

NORTHWEST LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL



Award Winner: Small Space Yields Big Dividends • Page 8

Cover Photo: Project By Living Earth • Grand Award | Kingman Residence

Official Publication of the Washington Association of Landscape Professionals

Green
Roofs In
Energy
Bill • 5



Collecting
Debt Can
Be Risky • 6



Legislation
For Small
Seasonal
Businesses • 10



Small Space Yields Big Dividends For Homeowner

Those in attendance at the WALP Annual Conference in January at the Great Wolf Lodge reported they were wowed by the quality of the work WALP members did in 2008. One of the most impressive projects netted a Grand Award in the Residential Construction (\$10,000-\$25,000) category for Living Earth Landscapes in Redmond.

The Kingman residence is located in the Trilogy neighborhood in Redmond, a planned residential community primarily for 55+ residents. The upscale development features small yards for individual residences and larger common spaces.

As a result, the project presented some challenges...

"The narrow yard is in a long row of many similar yards and is bordered by a 10-foot retaining wall," explained Bill Bowlus from Living Earth. "The client wanted a comfortable and lush outdoor living and entertaining space that offered some privacy without feeling claustrophobic."

The retaining wall dominated the small, flat back yard. One of the first challenges was to make the space appear bigger. So the contractor selected materials and multiple levels to accomplish that effect and help create a "garden-looking" back yard.

"We created as many dimensions in the space as we could to come up with the effect we were after," Bowlus said. "The flagstone was employed to create the garden effect. The different levels and vertical plantings added to the appearance of a larger space."

A small pool was installed to provide a negative level and balanced it off with the positive level behind the pool. The end result was an outdoor living area with interest and variety in a pretty small area - the

"The client wanted a comfortable and lush outdoor living and entertaining space that offered some privacy without feeling claustrophobic."

kind of place where the owner could entertain or simply enjoy it as a solitary retreat.

The project also featured some serious challenges with drainage. Everything was hard pan, and the construction task included installation of French drains plus a drainage system under the patio.

"In the end, everyone was happy," Bowlus reports. "The client got the kind of space he was after, and we got a lot of satisfaction from meeting the challenge plus the pride in creating a quality project."

Living Earth Landscapes was founded in 2000 by Bill Bowlus who has more than 30 years experience in the Landscaping Industry. He specializes in creating beautiful gardens and outdoor living spaces for his clients.

The WALP-member company focuses on environmentally-friendly projects and emphasizes high quality, good value and excellent customer service. (www.livingearthlandscapes.com)




Photo:
Morning light shining on the plantings creates an inviting view from the access path to the area.

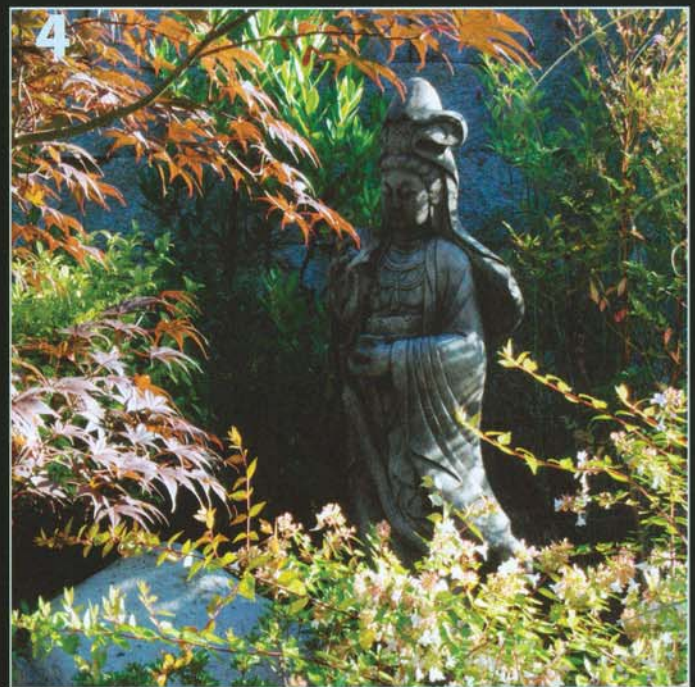
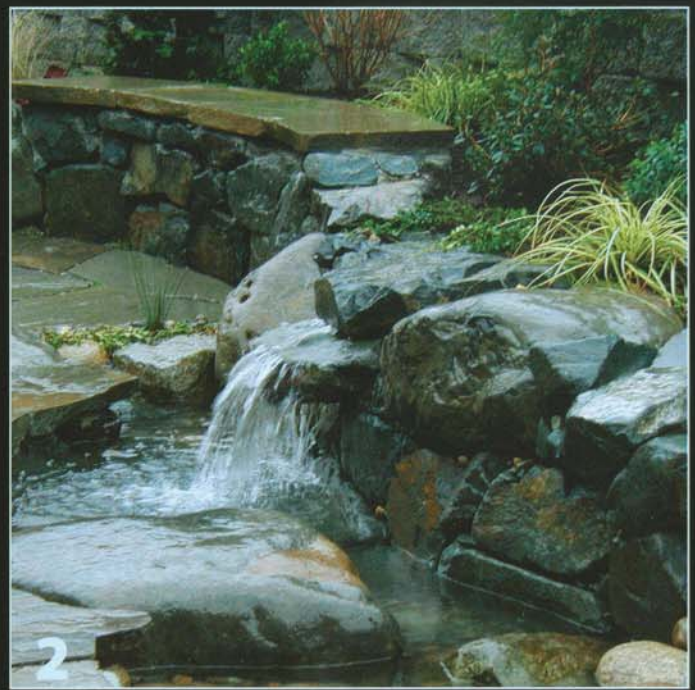


Photo 1

Taken from the top of the retaining wall, this shot gives a perspective on the size of the yard and the impact of creating a garden-like space within a confined area.

Photo 2

A small pond with a waterfall adds negative space to the design, creates movement, and inserts soothing sound.

Photo 3

Viewed from the west side of the yard, the flagstone adds extra dimension and interest to the yard.

Photo 4

A garden goddess graces the design and adds a meditative effect.