

# NORTHWEST LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL



## 2012 Award Winner:

Environmental Landscape Award In Residential Construction • Page 10

Niels And Denise Ferguson Residence • Redmond, Washington • By Living Earth Landscapes

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Transforming A Hillside

## Redmond Residence Gets Spectacular Usable Space



*The flagstone front garden walks and patio provide attractive access to the formerly inaccessible yard.*

Niels and Denise Ferguson wanted their Redmond hillside yard to be a place they could enjoy, but the steep slope and ivy made most of their garden unusable for them and their young daughter. They turned to Bill Bowlus at Living Earth Landscapes for help in solving the problem.

And solve it he did. The result was a beautiful, functional garden that begs to be used. The project also earned the respect of the judges in the 2012 WALP Environmental Landscape Awards, taking home a Grand Award in the Residential Construction Category at the WALP/WSNLA Conference this past January.

"After removing copious amounts of ivy, overrun shrubbery, a small lawn, and an assortment of failing retaining walls, we re-graded the site using ledge stone walls in the front garden and basalt walls for the side gardens," Bowlus explained.

The Living Earth Landscapes team went to work around a number of existing conifers to prepare the soil and install an automatic irrigation system. They installed a flagstone patio, paths, and steps

in the front garden and used "Huckleberry Creek" steps for the side garden.

"The client requested a low maintenance garden with as much usable space as possible to enjoy," Bowlus said. "We designed and installed low maintenance plantings that incorporated the clients' favorite flowers."

Living Earth Landscapes provided all the design work in-house and did their usual professional job on the installation. What had formerly been a virtual wasteland was turned into a testament to what creativity and the application of sound landscaping practices can do.

Supplying materials were a host of WALP member firms including Rock Mountain, Marenakos, T & L, Horizon, Vibrant Plants, and Plants Northwest. The large rockery on the west side of the project was installed by Access Earthworks.

Bill Bowlus founded Living Earth Landscapes in 2000 to provide homeowners with an environmentally-friendly landscaping company that emphasizes high quality, good value, and excellent customer service.

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*Cover: The street view of the home was significantly improved.*



Photo 1

*Before:* This picture of the front entry area provides a sense of how dramatic the transformation of the landscape actually was.

Photo 2

The planting area along the Ferguson's driveway got a make-over during the project as well and features the clients' favorite flowers.

Photo 3

This photo provides a good perspective of the front patio, wall and plantings and shows the path to the east side garden.

Photo 4

This photo shows the detail of the west side garden with its steps and colorful plantings.

Photo 5

The east side garden boasts new steps and plantings.

Photo 6

The front steps, wall, and plantings provide an attractive and functional entry to the Ferguson home.