Cottage Gardens

Today on Gardening in a Minute: cottage gardens.

Cottage gardens were first grown by English serfs, and their eclectic nature reflects their origins. Cottage gardens mix tasty fruits, vegetables, and herbs with useful flowers and other plants.

These gardens are known for their use of all available space. The original cottage gardens didn’t include flowers, but today’s versions revel in a riot of colorful blooms.

Cottage gardens have a whimsical feel that comes from curvy, wide borders, asymmetrical plantings, and fun features such as statues or fountains.

Because of their natural look, cottage gardens may appear chaotic, but they’re organized to contrast the color and texture of plants, as they overflow with a mix of perennials, vines, and edibles.

Some classic plants for the cottage garden suited for Florida include climbing rose, morning glory, lavender, and dianthus.

For more information about cottage gardens and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.