



2073 Braeburn Cir.: Sylvester Cemetery

It's hard to believe this lovely, peaceful space filled with old oaks, pines and magnolias, plus hundreds of azaleas in bloom for the tour, was once a crime-ridden dump site overgrown by invasive vines. The cemetery has been restored by a devoted group of volunteers, who continue to maintain the existing gardens and plant more shrubs and perennials.

The cemetery dates to the 1860s and is the final resting place of more than 1,400 people. They include Confederate soldiers and country music pioneer Fiddlin' John Carson, but the cemetery's East Atlanta neighbors may be more likely to recognize names like Marbut and McWilliams. The East Atlanta Strut is happy to help visitors discover or rediscover this space, and we urge you to support the Historic Sylvester Cemetery Foundation. **Guided tours at noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.**





709 Clifton Road: A Storm of Beauty

When a tornado took down a huge tree in this gardener's backyard, she said there were two options: fill the hole with a swimming pool or create a secret backyard garden.

That was 16 years ago, and now the garden features various outdoor “living rooms” connected by rock paths. Walk slowly so you catch the garden art tucked among the hostas, creeping Jenny, Japanese maples, tea olives, gardenias, tiger lillies, cleome, herbs and other perennials.





1899 Montvallo Ter. SE: On the Border

At the edge of East Atlanta, you'll recognize this garden from the lush plant border along the front driveway.

The garden has been developing over the 13 years the family has lived in East Atlanta., and the large front and back gardens were planted with a wide variety of plants that are designed to attract pollinators.

The back garden also has two large raised vegetable beds, a greenhouse for tropical plants, and many potted citrus trees.





1370 Orange Blossom Terrace: A Rainbow of Blooms

This garden is a synergy of the gardeners' community, using many plants that were shared by friends over the past 14 years. Annuals and pottery are mixed with trees, shrubs and perennials that combine to offer interest and color everywhere a visitor looks.

The neighbors on Orange Blossom are very social and involved in life in the neighborhood. These gardeners are offering a fun garden party, and their neighbors have committed to be amazing hosts as well.



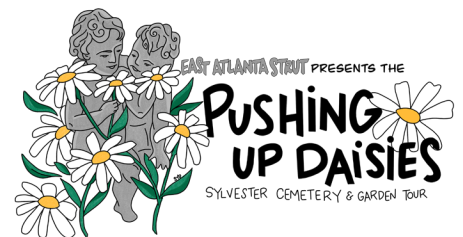


749 Flat Shoals Ave.: Beauty Evolving

This garden recently became “City Forest Certified” by Trees Atlanta. It’s also adjacent to Ormewood Forest, a greenspace saved from development by a partnership between neighbors and the city.

Gardeners will recognize this sentiment: “Our property is an endless labor of love, never quite reaching the gardening and landscaping dreams we hold, but always moving and slowly evolving. Sometimes both forwards and backwards.”

Note: Turn off Flat Shoals and park on Ormewood or Shadowridge and you can easily walk to three gardens on the tour, including this one.





1356 Ormewood: Gearing Down

These gardeners' 20 years of landscaping has paid off, providing this busy family with a beautiful garden perfect for winding down after long days at work.

Step into the fenced backyard and the sound of rushing water will immediately relax you.

Note: From this garden you can easily walk to the tour gardens at 769 Shadowridge and 749 Flat Shoals.





769 Shadowridge: Made in the Shade

The goal of these gardeners over the past four-plus years has been to establish a more native sustainable ecosystem.

They created multiple rain gardens and stone retaining walls to fix drainage issues, and have also removed all grass and begun the arduous work of removing invasive species.

They've added short walking trails and stone pathways and now provide better habitats for butterflies, birds, and other local wildlife. They've had help from permaculture business Shades of Green.

Note: From this garden you can easily walk to the tour gardens at 1356 Ormewood and 749 Flat Shoals.





673 Brownwood: Five Gardens in One!

When this gardener moved to his home in the '90s, it consisted of one rose bush, four 100-year-old oaks and grass.

Now the grass is gone, the rose has been moved and the property is completely planted and missing one oak.

The garden is divided into five rooms: an arts and crafts cottage garden, a lion garden, a woodland, a vintage quirky sculpture garden and a Japanese-inspired fern vale.





716 Gresham: Kid-friendly flowers

This garden is a true reflection of gardening while parenting, and has grown along with the family. Since the gardeners moved to East Atlanta, they've had four kids, and with each child, the garden grew and transformed.

Every kid had a “birth” tree planted, a tradition started by neighbors when they gifted the eldest son a pomegranate tree - which is now over 10 feet tall.

The goal is to have a beautiful space densely filled with color and layers, but also inclusive and interactive for children, so the gardeners embrace all the toys and playground equipment. The river rock pebble patio is a space for adults to relax, as well as a great digging pit for toy construction vehicles to “work.” The gnome garden adds a pop of color, as well as a whimsical place for kids to believe in magic.





I 447 Newton: Living a Wildlife

This cottage garden provides a welcoming environment for visitors of all species.

Look among the collection of perennial plants and shrubs and you'll find pollinators and other creatures. Because of that, this garden has been named a certified wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.



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