

**Figure 7.5** These raised beds were built with the sheet composting method. Sheet composting improves the soil without tilling, and is effective for ornamentals as well as for edibles.



**Figure 15.4** To soften the effect of an expanse of mulch, I plant colorful ground covers (both annuals and perennials) along the edge. The rambling ground cover (in this example, nasturtium with its edible flowers, leaves, and seed pods) also breaks the hard line created by the edge of the mulch.