



Growing Green: Designing a Sustainable Landscape

www.melindamyers.com

What is Sustainable?

Meeting current needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet theirs

Design with the clients Maintenance Budget in Mind

Maintain (sustains) the integrity of your design

Right size and shape plant for the space

Manageable pruning schedule

Generate less wood waste

Make Going Green Easy

Design in attractive and accessible areas for managing

Yard waste, water and kitchen scraps

Energy Wise Designs

Value of Trees

Placement of Trees

Heating and cooling savings

Windbreaks

Avoid overhead utilities

Foundation Plantings

Shrubs and vines

Value of turf and groundcover

Right Plant for the Location

Native, non-native, best for the growing conditions

Minimize care

Reduce pest problems

Best performance from the plants

Improved aesthetics

Longevity

Include long timers with those quick fixes customers desire

Plants with eco-friendly value

Non invasive

Water wise

Pest resistant

Low maintenance with high aesthetic value

Attract birds, butterflies and desirable wildlife

Lawns

Use wisely

How will your design look if lawn is dormant?

Consider drought tolerant varieties and groundcovers

Educate clients on proper care

Grow grass tall, mow often, and leave clippings on the lawn

Water thoroughly and less frequently

Foot print test

New Eco-friendly Products and materials

Permeable Pavers

Composite lumber

Recycled Glass

Recycled windows, doors, and more

Others.....

Managing Yard Waste

Reduce

Look for plants that don't generate lots of "debris"

Right size plant for the space

Reuse

Help client with management strategies

Mow high, clippings on the lawn, leaves shredded and left in place

Leaves as mulch, soil amendment...

Leaf storage area

Recycle

Composting – easy and attractive

Use wood waste in the landscape

Arbors, wattle fences....

Water Wise

Drought tolerant plants

Mulch

Group moisture lovers together

Proper water for establishment and ongoing care

Properly designed and maintained irrigation system

Capturing and reusing water

Rain barrels

Cisterns

Rain gardens

www.melindamyers.com (Q&A database, garden tips, video, podcasts, photo galleries and more)

Great Lakes Gardener – Check your local PBS Station for days and times

Can't Miss Small Space Gardening & Birds and Blooms Ultimate Gardening Guide

The Lawn Guide – Midwest Series

Birds and Blooms & Backyard Living Magazines– Columnist and Contributing Editor

The Garden Book for Wisconsin & Gardeners Guide for Minnesota

Month-by-Month Gardening (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Dakotas editions)

J&P Guide to Easy Rose Success in the Midwest - co-authored with Teri Dunn

J&P's Selecting, Growing, and Combining Outstanding Perennials for the Midwest

growing among friends