

# PROJECT PORTFOLIO

A SCRAPBOOK OF DESIGN/BUILD OVERHAULS

*Lakeside living*

## THE MISSION

Create a sustainable landscape for outdoor living that complements the contemporary lakefront home.

Owning a home on Idaho's spectacular Lake Coeur d'Alaine might be great, but struggling for access from the property to the water is not. Enter the team of Land Expressions LLC, Mead, WA. With a triple-dream theme of sustainability, safety and beauty, the firm designed and installed a path that winds its way from the house to the lake — and incorporated some living spaces along the way.

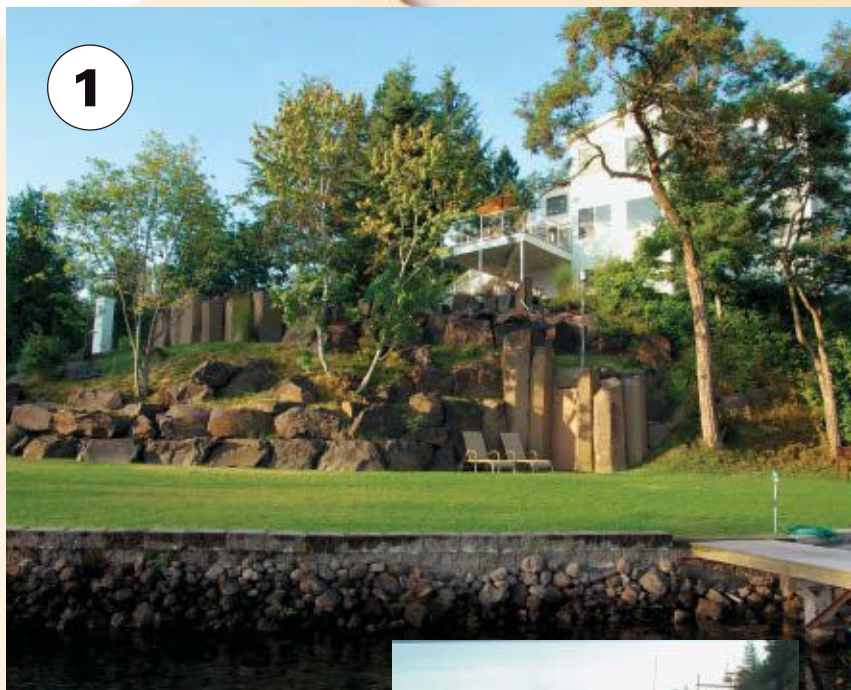
Persuading the client to take a sustainable approach, Land Expressions President Dave Nelson and his team designed and installed a meandering path from the house to the lake. Rock outcropping and basalt columns retained the slope for the patio spaces, taking advantage of the lookout points. The mixed use of stone and concrete pavers created a natural, functional living space.

Limited access for equipment on-site created a challenge as did the arid climate of northern Idaho, which often resists native re-vegetation. The team found the perfect solution by focusing on native grasses and colorful wildflowers. Drought-tolerant trees were retained and carefully protected during the construction process.

"The site was also considered to be 'high-risk' because of the slope and proximity to the lake," notes Land Expressions' Steve Anderson. "Through grading, all storm water runoff was captured in swales."

Sheep fescue was used for a drought-tolerant grassy play area near the lake. In addition, a concrete vault storage room, faced with columnar basalt and a camouflaged door, was designed to blend into the hillside.

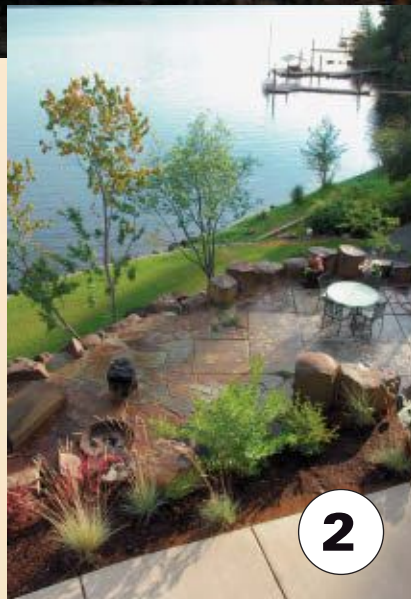
PHOTOS COURTESY: LAND EXPRESSIONS LLC



## THE WORK

**1 | Keeping it casual.** The owners of the contemporary home loved clean lines and strong contrast. They wanted to expand the hillside living space, and were leaning toward a traditional terraced landscape. The design process led the client into a sustainable landscape by showing how a soft natural frame offered a pleasing — and low-maintenance — contrast to the home. Note the hillside storage room tucked away behind the lounge chairs in the picture.

**2 | Lakeside patio.** Strong vertical retaining walls were built from columnar basalt, maximizing floor space near existing trees. Horizontally, a column is used as a bench for the fire pit. Drip irrigation conserves the water



needed for minimal ornamental plantings near the cozy sitting area, and the overlook offers a spectacular view.

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## THE WORK

**3 | Smart solutions.** Terracing with local natural boulders allowed for meandering paths to easily access multiple patio levels and the waterfront. Preserved plants come right up to the path.

**4 | Fans of soft rock.** Near the water, stone steps softened by native grasses underscore the natural theme and offer a counterpoint to the vertical columns.

**5 | An upward climb.** The steep hillsides of Lake Coeur d'Alene too often separate limited outdoor living spaces from the water's edge. The owners wanted this deck connected with the water's edge. Existing steep gravel paths were difficult to maneuver through and were adjacent to an unsightly block wall.

*Land Expressions' services include landscape architecture, planning and design, as well as landscape and water feature construction. With more than 20 years in the landscape business, the company takes pride in taking care of all of its customers equally, no matter how large or small. This particular installation garnered a recent Environmental Improvement Distinction Award from the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET). For more information, visit LandExpressions.com.*

## BETTER RESULTS



## 4-Speed™ XT Saves Contracts

### APPLICATION RATE:

1.3 oz/1,000 sf of 4-Speed XT plus spreader-sticker (1 oz/gallon finished spray)

### APPLICATION EQUIPMENT:

LT Rich Z-Sprayer, 1/3 gal spray tips

### TIMING:

July 13, 2009

### SUMMARY:

"This was not ideal herbicide application timing for ground ivy control, but we still had great results on it and all the other weeds on the 4-Speed XT label. As a result, we saved several contracts. We'll be using a lot more 4-Speed XT and other Nufarm products in the future."

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