

PROJECT PORTFOLIO

A SCRAPBOOK OF DESIGN/BUILD OVERHAULS

Midwest beach living

THE MISSION

Wood Landscape Services creates a retreat capable of being enjoyed by individuals of all ages.

Wood Landscape Services' Ryan Kolb points to the clients' previous West Coast lifestyle as the inspiration behind this water-centric design for a residence in central Ohio. But his biggest challenge was creating a design to meet the municipality's strict guidelines.

"The guidelines, combined with existing site conditions, restricted the usable lot space," he says. "But through symmetry spatial organization, we connected the new space with the home's architecture, satisfying the municipal guidelines and clients' wishes."

The pool, spa, fire bowl and covered outdoor living space are visually connected by the central axis. Access from the house is provided through a newly located sliding door and new basement walkout. Stepping out of the home's main floor leads to an exposed aggregate pool deck that acts as a foyer to the back yard.

There's a covered outdoor living space that enables the clients to enjoy a fire or lower the screen to the built-in projector to watch TV in surround sound.

Water elements give the client a place to cool off. The table in the pool offers a popular gathering spot for kids, while the adults keep close watch from the spa. The installation also included lighting and irrigation.

Plants include Colorado blue spruce, Endless Summer hydrangea, Bloodgood Japanese Maple, spirea and yucca. Assorted annuals include King Tut grass, impatiens, begonias, geraniums, mandevilla, foxtail ferns and salvia.

"The elements seamlessly flow together, creating a cohesive home and entertaining space," Kolb says."





PHOTOS BY VISUAL EDGE IMAGING STUDIOS

THE WORK

1 | NO ACCESS. Before Kolb and his team began the project, there was a lack of direct access to the rear property. Note the gradual slope, which affected drainage. Retaining walls and drainage pipes were added to protect the existing drainage swale.

2 | SEAMLESS TRANSITION. The new rear door and basement walkout location blend the architecture of the home through function and material selection.

3 | DUAL PURPOSE. Irrigated planters and containers are placed strategically throughout the spaces — some for aesthetic purposes, while this one provides a frost barrier to the new basement walkout.

4 | CONNECT THE SPOTS. The central axis links the pool and spa to the covered outdoor living area through access between the kitchenette bar top. Note how the annual plantings add interest to the raised sun deck, which is placed to take advantage of the summer sun. The 6-in. step serves as a diving platform for the kids.

5 | ELEGANT ELEMENTS. Water elements and fire bowl, as viewed from the new sliding door location. The umbrella rises from an in-pool table and submerged stools.

6 | HOME NOT-QUITE-AWAY FROM HOME. Personal accents decorate the covered outdoor living space, which is anchored by a custom-built fireplace and kitchenette. Brick and stucco blend the new space with the existing residence.

7 | VISUAL MUSIC. The tumbled *noche* tiles and stucco were selected to coordinate the clients' Mediterranean tastes with the home's existing architecture. The plantings were selected based on texture and color.

Owner Thomas Wood, CLP, founded Wood Landscape Services Ltd., Hilliard, OH, 19 years ago. The firm's services include commercial and residential landscaping design, installation and maintenance; estate gardening; hardscaping; mowing; outdoor lighting; patios; snow plowing; tree, turf and shrub care; and water features. This particular property garnered a 2008 Environmental Improvement Award from the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET). For more information, visit www.woodlandscape.com.