

ANOTHER HABITAT GARDEN IN ONTARIO IS BEING THREATENED BY A MUNICIPAL BYLAW!

In Greater Napanee, Ontario, homeowner Julie Bogdanowicz is challenging an order to mow portions of her intentionally naturalized garden under a 25-year-old municipal grass bylaw.

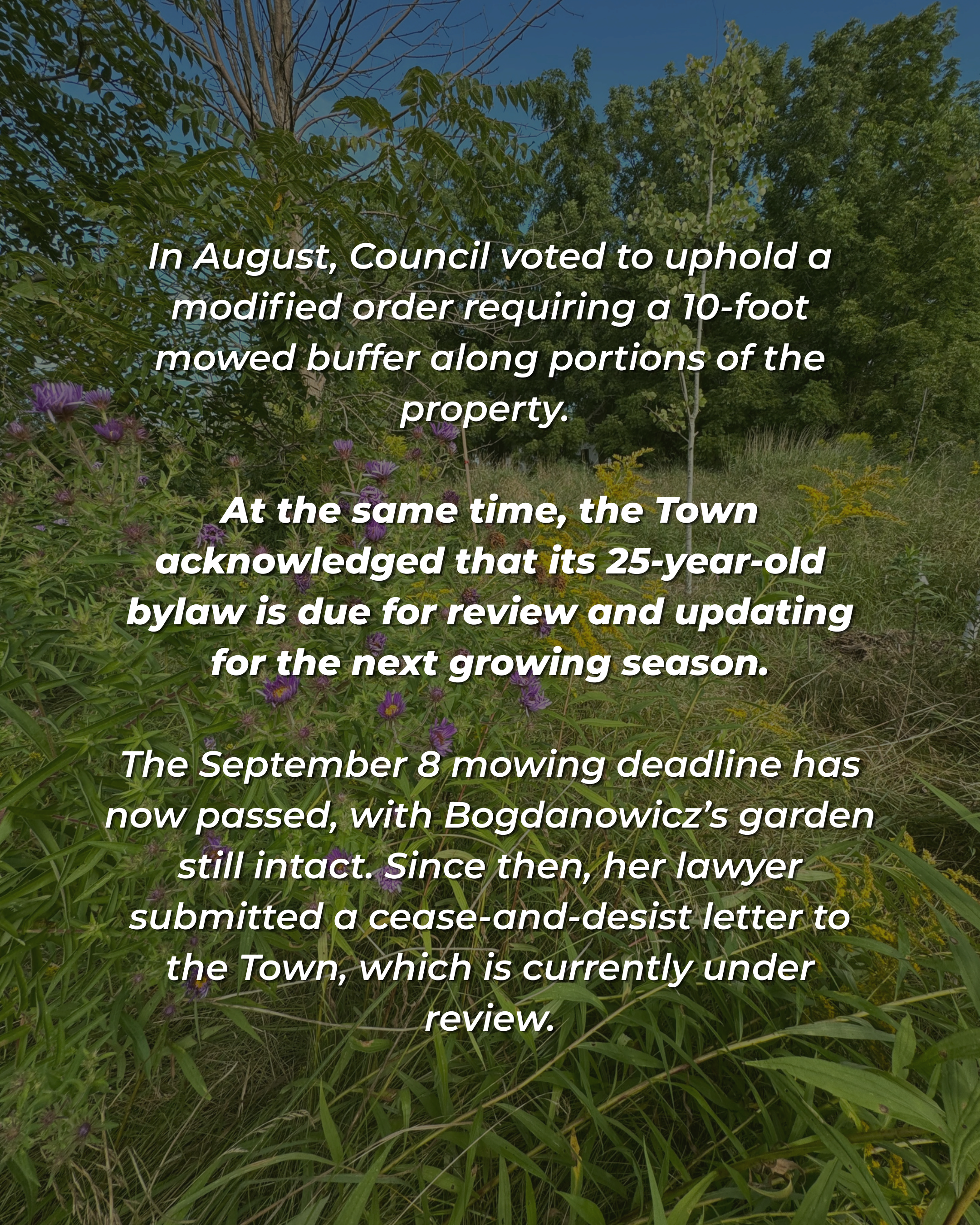




Bogdanowicz has intentionally cultivated a naturalized garden on her property using a diverse mix of plant species, including native plants, creating habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.

In June, the Town issued a compliance order that required portions of the garden to be mowed, under a 25-year-old grass bylaw that limits vegetation height on residential properties.

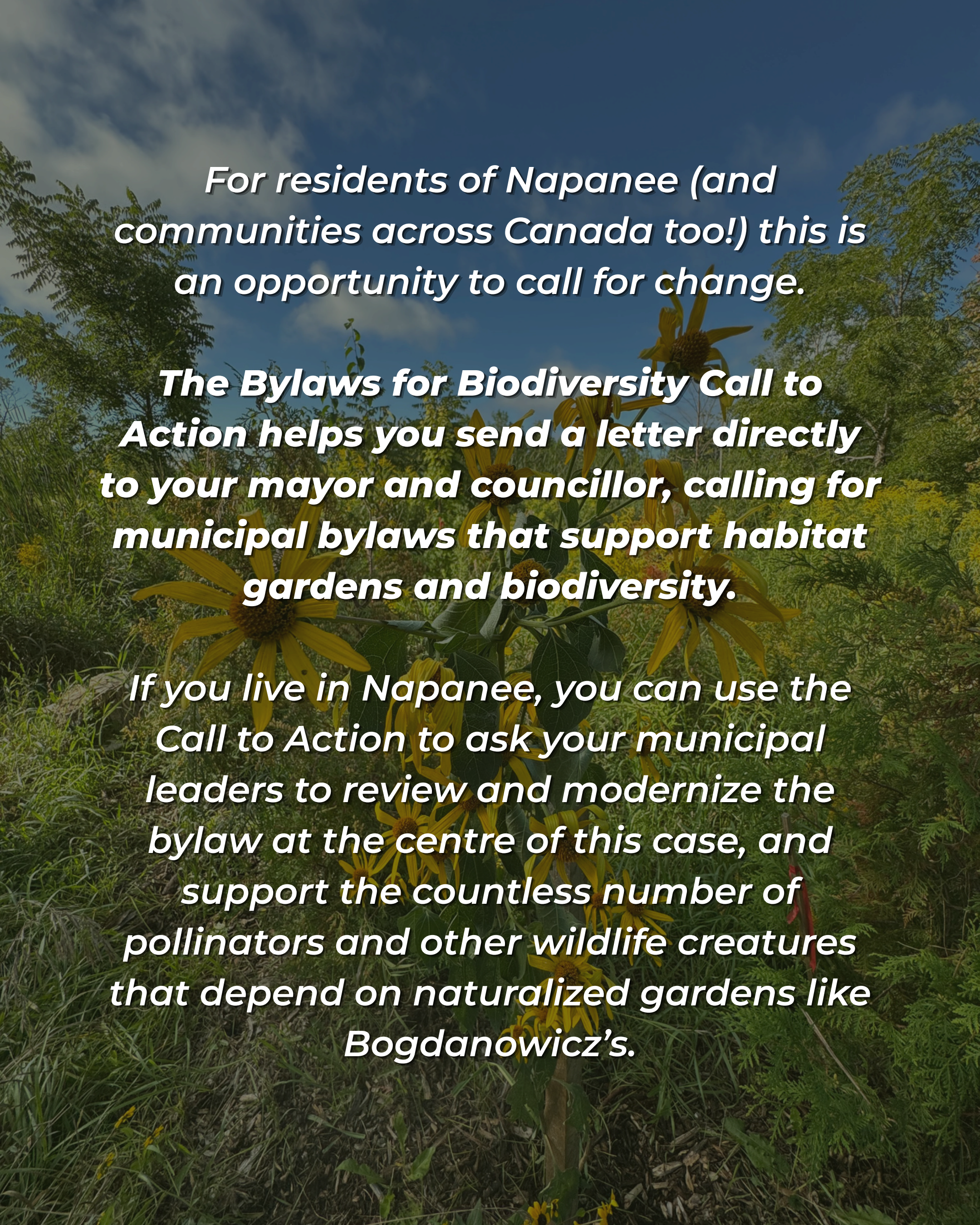
Bogdanowicz challenged the order in July, arguing that the bylaw does not distinguish between an unmanaged property and an intentionally designed, ecologically-beneficial landscape.



In August, Council voted to uphold a modified order requiring a 10-foot mowed buffer along portions of the property.

At the same time, the Town acknowledged that its 25-year-old bylaw is due for review and updating for the next growing season.

The September 8 mowing deadline has now passed, with Bogdanowicz's garden still intact. Since then, her lawyer submitted a cease-and-desist letter to the Town, which is currently under review.

The background of the entire image is a photograph of a lush field of yellow wildflowers, possibly Black-eyed Susans, with green foliage and a clear blue sky with some light clouds in the upper portion.

For residents of Napanee (and communities across Canada too!) this is an opportunity to call for change.

The Bylaws for Biodiversity Call to Action helps you send a letter directly to your mayor and councillor, calling for municipal bylaws that support habitat gardens and biodiversity.

If you live in Napanee, you can use the Call to Action to ask your municipal leaders to review and modernize the bylaw at the centre of this case, and support the countless number of pollinators and other wildlife creatures that depend on naturalized gardens like Bogdanowicz's.