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A Newsletter by Joseph Pattin

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THIS ISSUE:

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1. 7 Garden Design Evaluation Tips

7 Garden Design Evaluation Tips:

Are you getting the most enjoyment from your current garden that surrounds your home? Why not create a special place that invites you to explore and experience the wonders of nature. So what should you look for in sprucing up your garden?

1. EVERY VIEW IS EITHER A PICTURE TO FRAME OR SOMETHING UNWANTED TO SCREEN. Observe the garden from many view points. Go and sit in your favorite patio chair and see what is visible? Take note of gaps in the foliage, views of telephone poles, air conditioners, neighbor's house, and so on. Continue your observations from each logical vista point in the garden and then go inside and view the garden from every window that looks out into garden.
2. FRAGRANCE IS ONE OF OUR MOST KEEN SENSES. Go into the garden and breathe in the aromas. Is it sweet smelling, intriguing, provocative or is it bland? Take note of what you experience.
3. SOUND IS A KEY EXPERIENCE IN NATURE. Sit quietly preferably with your eyes closed and just listen. Try this for just 10 minutes of quiet listening. What do you hear? Sounds of nature or urban noise?
4. SOME PLACE TO GO AND EXPLORE. Does your garden invite you to go wandering around? Can you walk around and visit a special place to sit and relax? Is there a hidden spot that you could check out just around the corner?
5. SEASONAL VARIATION IS A WAY TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE RYTHMN OF TIME. Does your garden produce surprises in each season? Do some of your plants flower in every season? Does the autumn color just over awe you with brilliance especially around sunset?
6. PLAYFUL AND RESTFUL ACTIVITIES IN THE GARDEN. Can you have friends and family over to play sports, relax, and have good conversation in a natural setting? Lots of possibilities from hot tubs to horse shoes.
7. EXTEND YOUR LIVING SPACE INTO AN OUTDOOR ROOM. Are you set up to cook out doors without having to make dozens of trips to and from the house? Do you have shade, a sun room, mosquito proof gazebo or observation deck? Increase your useful square footage by adding on a garden room.