

LUSH

Landscapes

It's time to plan your home's spring look.

By Susan Kehoe, Ph.D.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MOSHER & ASSOCIATES

It's the lusty month of May when visions of lush lawns and gardens dance in our heads. Mosher & Associates creates the kind of lush landscapes that make dreams come alive.

Imagine lounging in a backyard getaway, complete with swimming pool and spa, hidden away behind hemlocks.

Matt Mosher created a prominent architectural line from the pool house to the pergola to create perfect symmetry for a Franklin residence.

What about an elegant courtyard combining wood, water, fire and stone to excite the imagination? A stone-enclosed courtyard complete with a fireplace extends from the back of a French chateau and mimics the architecture of a Bloomfield Hills home.

The bubbling spa is integrated within a four-sided, negative edge pool. By offsetting the spa slightly lower than the pool, Mosher created a perfect plane of water across pool, spa and steps. The pergola of solid cedar logs defines a cozy conversation area between "fire and water."

Right: Backyard getaway with pool and pergola. Pool house designed by Dominick Tringali Architects, landscaping by Mosher & Associates.

Below: Natural stepping path descends from house to lake.



Left: Chateau courtyard with fire and water.

Above: A row of Russian sage creates a spectacular view.



Above: Chateau façade with French garden and crushed granite driveway. Opposite page: Landscape for rolling hills, rock-lined paths and bluffs.

The front of the chateau displays a storybook French garden with plantings of varying heights and textures. Ivy crawls along the brick and stone for an enchanted look. Even the driveway becomes part of the façade as inlaid beds of crushed granite lead to an entrance flanked by topiaries.

Mosher designed a natural-looking waterfall that pumps 15,000 gallons of water per minute into a large pond in a Franklin backyard. Stones were individually selected and installed, piece by piece, to turn the pool into a dramatic setting.

If you need a path from the house to the lake, consider a natural entrance of Russian sage and red carpet roses created to blend into a limestone walkway. Plants spill over

the organic, uneven edges of steps that don't intrude on the natural setting.

To landscape rolling hills and rock-lined paths, a mixture of ivy and plantings retain the soil structure and flowering bushes define the edge of an area. For a dramatic view of a bluff from an upstairs window, Mosher planted 10,000 Russian sage plants to mimic the lavender fields of France.

Lush landscaping can become a reality for any setting; all it takes is a little planning and inspiration from the professionals. **NS**

For more on Mosher & Associates, visit www.mosherandassociates.com or call (248) 391-3095.