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## Dilemma

We all have challenges and dilemmas. Here's mine. It's not a pretty picture but a big problem. This area at my entrance is very low, with heavy soil, full sun. The loss of a big blue spruce, large weeping purple beech, beautiful gold hinoki cypress, a Nellie Stevens holly and countless bulbs, should have warned me. I'm a slow learner and always trying to sway mother nature to do it my way.

The deceased were removed and replaced with more native plants that also departed the border. The list of dead: three ilex, clethera, magnolia Virginiana, incidental material. The yellow, red, and dappled willow are thriving. Undefeated and undeterred, I'm planning to try again, but with what. This entrance was envisioned as a neat and tidy border of hardy native shrubs and some perennials.

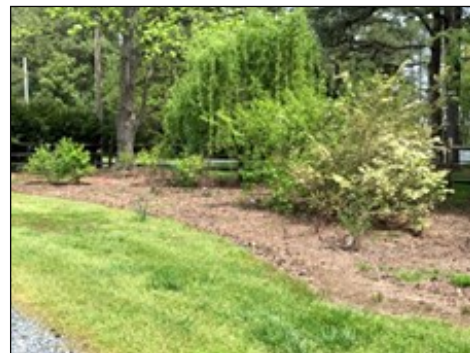
Now the dilemma. Should I replant with the same plants or chose something else. I'm hoping that the past few years of very wet falls, winters, and springs will settle. But climate changes are a reality. So I might try more hibiscus, Ilex verticillata (again), more Joe Pye weed, Black Alder, Bottle brush Buckeye, and add a few water lilies, cattails and wild rice for good measure.

**Now this is my problem/dilemma. What can we all learn?**

**Try, try again. There will be a solution.**



Entrance In



Entrance Out