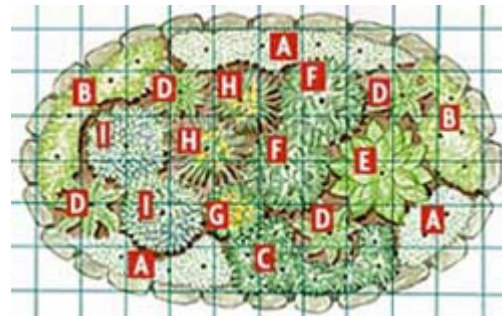


A small pool liner will run about \$150 while a 50-foot roll of 6-mil plastic sheeting will cost only about \$20. For a small planting bed, you can even use a children's wading pool. Make sure to punch holes every 3 feet or so in the bottom of the pool or the liner for slow drainage to prevent stagnant conditions. Otherwise, you may end up with a big mess of mud. It's also a good idea to cover drainage holes with gravel so they don't clog up. With larger beds, you might want to set a few concrete blocks around and top them with stepping stones. That way, if you have to get to the center of the bed for maintenance, you can avoid stepping in the soft, moist soil. Another idea is to coil a soaker hose through the bed. Bury the hose a few inches below the surface, leaving the coupling above ground. Hide the exposed portion among perimeter plants, where it can be connected to the garden hose.

#### Soil Mix:

A true bog would be full of highly acidic, nutrient-poor organic matter that has not quite decomposed. You could mimic this by preparing a 50/50 mix of sand and peat moss. A simpler idea is to amend the topsoil you removed from the bed with a generous amount of compost for greater moisture retention.

Fill the hole, packing down as you go. Leave a slight mound to allow for soil settling, then water generously. Wait a few weeks, removing any weeds that appear and filling depressions. Then plant the bed and top it off with mulch.



Plant List		
Code	Plant Name	No. to Buy
A	Lamium <i>Lamium maculatum</i> 'Album'	9
B	Sweet woodruff <i>Galium odoratum</i>	8
C	Astilbe <i>Astilbe chinensis</i> 'Pumila'	8
D	Marsh fern <i>Thelypteris palustris</i>	4
E	Hosta <i>Hosta</i> 'Sum and Substance'	1

F	Turtlehead <i>Chelone lyonii</i>	2
G	Marsh marigold <i>Caltha palustris</i>	1
H	Yellow flag <i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	2
I	Siberian bugloss <i>Brunnera macrophylla</i>	2