

PREMIER ISSUE!

COUNTRY COLLECTIBLES® PRES. #42

GREAT BACKYARDS

EXPERT SOLUTIONS FOR ALL LANDSCAPES

2008

42 garden GETAWAYS

- * Front Yards
- * Small Spaces
- * Outdoor Rooms
- * Water Features
- * Problem Sites

Family-Friendly Environments

Entertaining Additions

Lush Plantings of Trees, Perennials, Foliage

Expert Designs!

**BORDERS • PATHS • PATIOS
POOLS • PONDS • FENCES
DECKS • STRUCTURES...**



Display until May 2008



Stones casually bordering the stream give rise to a wall corraling the resulting pool.



Photography: Michael LoBlundo

natural-look waterfalls

A trio of waterfalls looks like Mother Nature's handiwork



Now the property is more user-friendly: boulders to sit on, small rocks for hot spots.

Elements that create a natural water look

Add pockets of greenery.

These help add color to the waterscape, soften boulders and tie in with the rest of the existing landscape.

Repeat greenery and boulders throughout.

A sea of grasses and smaller stones growing near a water feature look natural and can be used intermittently throughout the garden.

Intersperse additional textures and leaf colors.

These last longer than blooming color, so you can enjoy them for longer periods.

When a couple moved into their newly constructed home in Charlotte, North Carolina, they hired J'Nell Bryson to landscape the site and design hardscapes.

The sloping site lent itself to three waterfalls cascading down an embankment and to a large holding pond with a fire pit beyond. The challenge was to add the right boulders, smaller stones and plantings so that visitors would think that Mother Nature fashioned the scenery. Achieving that result was far from easy.

Part of Bryson's success was due to knowing whom to bring on board. To find natural boulders covered with moss and lichen, she contacted Johnny Massengale, owner of Ponders, who knows where to find them in the surrounding Tennessee and Virginia mountain areas. Bryson was adamant she be present to place every boulder. "We stood there and I'd say, 'move it this way or that or bury it more.' It was like putting pieces of a puzzle together," she says. A wall of stacked stones edges the pond. She also brought on board Barry Patterson of Plants in Harmony to determine where to place greenery.

behind the scenes

Landscaper designer:

J'Nell Bryson, J'Nell Bryson Landscape Architecture, Charlotte, N.C., www.JBryson.com

Main plants used: Northwind panicum grass (*Panicum virgatum* 'Northwind'), weeping redbud (*Cercis canadensis* 'Covey'), weeping Cunningham fir (*Cunninghamia lanceolata* 'prostrata'); golden false holly (*Osmanthus aurantiacus*), Lady in Red hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Lady in Red'), cut leaf weeping Japanese red maple (*Acer palmatum dissectum*), Morning Light maiden grass (*Miscanthus sinensis* 'Morning Light'), Prostrate Japanese plum yew (*Cephalotaxus harringtonia* 'prostrata'), dwarf hinokie cypress (*Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'nana'), autumn fern (*Dryopteris erythrosora*)

Zones: 5b-9

Challenge: Placement on the property of a series of waterfalls that cascade down to a pond

Favorite outcome: The sound of water as you step onto the property; night light that adds another dimension to the garden; the owners' grandchildren's enjoyment of playing in and around the water