

WORKSHEET: LANDSCAPING PRIORITIES PG. 1 OF 3

The first step toward updating your landscaping is to figure out what you want, what you need and what it will take to achieve either goal within your budget. Go through the “Givens:” note elements of your current yard, assess how the yard is and will be used, and identify major issues.

The next step is to create a wish list, where you separate the “must haves” from the “nice to haves.” Start prioritizing landscaping elements on this list by placing one star next to Desirables and two stars next to Essentials.

Part I: The Givens

Who will use the yard?

- Adults
- Children
- Eldery
- Pets

When is the yard used?

- Spring
- Summer
- Fall
- Winter

What are the primary activities?

- Playing
- Entertaining
- Vegetable gardening
- Display gardening
- Swimming
- Other _____

Maintenance

- DIY
- Professional crew

Existing elements that can't/don't need to be changed:

- Fence
- Flower beds
- Pond
- Pool
- Structures (shed, arbor, etc.)
- Trees

Issues:

- Access/egress
- Allergies _____
- Drainage/erosion
- Fire risk
- Insects
- Invasive plants

Issues (cont.):

- Irrigation
- Lack of cohesion
- Lack of curb appeal
- Lighting
- Noise
- Overgrowth
- Parking
- Pets
- Privacy
- Security
- Shade
- Slope
- Storage
- Sun Exposure
- Transition areas/flow
- Walkways
- Wildlife
- Wind
- Other _____

... continued on page 2

WORKSHEET: LANDSCAPING PRIORITIES PG. 2 OF 3

The first step toward updating your landscaping is to figure out what you want, what you need and what it will take to achieve either goal within your budget. Go through the “Givens:” note elements of your current yard, assess how the yard is and will be used, and identify major issues.

The next step is to create a wish list, where you separate the “must haves” from the “nice to haves.” Start prioritizing landscaping elements on this list by placing one star next to Desirables and two stars next to Essentials.

Part II: Wish List

Tip: To prioritize your wish list, put one star for items that are **Desirable**, and two stars for ones that are **Essential**.

Storage Needs

- Bicycles
- Garbage/Recycling cans
- Garden equipment & supplies
- Lawn furniture & cushions
- Outdoor toys
- Pool toys
- Sports equipment
- Other _____

Accessories

- Bench
- Bird feeder
- Boulders
- Flag pole
- Furniture
- Putting green
- Sculpture
- Swing

Structural Features

- Arbor/Arch/Trellis
- Fence
- Fire feature
- Fountain
- Gazebo
- Greenhouse
- Mound/berm
- Outdoor kitchen
- Patio or deck
- Pet run
- Pergola
- Playset
- Pool
- Pool house
- Sandbox
- Shading
- Storage/potting shed
- Water feature

Water/plumbing Features

- Fountain
- French drain
- Hot tub
- Irrigation system
- Misting system
- Pond/waterfall
- Pool
- Rain barrel
- Dry creek
- Grassed swale

Garden Features

- Compost
- Container garden
- Raised beds
- Rockery
- Vegetable beds

... continued on page 3

WORKSHEET: LANDSCAPING PRIORITIES PG. 3 OF 3

The first step toward updating your landscaping is to figure out what you want, what you need and what it will take to achieve either goal within your budget. Go through the “Givens:” note elements of your current yard, assess how the yard is and will be used, and identify major issues.

The next step is to create a wish list, where you separate the “must haves” from the “nice to haves.” Start prioritizing landscaping elements on this list by placing one star next to Desirables and two stars next to Essentials.

Lighting

- Ground
- Flood lights
- Lamp posts
- Motion-detection
- Spot lights
- Solar-powered

Hardscapes

- Artificial turf
- Decking
- Field stone
- Gravel
- Paths
- Pavers
- Retaining walls
- Stairs
- Stepping stones
- Walkways

Plant Preferences

- Deciduous trees/shrubs
- Deer-proof
- Evergreen trees/shrubs
- Flowering trees/shrubs
- Flowers
- Annuals
- Perennials
- Fruit Trees/shrubs
- Full sun
- Grass
- Ground cover
- Hedges
- Herbs
- Low-water
- Native
- Roses
- Shade
- Vegetables
- Vines

Design Preferences & Philosophy

- Formal
- Laid-back
- Bird-friendly
- Butterfly-friendly
- Organic
- Sustainable
- Alpine
- Asian
- Country cottage
- Cutting garden
- English
- European
- Meadow/prairie
- Rock garden
- Tropical
- Water garden
- Woodland

Favorite colors: _____

Least favorite colors: _____