman in late 1800s. Beautiful pink sandstone gothic revival home from c. 1850, complete with original furnishings. Gardens recently restored and in process, including special woody plants, pleasure garden in front, and kitchen/flower gardens in back. Special tours and events. **HG, ATF.**

Mr. Twitter's Garden & Gift Emporium, Rutland, (802) 773-0795 or (800) 924-8948;

www.mrtwitters.com (Route 7 north of Rutland – look for the purple picket fence; 24 McKinley Ave., Rutland, VT 05701) *Open daily.* Gift shop; free gift wrapping; will ship anywhere. Gardens feature annuals, perennials, herbs and shrubs designed with foliage, texture and all-season interest in mind. Plantings are punctuated with sundials, gazing globes, fountains and statuary. Garden tools, birdhouses and feeders, lanterns, silk and dried flowers, and over 300 books on gardening and nature crafts in the gift shop. Plants, hardy to this climate, on sale, Landscape & design services available. Browsers welcome. **P**

Continue next page

Standing Stone Perennial Farm, Royalton, (802) 763-8243. sspf@together.net (Located 1 mile off Route 14, 36 Johnson Hill Road, South Royalton, VT 05068) *Open mid-April through mid-September, Tuesday-Saturday, 9-5, Sunday, 10-4. Open Mondays until June. Closed Mondays starting in June.* Circa 1850 hillside farmhouse surrounded by ornamental gardens and propagation beds with unique standing stones throughout. Wander through acres of gardens, around ponds, and visit the stone circle, large sundial and chessboard., A family – operated nursery offering high quality organically-grown plants, knowledgeable and friendly help. Over 700 varieties of hardy perennials and herbs, also shrub roses. **P, C**

Southern Vermont

Cider Hill Gardens, Windsor, (802) 674-5293; FAX (802) 674-6825, <http://www.ciderhillvt.com> (1747 Hunt Road, Windsor, VT 05089) *Open 10am-6pm, Thurs-Mon (closed Tues and Wed), May-Christmas.* Group garden tours available by appointment. The display gardens are diverse, from rock ledges featuring both sun and shade plants, to country-style herb garden with raised beds and theme gardens to long perennial island beds carved out of an old apple orchard leading into the woodland around the pond. Many unusual and hard-to-find herbs and perennials, and herbal topiary plants, potted and field dug. Featured in Country Living, Victoria, and Family Circle. Greenhouse, gift shop and art gallery. **P, ATF.**

D & K's Garden Center, Jamaica, (802) 874-4160: dkgarden@svcable.net; (Main Street, Route 30/100, in the village of Jamaica, VT 05343) *Open daily 9-5 Outdoor display gardens, spring through fall.* Over six acres of display gardens including water gardens, stone wall and rock gardens, gardens for shade, sun and more, all with Vermont-hardy perennials and annuals. Pick your own bouquet in the cutting gardens. Thousands of plants for sale, many unusual varieties. Garden accessories, birdhouses, birdbaths, fountains. Trees, vines and annuals. We also do garden installation and design. **P (* JF, 3/06)**

Equinox Valley Nursery, Manchester, (802) 362-2610; FAX (802) 362-2652.

www.equinoxvalleynursery.com (Historic Route 7A; PO Box 206, Manchester, VT 05254) *Monday – Saturday, 8-5; Sunday, 9-4. All display gardens spring until frost. Fall harvest display Labor Day through Halloween.* Motor coach and school tours. Extensive garden gift and supply shop. Exclusive Vermont *Blooms of Bressingham* Keystock Nursery. Over 1000 perennial varieties, more than 200 herb and scented geranium selections. New and unusual and European gardens. Complete retail nursery specializing in dwarf conifers, hardy roses, climbing vines, alpine gardens, and water gardens. 17 greenhouses of rare and unusual cultivars. Tropical conservatory greenhouse. Featured in Yankee, Vermont Life, and The New Yorker! **P, ATF.**

Hildene, Manchester Village, (802) 362-1788; FAX (802) 362-1564. <http://www.hildene.org> (Historic Route 7a; PO Box 377, Manchester, VT 05254). *Open Daily Mid-May through October, 9:30-4:30 Open Thursday through Monday, November through Mid-May, 11:00-3:00. Closed major holidays.* Garden viewing best June - August. Admission charged. High on a promontory between the Green Mountains and the Taconic Mountain Range, overlooking the Battenkill valley. The home of Robert Todd Lincoln,

Mettowee Mill Nursery, Dorset, (802) 348-6614; FAX (802) 325-3480; www.Mettoweemillnursery.com (Located on Route 30, one mi north of the Dorset Village Green.) *Open year' round 7 days a week.* A quarter century ago, along the banks of the Mettowee River, the Jones family established a 15-acre gardener's paradise. Display gardens feature annual and perennial plantings in an English style. The shade garden offers lots of ideas. Fish in the trout pond! Hundred of unusual annuals, hardy perennials, specialty herbs and vegetables; a plethora of trees and shrubs. Garden shop is full of decorative pottery, statuary, fountains, and quality gifts for the gardener. Friendly knowledgeable staff. **P**

Olallie Daylily Gardens, South Newfane, (802) 348-6614; FAX (802) 348-9881; www.daylilygarden.com (129 Augur Hole Road, South Newfane, VT 05351) *Open daily, 10-5, closed Tuesdays. Gardens open for viewing Mother's Day through Labor Day. Peak daylily bloom from mid July through August, plus rare fall bloomers collection of daylilies.* A three-generation family farm, offering a free field map guide which directs visitors along grass walkways, winding through six acres of landscaped gardens. Over 1000

varieties of daylilies, plus field-grown perennials, including cup plants, poppies and Siberian iris. Also, a display bed of rare species and heritage daylilies; a woodland walk of native plants, and an alpine rock garden. The Garden House features gardening books and cards, favorite hand tools, and gardening gifts. Pots of fine perennials, shrubs and select trees. Pick-your-own organic blueberries from mid-July until frost. Featured in Vermont and People, Places and Plants magazines. **P,C, ATF.** (***) *JF, 3/06* **Outside Vermont** (but nearby)

The Fells, John Milton Hay estate. Lake Sunapee, NH. 603-763-4789x3 (<http://www.thefells.org/>) Former summer home in late 1800s, early 1900s of John Milton Hay, secretary of state under two presidents. Gardens recently partially restored featuring vistas, perennial borders, and large rock garden. Most of the 600 or more acres are wooded and a nature preserve. **P, HG, ATF**

The King's Garden at Fort Ticonderoga. Ticonderoga, NY 518-585-2821 ex. 228; (<http://www.fort-ticonderoga.org>) (Minutes from Vermont via Route 4 in Rutland, the Ticonderoga Ferry in Shoreham and the Chimney Point Bridge) Contact: Heidi Karkoski, Open June 1-October 10, 10:00 am-4:00 pm. Included with Fort Ticonderoga admission. Garden-only admission \$6. A "Secret Garden" in Vermont's back yard! The King's Garden is a one-acre formal display garden on the shore of Lake Champlain, surrounded by a brick wall and filled with over 400 different kinds of plants, 12,000 plants in all. Outside the brick wall are three display vegetable gardens totaling 1/2 acre, and including about 3,000 plants. A Children's Garden with activities for children including a small corn maze, sunflower house, alphabet soup garden and more charms for children of all ages! A Military Garrison Garden displays vegetables grown by soldiers while living at Fort Ticonderoga. A newly restored 1920's era Lord & Burnham estate greenhouse re-opens in 2005 with activities for visitors. All of the gardens are surrounded by an apple orchard. Daily tours at 1:30 pm. Special programs and activities throughout the season. **HG, ATF**

Saint-Gaudens. Cornish, NH. 603-675-2175 (<http://www.nps.gov/saga>) National historic site, home and gardens of America's foremost sculptor from the late 1800s and early 20th century. Gardens showcase some of his famous works. Excellent visitor center and documentary. Special events and concerts. **HG, ATF**

