



Analyze your current outdoor space:

- What do you like most about it right now?
- What areas on your property bother you the most?
- How do you live in it?
- Do you know the identity of all the plants?
- Have you identified all the microclimates or trouble spots?
- What would improve that experience?
- Do you have a budget in mind?
- What timeframe do you have in mind for the project?
- List hobbies & interests which influence property use
- Are there any allergies or other medical conditions which should be considered?
- Do you want or need a fence? Are their county or local height restrictions?
- Do you live in a development where there are any covenants I should be aware of?

THE FUNCTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Please check each function that will apply to your use of the garden space.

- Outdoor Dining? _____ How many people? _____ How often? _____
- Indoor/Outdoor Entertaining _____ How many people? _____ How often? _____
- Children? _____ How many? _____ What age? _____
- Pets? _____ What kind? _____ How many? _____

CONSIDER THE VIEW FROM INSIDE

- Consider what areas of your garden are viewed from the inside of your house.
- Which views are the most important?
- Are there specific features that you would like to see from certain windows?
- Think about some ways that your outside garden can enhance the inside of your home when seen through

ENVIRONMENT'S VITAL STATISTICS

- What is the style and age of your home?
- Do you want to screen features with plants or architecture?
- Make notes of the location of underground utilities and any distinct drainage patterns or problems.
- Do you have measurements of design areas? Plot plans or surveys?

GENERAL INFORMATION

Entryway

- Would you like it open, or more enclosed and private?
- What type of walkway exists? Is it wide enough (welcoming)? Is the shape pleasing?
- Do you see the need for other major walkways or paths?
- What paving material (stone, brick, gravel, pavers) do you prefer?

Driveway

- Is it adequate in size for the cars in the family?
- Is there adequate parking for guests?

Utility

- Where will you place your garbage cans?
- Do you need an outdoor storage shed?
- Woodpile? Compost?
- Future outbuildings (on rural properties)
- greenhouse / barn ?

Children's area

- Do you want a specific play surface?
- Do you need room for play equipment?

Entertaining - Outdoor living

- Do you entertain large groups? small, informal, formal
- Would you like (more) decking or a large patio?
- Permanent outdoor seating?

- How much of this area do you want in the shade, sun?
- Outdoor cooking area?
- Swimming pool or hot tub?
- Special game area or sport court?
- Outdoor lighting?

Edible Gardening:

- Do you want specific areas for vegetables, flowers, herbs, fruit trees?
- Are you opposed to the use of pesticides and chemicals in the garden?

Maintenance:

- How many hours per week are you willing to work on your property?
 - Will you be hiring out the maintenance chores?
 - Do you want an irrigation system so that you don't have to water?

Do you want an immediate landscape or are you willing to watch it grow and develop over time?

- Do you have specific plant preferences and colors? (list separately if necessary)
- Plants or colors to avoid?
- Circle the following that you especially want to include: lawn areas (large or small)/ground covers / perennial flowers / river rock / graveled areas /edible plants / rose bed / rock garden / ornamental grasses/ fragrant plants
- Do you want any of the following decorative features / accessories? Bird attractors, water features, large boulders, gazebo, pergola, arbor, garden sculpture, container plants (pots), garden furniture, other_____
- Circulation: In considering typical outdoor activities of your family, are there areas where you foresee a path, or traffic-tolerant surface needed?

Site Plan - Do you have a site map / plot plan (available from builder or county)?

- Do you have the dimensions and house footprint and locations of utilities?
- Approx. size of property _____(provide specific dimensions of property lines if available)
- Is the site wooded, open meadow, steep, urban lot, rural...
- Problem areas- steep slopes, poor drainage? Erosion?

Considering your lifestyle, what feeling or mood do you want to establish? (natural, formal, oriental, English country.....)

- Does this tie in with architectural style of house?
- Are there any natural features on the property that you would like to emphasize or change?
- Boulders, woods, stream, slope/ hillside (site contours), view...
- Where is drain field, or septic tank location? Can you locate the lines?
- Are there easements or deeded restrictions that you know of?
- Prevailing wind direction?
- Are there street lights, noises, or views outside the property that cause problems or need screening attention?? Are there drainage or traffic patterns that influence site?
- Do any existing plants, trees or structures need to be removed or relocated?
- Do you want an immediate landscape or are you willing to watch it grow and develop over time?
- Additional comments:

INSTALLATION, CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- How much time will be spent on maintenance each week by family members?
- Do you employ a gardening service?
- Who fertilizes/treats lawns and shrubs?
- Will you hire someone to install the landscape or do it yourself?
- Do you have the time and equipment to keep your lawn well-maintained?

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Please circle the budget figure that is closest to what you are willing to spend:

Under \$5000	\$5000 - \$10,000	\$10,000 - \$20,000
\$20,000 - \$50,000	Over \$50,000	

IRRIGATION

Once a landscape design has been installed, even with drought-tolerant plants, the vegetation needs to be watered consistently for two years. What is your form of irrigation?

LIGHTING

- Are you interested in landscape lighting?
- Do you have a need for security lighting and or surveillance cameras?
- Do you like a dramatic or subtle lighting scheme?

HEATED WALKWAY, STEPS, DRIVEWAYS

- Are there areas that you would like automatically heated during snow and ice events?