Maintenance plan

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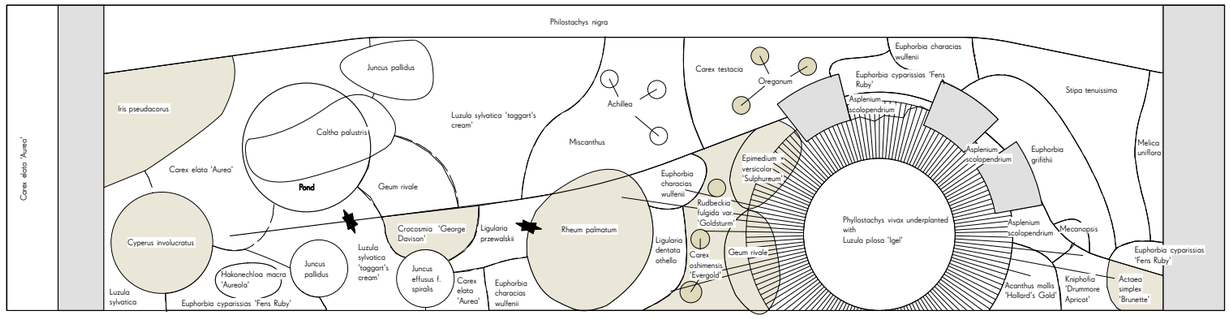
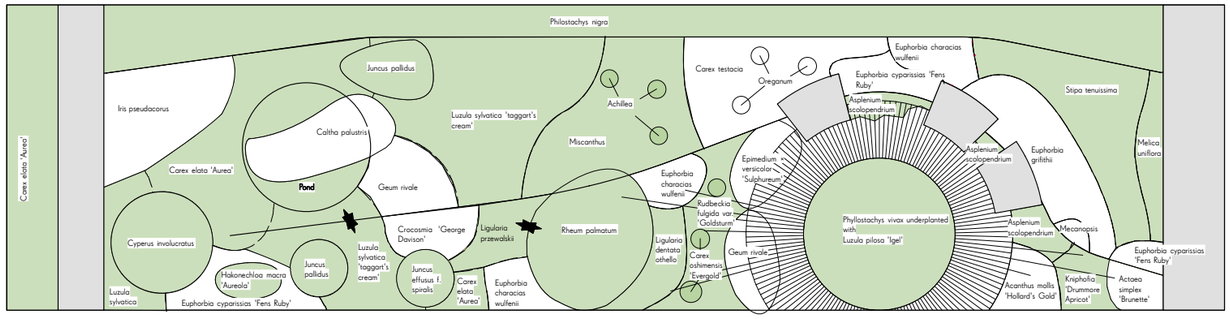
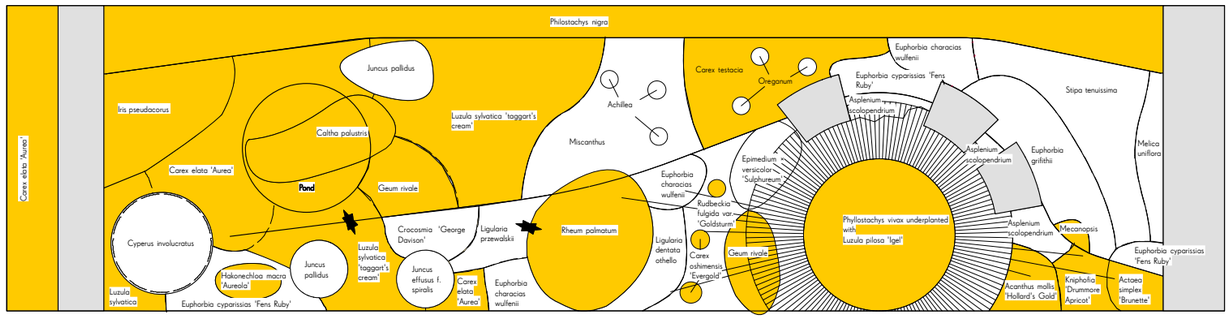
Winter



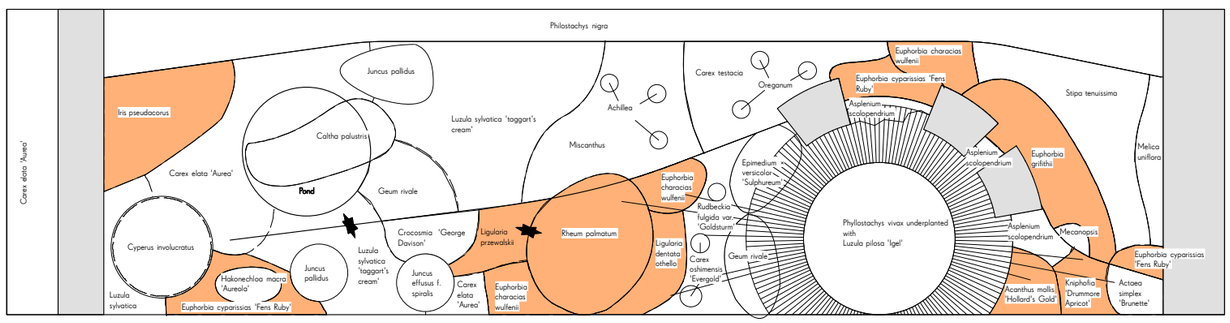
Spring



Summer



Autumn



Acanthus mollis 'Hollard's Gold'
Summer: requires frequent watering do not allow to dry out.
Autumn: remove the flower stalk after the plants has finished flowering.

Achillea
Spring: cut back untidy foliage

Actaea simplex 'Brunette'
Summer: requires frequent watering do not allow to dry out.
Winter: cut back dead foliage and apply mulch.

Asplenium scolopendrium
Spring: cut out any old brown or brittle foliage to encourage new growth.
Generally: snails appear to be living under the lower foliage and on the metal planter covered by the fronds of this plant; remove and kill the blighters.

Carex oshimensis 'Evergold'
Summer: cut out any dead leaves.

Carex testacia
Summer: cut out any dead leaves in summer.

Crocosmia 'George Davison'
Winter: remove dead foliage. Every 2-3 years divide the plant if it is overcrowding neighbouring plants.

Cyperus involucratus
Spring: cut back stems to 3" above ground when new shoots appear in late Spring.
Winter: plant is slightly tender and can be killed off in very harsh frosts. If very cold weather (-5 or less) is anticipated, dig up a pot's-worth of root, cot off all foliage, submerge the pot in water and leave in a cool indoor space (hallway or porch). re-plant in spring when cold weather has gone.
Every 2-3 years dig out about 1/2 of the colony and remove if it is overcrowding neighbouring plants.

Epimedium × versicolor 'Sulphureum'
Semi-evergreen. In cold winters the foliage may become brown and die back, in this case cut the foliage down. Otherwise little maintenance needed.

Euphorbia cyparissias 'Fens Ruby'
Cut off the yellowing foliage in Autumn.
This plant spreads via underground runners and fills gaps between other plants. It may spread beyond garden and if this is undesirable, use a weedkiller to remove it.
Always wear gloves when working with Euphorbias. The milky sap is a skin irritant.

Euphorbia characias wulfenii / grifithii
Autumn: cut down the flower stems to ground level as the blooms fade. **Always wear gloves when working with Euphorbia. The milky sap is a skin irritant.**

Geum rivale
Summer: cut back old stems after plant has flowered
Winter: remove dead foliage.

Hakonechloa macra 'Aureola'
Winter: Leave flower heads to dry out through the winter.
Spring: Apply a light mulch (3cm) of well-rotted garden compost after cutting back old foliage and before new growth emerges in spring.
Summer: Water well in hot weather, leaves start to curl and look needle like rather than broad when the plant is too dry.

Iris pseudacorus
Winter: mulch with humus rich compost during winter. Every 2-3 years divide the plant if it is overcrowding neighbouring plants.
Summer: remove dead flower heads before seed heads develop to reduce the plant spreading.
Autumn: cut back foliage

Juncus pallidus and Juncus effusus f. spiralis
Spring: cut brown foliage back to 1" above crown in very early spring to make way for new leaves. Fertilize with an all-purpose water soluble fertilizer.

Luzula sylvatica 'Taggart's cream' and Carex elata aurea:
Spring: comb or rake off any old, tired or dead leaves and flowers
Summer: cut back (by up to half) to neaten up dead foliage and encourage fresh new foliage. Every 2-3 years divide the plant if it is overcrowding neighbouring plants.
<u>Do not cut back in autumn or winter.</u>

Kniphofia 'Drummore Apricot'
Spring: leave the plants alone until mid-spring - the old growth will protect the plant. When weather warms up in spring, remove any dead foliage and check for slugs and snails.
Summer and Autumn: cut down finished flower spikes to encourage additional flowering.
Winter: mulch.

Ligularia przewalskii / ligularia dentata 'othello'
Spring: remove old foliage. Prone to slug attack: apply Nematode treatments to reduce slug and snail population from early spring on (before ligularia buds sprout).
Autumn: Every 3-4 yrs split plants to maintain vigour.

Luzula pilosa 'Igel'
Spring: remove untidy foliage
Summer: water well.

Mecanopsis cambrica
No maintenance: self seeds and colonizes gaps.
Summer: collect seed and scatter between the bars of the grating around the bowl.

Melica uniflora
Spring: cut back stems close to ground level from late February to end of March.

Miscanthus
Spring: cut the foliage down to ground level in early spring to make room for the new shoots. Eventually divide the plant.

Philostachys nigra - hedge at back of garden. This was planted with a plastic sheet to the edge of the garden extending 60cm deep in an attempt to curtail its spread into the neighbouring lawn. It must be watered directly into the trough it is planted in.

Spring: Fertilize with a controlled release fertiliser that has at least 6 to 8 months longevity. Apply, as per the directions, at the start of spring each year.

Watering: Ensure the soil remains moist, especially during the hot months. As a guide the Phyllostachys vivax in pot may need 40 ltrs of water per day during summer and 40 ltrs per week in winter.

Winter: apply a thick layer of mulch to assist the soil to retain moisture. Cut older stems can away at the base and remove. (This will also put less demand on the plant as it doesn't have to work as hard to keep each stem healthy and can assign energy towards growing new shoots. Even the more delicate bamboo varieties will eventually consider dividing the plant by 1/3 - 1/2 to create a smaller plant (planted elsewhere) to give the original stand more room.

Oreganum vulgare 'Aureum Crispum'
Cut back dead stems to the base in winter.

Rudbeckia fulgida var. 'Goldsturm'
Spring: mulch with rich compost and apply slow release fertilizer.
Winter: Cut back / remove dead foliage.

Rheum palmatum
Winter: mulch in winter to help retain moisture
Spring: apply nematode treatment
Summer: systematically remove lower leaves (1-3 a week) to allow Ligularia growing beneath to emerge.
Late summer/ Autumn: cut back to the ground.
Winter: every 3-4 yrs split plants to maintain vigour.

Stipa tenuissima
Spring: Cut leaves down to 2" above ground in early spring.

Issue/Revision	Date	Rev

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Project: The STFC Dark Matter Garden - Maintenance plan

Subject:	Maintenance by season		
Scale:	not to scale	Date:	04.06.18
Original Size:	A3		
Drawing No.:	HM F 27 A003		