

Chalet

LANDSCAPE • NURSERY • GARDEN CENTER

SMALL IDEAS – BIG RESULTS

By Senior Landscape Architect Steve Kooyenga

Often just one element can change the feel of your whole garden. Here are some economical ideas that may put your garden over the top.



A Bench to Plant Your Assets

With or without a back, made from any material, a bench creates a focal point, a sense of place. And if you actually sit on it, that's a bonus. Most any outdoor furniture like Adirondack chairs are good options.



One Perfect Tree

Pick one with multiple attributes – outstanding flowers, fall hues, winter interest or attracting birds – like Red jewel crabapple, Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry or a tree-form Hydrangea.



Pigments of Your Imagination

Wake up an all-green bed with splashes of color using variegated, purple or gold foliage. Examples: Summer Wine Ninebark, Bonanza Gold Barberry or My Monet Weigela.



On A Pedestal

Whether formal or informal, pedestals or planters with flowers and foliage can be the one element your garden is missing. Try "Winnetka" or "Wilmette" from Campania's new Chicagoland series.



Memories Light the Corners

Ever bring home stones from your favorite beach or a silly antique from a roadside sale? Designing these personal memories into gardens reminds you of special places.



And Now For Something Completely Different

"What is that?" guests have asked my clients when we've planted Contorted Filbert, Purple Fountain Beech or Golden Spirit Smokebush. The unusual plant is a conversation starter or a form of self expression.



Objects Appear Larger

Small yard? Instinct dictates to dot it with small plants or elements. No way. Give your space more perceived depth with a tall and narrow plant nearer your view - the window or patio. Like a stunning photograph, it frames your panorama. Good plants are Cleveland Select Pear, Cumulus Serviceberry or Hornbeam.



The Brightest Bulbs...

...get ordered now. My landscape architect colleagues and I often place client orders in spring, when it's easier to see where to add color. Come fall we simply arrive and plant for you. Typically a smaller job can run about \$800 which includes design, about 400 bulbs and labor.

For more ideas and information on how to transform your landscape, contact Chalet architects today

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