



May The Flowers Be With You!

It's been a gorgeous May so far in the garden! An especially rainy April has helped to jumpstart Chicagoland's blooming season, phasing out shy buds and grey skies for cloudless days and a rainbow of colors.

In this issue of Nature's Notes, we'll dive into the ins and outs of hardscape pavers to complement summer colors and showcase a project that takes a unique approach to front- and backyard greenery.

Now is also the perfect time to start thinking about a summer garden project. Call us at [847-475-7917](tel:847-475-7917) or submit an inquiry through our online [contact form](#) to get started.



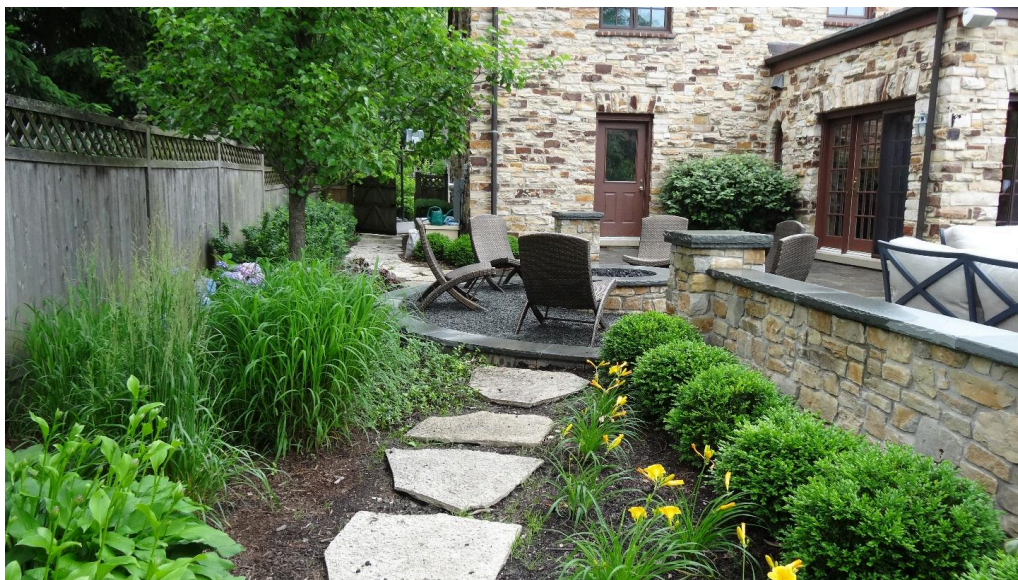
Functional Foundations:

How Stone and Pavers Create Unique Spaces

Want to help your patio stand out and finally claim your backyard as a personal sanctuary?

If you are looking to cultivate a unique outdoor retreat that reflects your individual personality, the secret lies in the art of the mix. Rather than settling for a uniform look, you can blend diverse colors and textures of hardscape materials to create a bold, inviting space that feels intentionally curated. The aesthetic of a patio does more than just provide a place for a chair; it dictates the mood and energy of your entire property.

By strategically layering smooth stones against rugged pavers or contrasting bluestone with warm terracotta tones, you transform the ground beneath your feet into a focal point. This thoughtful interplay of color, texture, and pattern can elevate a space from a boring, run-of-the-mill installation to a vibrant landscape that beams with character and style.



The secret to maximizing a landscape's potential lies in the intentional separation of space through a thoughtful mix of colors and textures. By defining specific "zones," you can guide the eye and give even the smallest yard a sense of purpose. For instance, accent features like fire pits or outdoor kitchens become natural focal points when highlighted by a subtle shift in brick hue or laying pattern.

Furthermore, transitional zones, such as walkways or perimeter borders,

offer a prime opportunity for visual expansion. Traditional pavers for organic materials like crushed natural stone creates a tactile contrast that feels both sophisticated and rhythmic. This technique provides a great way to break up visual monotony, tricking the eye into perceiving a more expansive and dynamic environment.



Whether you envision a rustic retreat or a sleek, modern outdoor living space, paver and stone patios offer a versatile foundation to reflect your unique personal style. With the professional guidance of the design team at Nature's Perspective Landscaping, we can help you select the perfect textures, colors, and patterns to complement your home's architecture. Our designers are dedicated to transforming your vision into a durable, beautiful reality that enhances your lifestyle.

Call us today to schedule a design consultation with one of our talented designers and start planning your dream landscape.

847-475-7917



Project Spotlight: An Alternative Yard

Read about how we transformed this home's unique outdoor spaces, including a garden upgrade recognized as a Conservation@Home certified landscape!

Our clients used to travel extensively, spending little time in their Wilmette garden. Now that they were ready to enjoy their home again, the homeowners reached out to Natures Perspective Landscaping to help reclaim their backyard. We were selected to create a unique space to meet their needs, one that still looked natural yet would also radiate calmness and provide relaxation.

A custom-built wooden sculpture greets visitors entering the space, imparting that it is no ordinary backyard. Four 100+ year-old oak trees at the corners, and a large mulberry located by the back gate, created shady conditions that could not support grass. The owners planted shade-tolerant wildflowers to green the space, but these quickly grew out of control, making trips to the garage an ordeal. Off the back corner of the house, vestiges of a small pond lay hidden behind a large, robust yew. A worn, concrete square patio sat along the rear foundation, accessed by a ground-level back door.



Winding paved paths were accompanied by gorgeous flowers.

Patio doors were built to access the garden from the home's office, and the patio was replaced by a raised deck, with a seat wall and steps leading down to the garden. The large yew off the deck remains, providing privacy. A large koi pond with a waterfall was built close to the deck where it could be appreciated, and two walks were built: a paver walk that leads from the deck to a small sitting area to the garage, and a crushed gravel walk that meanders around plantings.

For seasonal color and interest, a variety of ornamental trees were added, including Autumn Blaze Red Maple, Bloodgood Japanese Maple, and Kousa Dogwood. Other shade-loving, colorful additions include holly, azalea, Virginia sweetspire, witch hazel, climbing hydrangea, hakone grass, and astilbe.

With the backyard completed, Nature's Perspective was hired to replace all lawn areas in the front yard with plantings and a meandering mulch path. The front yard includes hardy ornamental selections such as liriope, purpleleaf wintercreeper, and lady's mantle. Here, a vegetable garden with low wood fencing and a gate protects edible selections.

Free from chemicals and other inputs required by high-maintenance turfgrass, the garden was recognized as a Conservation@Home certified landscape, a wildlife haven that also promotes environmentally friendly practices. Conservation@Home is a program of The Conservation Foundation and coordinated in partnership with the



Looking for Inspiration?

Check out our [Work Portfolio](#) and take a look at our transformations [here](#).



Have a Question?

Interested in learning more about landscape maintenance services with Nature's Perspective Landscaping?

Learn more [here](#) or call our office at [847-475-7917](tel:847-475-7917)

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