KEN MOORE

FROM PAGE 3

pleasure. Right now there are drifts of blue Speedwells, Veronica persica, and purple Henbits, Lamium purpureum and Lamium amplexicaule. Those colorful winter annuals will soon be gone, followed by clumps of perennial Blue Star, Amsonia tabernaemontana. Sometimes I collect the early tender leaves of edible Curly Dock, Rumex crispus and Pokeweed, Phytolacca americana. Later in the season I enjoy having the flower and fruiting stems of the dock scattered here and there across the yard. The poke flowers and fruits all summer. Watching the mocking birds and catbirds competing for the poke berries provides constant amusement. The ruby red color of the stems in the fall is more dramatic than anything I can plant.

A watchful eye helps me mow around volunteer clumps of wildflowers like goldenrod, Solidago spp. and wild asters, Aster *spp.*, that provide summer and fall color.

Favorite drought tolerant perennials that I have intentionally planted include the Wild Blue and Wild White Indigos, Baptisia australis and B. pendula, Butterfly Weed, Asclepias tuberosus, Black-eyed Susan, Rudbeckia fulgida, Purple Cone-flower, Echinacea purpurea, Sundrops, Oenothera fruticosa, and for a really late fall display, Climbing Aster, Aster carolinianus.

With my yard more in the hands of Nature, I have more leisure for my daylilies and veggies in containers on the deck, close to the rain barrels and away from the deer.

Whether gardening in town or in a rural area, your efforts can be carefree if you simply decide to let Nature be your guide. *



Passion Flower











FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: BILL ANDERSON 919-932-6050 http://www.edwardsmountainwoodworks.com

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Krenov Style Smoothing Plane

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