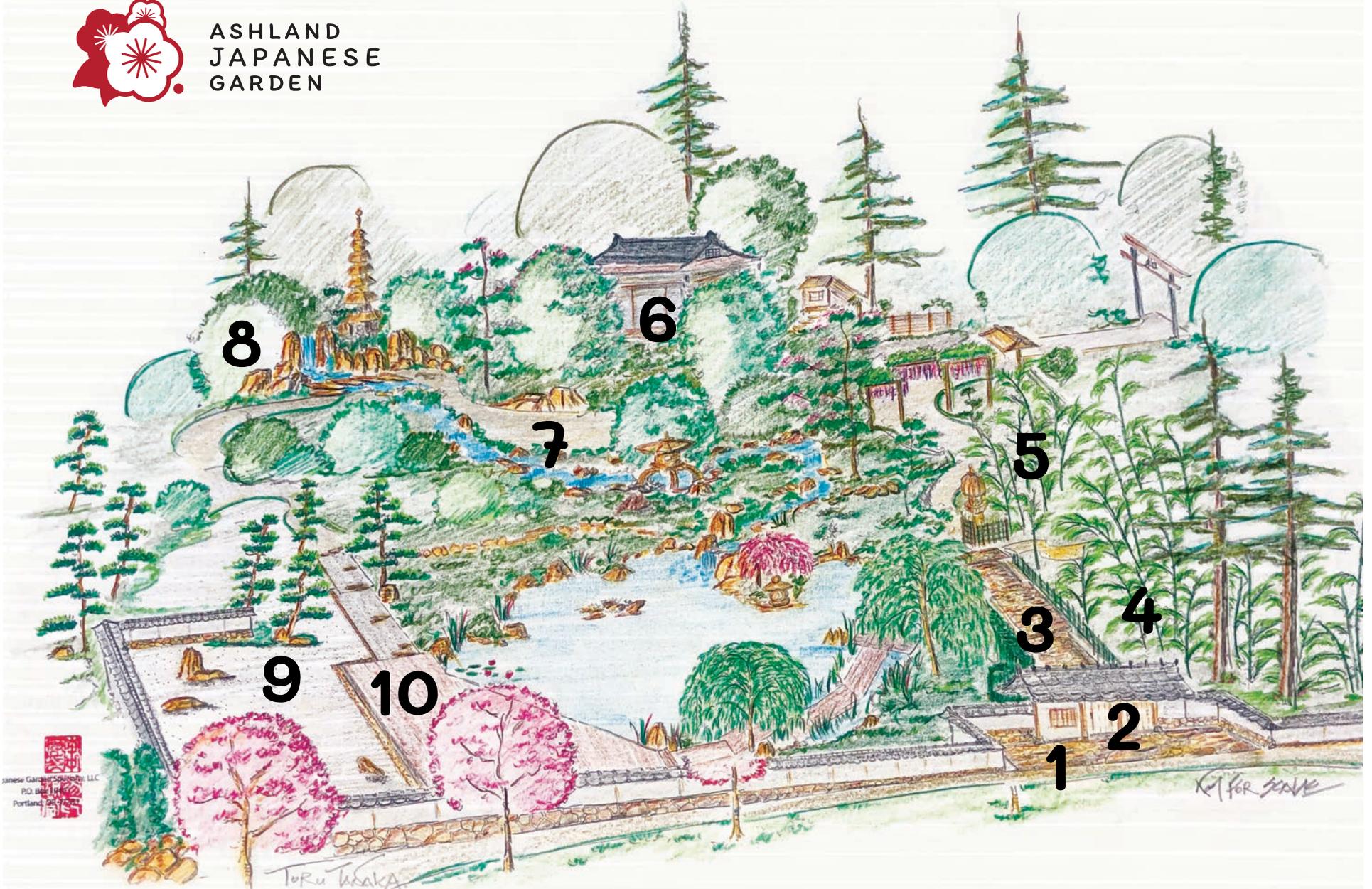




ASHLAND
JAPANESE
GARDEN



DISCOVER THE GARDEN

1. GATHERING PLACE

Walk up the path from Winburn Way and join others on the flagstones outside the gate. Stop at the Welcome Window where a volunteer can offer information about the Ashland Japanese Garden.

2. THE GATE

Designed and built from cedar in the traditional post and beam style by William Olsen Designs.

3. THE PATH

Take the path straight up the hill. The garden is designed to reveal itself by following the path counterclockwise.

4. NATURAL GARDEN

Admire the two large Douglas Firs that bring the outside environment inside. As part of a larger grove of Douglas Firs planted by local Boy Scouts in 1908, these huge trees represent the unbreakable spiritual connection in all things~between that which is within and that which remains outside.

5. BAMBOO FOREST

Then enjoy the beauty of the North Gate Wisteria Arbor before lingering in the Bamboo Forest. Bamboo is a symbol of good luck and new beginnings in Japan. It is flexible but firmly rooted, illustrating the concept that what looks weak may also be strong. More importantly, bamboo reminds us that we must empty or hollow ourselves, abandoning our preconceived notions, in order to receive wisdom.

6. TEA GARDEN

The site of a future Tea House is to your right. A beautiful traditional building is planned for this location, and we welcome your support in bringing it to fruition.

7. THE CREEK

Flowing water represents change and the passage of time. As an essential expression of nature, a watercourse symbolizes renewal, evoking continuity in the hereafter. The creek flows into the pond at the bottom of the garden, which may have koi someday.

8. THE WATERFALL

Symbolizing purity, a waterfall is a moment in time~we don't see the streams that originate far uphill, nor do we witness the river that continues beyond the falls. Here, the waterfall features two streams that merge into one.

9. SAND AND STONE GARDEN

The Sand and Stone Garden, or Karesansui, is an abstract depiction of a spiritual or secular goal. This journey is symbolized by the large rock at the west end, and "the seekers," which are represented by the smaller rocks that are either approaching or leaving the goal. Whether seeking (approaching) or leaving (attained), the treasure here is personal. Perhaps you will find inspiration, peace, or enlightenment when you attain your goal.

10. THE DECK

The large cedar deck affords ADA accessibility from the main entrance and provides a gathering space for small groups. Enjoy tai chi, yoga, or meditation from this vantage point overlooking the pond below.

