

## HOME DESIGN SURVEY

**CLIENT NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

1. Immediate family members who will use site
  1. Adults - number
  2. Children- number and ages
  3. Animals

**GOALS:**

1. What do you envision?
2. Why do you want this new landscape design?
3. Describe the qualities of the garden you wish to live in

**POSITIVE ELEMENTS:**

1. Why did you choose this particular piece of land?
2. Will it be used year-round or primarily limited to summer weekends?
3. How many people do you plan to entertain on a regular basis?
4. What time of day is garden most used, and by whom?
5. Elements you want to keep?
6. Elements you want to feature?
7. What views are to be considered?
  1. Looking outward from windows in house towards landscape
  2. Looking from decks, etc. and landscaped areas to other exterior views

**POTENTIAL PROBLEM AREAS:**

1. boundary definitions - site survey with property lines and utilities
2. views to block
3. terrain changes
4. noise
5. privacy issues
6. erosion/drainage/run-off concerns
7. sun/shade needs
8. siting of utilities
9. damage to landscape by wildlife i.e. deer browsing
10. insect pests in landscaped areas
11. restrictive environmental areas
  - wetlands
  - slopes
  - dry shade
  - saline water
  - invasive plants

**PERSONAL PREFERENCES:**

1. What is your house style?
2. What is your preferred landscape style: Please circle styles you want on this property?  
Formal, informal, natural, contemporary / modern, English Cottage Garden, Japanese garden, historic.
3. How much do you want to stand out / fit in on your street?
4. Color choices:
  - A. House color
  - B. Interior design colors
  - C. Favorite colors
  - D. Overall color scheme for landscape- may be several different areas with different color schemes.
5. Preferred shapes: linear, curvilinear, angular

**POTENTIAL LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS (May be phased in over time)**

1. Outdoor living areas:
  1. patio / deck
  2. grill area / outdoor kitchen
  3. fire pit
  4. pool
  5. playscape area
  6. lawn area
1. Outdoor structures
  1. pergola / arbor / trellis
  2. gazebo / screen house
  3. poolhouse
  4. greenhouse
  5. walls / seatwalls
2. Vehicular requirements:
  1. Is there adequate parking?
  2. Is there room for vehicles to maneuver?
  3. turn-around / circular drives/drive islands
  4. Do you plow? Is there room for snow?
3. Gardens
  1. perennial
  2. cutting garden
  3. herb garden
  4. fruit garden or orchard
  5. water
  6. vegetable garden
  7. rock garden
  8. xeriscape garden
  9. meadow
  10. woodland

11. natural-i.e. bird and butterfly
12. native
13. grasses
14. rain garden
4. Focal points
  1. water elements: pond / fountain / stream
  2. birdbath
  3. sundial
  4. sculpture / statuary
  5. plant pots / containers
  6. specimen plantings
5. Furniture
  1. dining tables/chairs
  2. lounge/gathering area
  3. hammock
  4. benches
6. Storage
  1. compost pile
  2. firewood
  3. tool shed
  4. trash
  5. cushion storage

## **HARDSCAPE ELEMENTS**

1. Areas to consider:
  1. entrance
  2. walkways – entranceway / secondary walkways / paths
  3. driveway / edging
  4. fences
    1. privacy/security
    2. decorative
    3. wildlife deterrent
  4. pool
  5. walls
  6. deck
  7. patio
2. Paving Materials
  1. stone
  2. brick
  3. gravel
  4. cobbles
  5. concrete
  6. timber
  7. mulch covering

## **PLANTINGS**

1. environmental plant selection considerations – the right plant in the right place
  1. sun/shade
  2. movement of sun across property
  3. wind
  4. soil moisture / soil moisture
2. plants you dislike
3. preferred planting shapes
4. Do you want overall seasonal color or pockets of plantings that feature a specific season?
5. winter interest
6. sentimental plants
7. soil preparation: compost / peat moss
8. fertilizing plan - organic versus synthetic
9. Please provide a separate list of plants you desire in your landscape - think about bulbs, spring blooming trees and shrubs, spring perennials, summer trees and shrubs, summer perennials, fall blooming perennials, grasses, natives and evergreens.

## **MAINTENANCE**

1. What degree of maintenance do you desire?
2. How many hours per week do you wish to devote to gardening?
3. Is there easy access to equipment storage?
4. Do you mow yourself or do you do need to provide access to mowing equipment?

## **LIGHTING**

1. Is lighting required for safety, security or simple enjoyment?
2. hardwire
3. low voltage
4. house accent lighting
5. post lighting

## **IRRIGATION**

1. drip
2. sprinklers – underground
3. rain barrel system

## **TIMELINE**

1. What do you need?
2. What do you want?
3. Budget
4. Phasing in