

to a wedding in Buck's County where I've contacted a property which has been in many home magazines over the years.

Gardening is a way of life. I love the outdoors, I love the individuality of each garden and nursery. I love the creative side of this business, I love seeing gardens succeed and thrive. I love getting to know you, spending your hard earned money on living things that will increase the value of your home while providing a healthy and relaxing environment. I love how much pride gardeners take in their own gardens no matter what condition they might be. I love seeing your dreams become reality. I also love my wife for being so understanding. Chasing the dream: 18 years and counting. There are still so many things that need to be completed and refined. I'm always questioning whether I'll see my dream to fruition. Those are questions only the future can answer. The dream continues. Thank you for your continued support.



The first holes!

Please send newsletter requests, questions and topics to designingeden@charter.net. To receive this newsletter send one box of milk chocolate (Nuts and caramels only, no creams) with your contact information to the address listed above.

Garden Calendar

November: Start planting spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils.

Apply winter mulch around tender plants before first frost.

A great time to complete a final weeding of your perennial beds is after your perennials have died back to the ground.

Water broad leaved evergreens every two weeks until the ground is frozen. The last two winters we've seen major desiccation damage to broad leaved evergreens like Holly and Boxwood because they had less than adequate moisture before the ground froze.

Protect your broad leaved evergreens from winter desiccation by applying an anti-transpirant.

Begin spraying plant material prone to deer browsing with a repellent. Repellex is a good choice.

Wrap any plant prone to snow or animal damage with netting/burlap.

Cut back perennials if they are not going to provide winter interest.

December: Bring in garden hoses.

Put a gas stabilizer in power equipment and run for 10 minutes or run the tank dry. Change spark plug, oil and filters.

Re-apply deer repellents and anti-transpirants every 2 months when temperatures are above 40 degrees.



designing eden llc

8 West Meetinghouse Road

New Milford, CT 06776

Tel/Fax 860-350-5162

www.designingeden.com



designing eden[®] LLC

Design, Installations, Nursery



Katsura



designing eden[®] LLC

Fine Gardens and Nursery

Greetings from Richard



Sometimes the main articles you see, in these newsletters, are written about topics to help educate our clients. Sometimes ideas from articles come from past or current experiences. The article which appears in this newsletter is near and dear to my heart. It's about a dream I've been chasing for 18

years. I hope you enjoy.

What would this newsletter be if I didn't mention something about the weather? As I'm sure you are aware, a lack of rain has caused stress to plants and turf. If you haven't been doing so, I highly recommend watering plantings to limit any more drought stress which has already occurred. In my travels I've notice a lot of wilted foliage, drooping and curled leaves, even burnt foliage. Stressed plants are more prone to insects and diseases than healthy plants. A stressed plant will also have a difficult time making it through our New England winter. Without generous amounts of water this fall, winter desiccation will be a real problem this coming spring as it was in the spring of 2005.

I'd like to thank our clients for the best summer and fall we've ever had. Without you it would not have been possible.

Richard Schipul

Chasing the dream

For some of you, our working relationship is rather new. For others, Designing Eden has been your landscape company for a couple of decades. While for some others, we are hoping to build relationships in the future. Whatever our relationship is, I'd like to share with you 'the dream'. The dream which began 18 years ago and the one that I still continue to chase today, the one that sometimes wakes me up in the middle of the night and the one that sometimes prevents me from falling asleep.

I've been self employed my whole life. Ever since I started cutting one lawn a week when I was 12 years old, I've been my own boss. That eventually led to a degree in Horticulture at S.U.N.Y Farmingdale. Towards the end of my stay there, my horticulture class went on a field trip to visit some landscape/nursery businesses out on the eastern tip of Long Island. We viewed each operation and each owner gave us a tour and talked to the group about their business. That day I met Mr. Steele, the owner of Bayberry Nursery, a beautiful operation in Amagansett.

While visiting the nursery and listening to Mr. Steele, I became enthralled with his business, his property and his way of life.

When I entered school, I thought I would get my degree, go home and cut lawns the rest of my life. My thoughts changed once I saw the beautiful house and outbuildings, each housing a different function of the operation and the land surrounded by beautiful specimen trees which happened to be for sale. I was intrigued. The more I listened to Mr. Steele the more I wanted to know. It seemed like a nice way to make a living.

Mr. Steele was obviously extremely successful at what he did. That one day has had such an influence on my life.

What I saw through my young eyes was a man on a

mission. The tour reinforced my decision to go on to obtaining a degree in Landscape Architecture.

Since meeting Mr. Steele, I've been chasing a similar dream of owning my own Bayberry. Living and working from one piece of property. Surrounding myself with the beautiful plants I love and sell to our clients.

First, came the purchase of ten acres of neglected land in New Milford in 1995. I continue to clear and tame

"A man does not plant a tree for himself; he plants it for posterity".

Alexander Smith

it to this day. Then came the 4 year carriage house and barn moving/renovation. Let's just say that This Old House would be proud. A house and shell of a design studio was started in the fall of 2002 which we continue to finish when money becomes available. A free fishing shack (which we've dubbed the pool cabana even though we don't have a pool) was moved to the property in 2000. The "Taj MaWall", constructed were the barn once stood, was built during weekends over a two year period.

I've been pushed to the limited many, many times. Like the time when our family of three was living in the 500 sq. ft. carriage house and I had given up my closet so it could become a pantry/kids closet. All of my clothes were moved into a 3 drawer filing cabinet between the living room and the crib, which was in the kitchen. Fun, Fun, Fun! Then there was the time I had a 100' Spruce fall across my brand new tractor and knock down the telephone and cable lines in the road. Or the time we

had to dig a trench across the property to remove water from a water main break on a Sunday afternoon while digging footings for a foundation. Or the time we had to cut the roof off the fishing shack we decided to move to the property because it wouldn't fit under the power lines. Oh the stories I can tell or the pictures I could show you!

Well, after 12 years of hard work, dedication and perseverance our first plants went into the ground a couple of weeks ago.

A lot has happened over the years and much more will continue to take place before the property becomes the next Bayberry.

Overwhelmed is an understatement. Chasing the dream has been a strain emotionally and financially. Almost every weekend for 12 years has been spent working on our property. Many times I've felt like giving up for a simpler life but friends and family have intervened, giving me support and encouragement. Last time I thought about a simpler life, my friend Rich McKean said "follow through, you'll be bored and depressed if you give up the dream now" or my neighbor Michael Gold who simply said "you can't give up you're so close". I continue toward the dream because of one statement I heard shortly after meeting Mr. Steele. In a tape by Earl Nightingale titled The Strangest Secret I heard the line "Think and though shall you become". Live your dream and it will become reality. It's hard to imagine my goal will ever be totally complete. It took 18 years just to put a couple plants in the ground. Plants which might end up at your house some day.

There is something about the green industry that gets under your skin. No matter where I am, Europe, Australia, the Caribbean or the States I'm always trying to get into some private garden or searching out some nursery to visit. As I write this, I'm heading out the door

Visit us online at designingeden.com