

Project Portfolio

DESIGN/BUILD

HOME OFFICE / POOL / HOT TUB / PRIVACY / WOODED LOT

The design

A riverside getaway with a pool house office for a retiring executive

The site before construction

A small backyard along a river on a wooded lot

Project Requirements

- Create a vacation area in the client's yard
- Include a pool and hot tub
- Must have wheelchair access to the home from the lower level
- Keep as many trees as possible, especially a treasured dogwood
- Maintain privacy from neighboring properties



ABOVE The completed arbor and curved steps welcome homeowners and guests. A large *cryptomeria* (Japanese cedar) backdrop and a fireplace provide privacy.

RIGHT A before view of the pool house/office as the pool and spa are being formed. Note the closeness of the adjacent home.

Challenges and Limitations

- The backyard was constrained by river corridor setbacks, so the sideyard space had to be maximized
- Did not want the design to go past the front facade of the home
- At two feet above the 100-year flood plain, drainage was critical
- Wheelchair access and safety concerns near the pool
- An elaborate French drain system was needed for the client's integral dogwood tree
- The sideyard pool and office needed a large privacy barrier





ABOVE Upon completion, the elevation of the dogwood is visible. Situated 18 in. below grade due to a topographical map error, a series of French drains was installed to ensure the tree's viability.

LEFT The fireplace incorporates bluestone and brick detailing and an elevated 18-in. hearth for seating. The dining area on the terrace takes advantage of the warmth and charm of the fireplace.



ABOVE The water-fall spa and the gazebo are easily accessible from the office. A Lebanon cedar silhouettes the existing house, while a Japanese maple adds color.



Project Principals

- Scapes, LLC, Atlanta, GA
- Pete Wilkerson, vice president of DesignBuild and landscape architect
- Jim Lesti, landscape architect
- Neptune Pools, Sugar Hill, GA, constructed the pool

This project was a Grand Award winner in PLANET's Environmental Improvement Awards program. For more information on this program, or other services of the Professional Landcare Network, please call 800/395-2522 or visit www.landcarenetwork.org.