

Excellence in Landscape Awards Sample Application

Project Information

Project Name Midwest Mountain Manor
Address of Project 11314 W. 79th Street

Firm Information

Company Name XYZ Landscaping
Contact Name
Address
City **State** IL **Zip** 60491
Phone
Fax
Email
Joint Project: NO

Plaque Information

An inscribe plaque will be awarded to each Gold, Silver, and Merit Winner.
Other entries will receive a Certificate of Recognition.

Project Name Midwest Mountain Manor
Firm Name XYZ Landscaping
Name 1
Title 1
Name 2
Title 2
Name 3
Title 3

Excellence in Landscape Awards Program Entry (Section 2)

Project Category

Residential Construction

Details

Date Completed 05/11
Size 15,000 square feet or more

Heritage and Decade Awards (optional)

Heritage and Decade Awards indicate the highest level of achievement over time in the award categories above. To receive a Heritage or Decade award, the project must be of Gold award winning quality in its main award category; however the project does not have to have won an award in a previous year to qualify.

Neither selected

If the project was installed more than five years ago and is being entered by the original installer, or has been continuously maintained by a maintenance firm for more than five years, select the **Heritage Award** category in addition to the project's main award category.

If the project was installed more than ten years ago and is being entered by the original installer, or has been continuously maintained by a maintenance firm for more than five years, select the **Decade Award** category in addition to the project's main award category.

Excellence in Landscape Awards Program Entry (Section 3)

Project Attributes

D = Designed, I = Installed, M = Maintained, S = Subcontracted, N = None, O = IPM Used

Feature		Description
Lawns	D	
Ground Covers	DI	
Shrubs	DI	
Trees	DI	
Mulch	DI	
Flowers	DI	
Irrigation		
Grading	DI	
Lighting	DI	
Decks		
Driveways	D	
Walks	DI	
Walls	DI	
Terrace/Patio	DI	
Water Features	DI	
Other Gate	DI	We did not install the stonework

D = Designed, I = Installed, M = Maintained, S = Subcontracted, N = None, O = IPM Used

Excellence in Landscape Awards Program Entry (Section 4)

Digital Photo Descriptions

Identify project constraints, include challenges overcome, plant descriptions, and owner expectations. Do not use vague terms such as "north view" or "view from patio." Photo descriptions must match photo names and numbers included on the CD or posted to the FTP site.

- 1.) Much care was needed to establish a substantial grade change to achieve the clients' aesthetic goals while ensuring minimal damage to existing mature trees. A skid steer develops the elevation for a patio adjacent to a streaming waterfall.



- 2.) Large scale stone was used to compliment the size and style of the home. The use of properly scaled, individually selected pieces of stone required a large excavator to set. The meticulous facing and placement will allow future plantings to soften and enhance the stonework.



- 3.) The natural irregular stone patio was set using very large pieces of bluestone with some individual pieces covering over 100 squarefeet.



- 4.) Workers install a liner and a vault area as part of a 130' long stream. A large underground vault area was required to store enough water to properly circulate the stream.



- 5.) This showcases the overall scope of the project. Bluestone patio slabs meet the boulder firepit. That transitions over a narrow riparian boundary to the stream and decorative waterfall. The client wanted the space to feel natural while being able to get as close as possible to the useable parts of the natural space.



- 6.) Impressive bluestone patio slabs meet the boulder firepit. The larger bluestone slabs were painstakingly assembled by chiseling the stone to ensure a natural feel and proper placement. The boulder firepit also serves as a retaining wall to support the grade change needed for the stream.



- 7.) A 110' bluestone boulder retaining wall was used to retain grade and accent the entrance of the home. A variety of terrestrial plantings and trees add color and texture to the surrounding hardscapes.



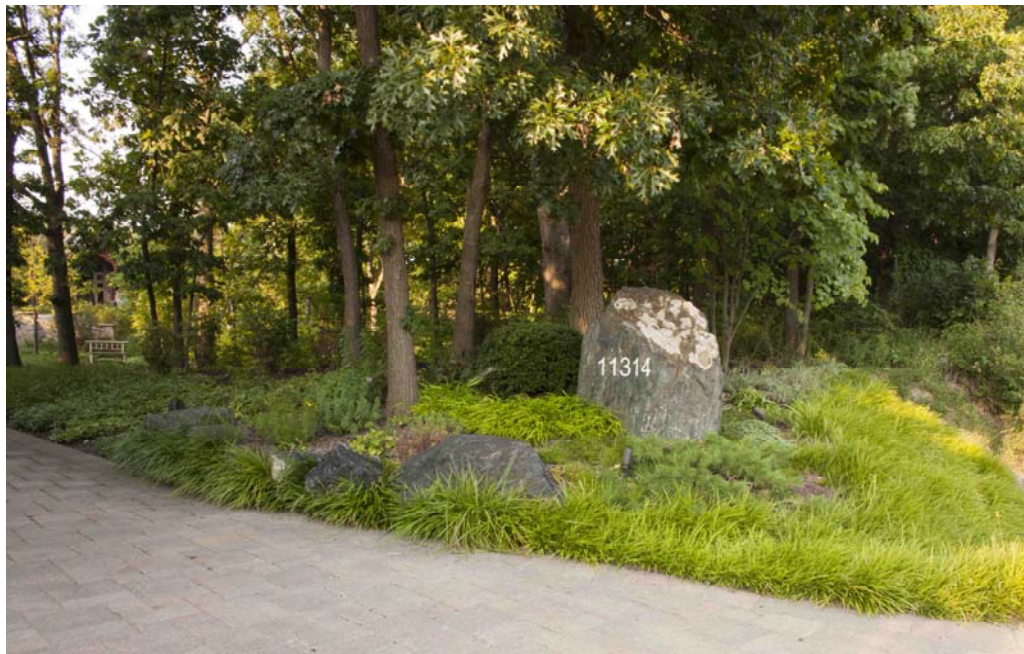
- 8.) Bluestone steps were cut from the same stone used as boulder and accent stones throughout the property. The stairs shown were part of a single piece of stone allowing for a perfect transition of colors and contours. Creeping ground covers are planted in pockets adjacent to the boulder retaining wall to contrast the stone and give a natural feel.



- 9.) The aquatic plantings within the stream help to keep the water clear as well as allow for a seamless transition from water to the terrestrial landscape. Large scale stone was used throughout the stream to and adjacent pathways to ensure that the clients' rocky mountain landscape was realized.



- 10.) A 3 ton address boulder is placed at the entrance to the expansive 9,100 squarefoot paver driveway. The address stone was individually chosen at the quarry to ensure that it was the perfect piece. A combination of evergreens, ground covers and perennials keep interest year round.



- 11.) A boulder wall retains 42" of grade change while adding character and dimension the area. Ground covers and perennials are planted to compliment the stone from the top and bottom. The retaining area allows for a birch to be planted that nicely accents the chimney.



- 12.) A section of stream reveals the thoughtful design that provides an ample amount of colors and textures surrounding the stream.



- 13.) A custom gate designed with silhouettes of the surrounding woods provides an aesthetic enhancement while keeping curious passersby at a distance. The stone used on the connecting pillars and wing wall was brought in from Montana to match the pillars on the home.



- 14.) The water passing over the falls reveals the intricate stonework used to create a dynamic setting. A combination of aquatic and terrestrial plantings provide a nice compliment to the falls.



- 15.) This overall shot of the backyard gives an ideal view of the abundance and variety of the plantings utilized. The pathway leading from the patio area to the sportcourt is made up of the same stone as the boulders throughout the property. A removable deck rail allows the homeowners to chip from their deck over the stream and onto the artificial green.



- 16.) A cedar bridge provides ideal transition from the naturally cleft bluestone patio to the crushed granite pathway. Ground covers and moss grow in the joints and at the edges of the massive bluestone patio pieces giving a very natural feel to the patio.



Excellence in Landscape Awards Program Entry (Section 5)

Project Description (Maximum 2500 Characters)

Type up to 2500 characters (approximately 350 words). Identify project constraints, challenges and owner expectations. Explain your contribution and conclusion of the results. Be specific. Do not make the judges guess about your work. Proofread carefully before submitting (perhaps have another colleague read it also).

This residence rests on a 7-acre wooded lot of White Oak and Shagbark Hickory. The client's objective was to introduce the spirit of the Rocky Mountains into their Midwest property. Our firm was entrusted with the entire site programming, design, construction, and management. Conservation of the mature White Oaks on site was essential throughout the construction of the home as well the landscape.

The task of bringing the Rockies to Illinois was approached on several levels. First, was by introducing contrasting elevations. Paths, patios, and open spaces are arranged such that the visitor experiences topographical cues throughout the landscape. Second, rustic features were designed that are indicative of the Rockies landscape. Boulder retaining, patios constructed of massive naturally-cleft stone, and a long tumbling stream, were utilized to thematically reinforce the environment. Third, plant selections mutually native to that area were chosen to lend credibility to the site. Plantings of Columbine, Sage, Aspen, Echinacea and more additionally aid in storm water infiltration and soil retention.

A large address stone signifies the entrance to the residence at the street. A custom designed gate adorned with the silhouettes of the surrounding woods opens to an expanding view of the main residence. A curving turf lawn winds its way between large colorful gardens comprised of over 150 species of perennials and trees. Boulder retaining walls define raised edges to the garden spaces and are penetrated by large granite steps leading to the main entry. A path leads around the rear of the home and down more granite steps into a 2,000SF patio space constructed of massive naturally-cleft bluestone. A 130' stream winds its way over a fall and under a bridge just off the patio. At one end of this area is a large firepit built into the stone hillside offering another place to congregate. Flanking the patio are more native plantings below towering aspens growing from the rocks. Continuing over the bridge, the path leads along the stream path that terminates into a dry bed of iris and marsh plantings. Further, a putting green and tennis/sport court are tucked into the wooded property.

Gold Narrative (Maximum 175 words)

The Gold Narrative will be read on Awards Night if your project is selected for a Gold Award. Please provide a narrative that borrows heavily from your project description. ILCA reserves the right to edit your narrative.

Gold Narrative

After years of returning to the flat plains of the Midwest from their travels throughout the Rocky Mountains, the owners of this residence

sought a similar environment to be created for their own property. Our firm developed and executed the entire site plan, meticulously ensuring that that every piece of the project met their exacting demands.

More than 150 species of plants and trees native to the Rocky Mountain and Midwest regions were added to establish credibility and biodiversity. A 130-foot stream winds its way through paths, plants, and boulder outcroppings, eventually encircling a 2,000 square foot, multi-tiered patio space constructed of massive slabs of naturally cleft stone.

An extensive lighting system provides a dramatic setting against the tapestry of the gardens offering intimate entertaining spaces and striking focal points. Other amenities included in the design and construction were: a sport court, putting green, walking paths, and a fire pit fashioned within a boulder wall for an inviting space perfect for an evening glass of wine or smores.
