

Eminently Approachable



Left: Astilbe and hydrangea make fine companions.

Creeping thyme in between the irregular stones emits a fragrant scent when stepped on.

out flowers.

The Annabelle hydrangea provides height and drama with its big blooms. The White astilbe complements and continues the calm white design theme at the entrance while pink astilbe is used in the distance. Lamium is an aggressive ground cover that provides a full season of speckled white leaves to fill out the base. Japanese Painted ferns are available in silvery gray to crimson red with fascinating veining. Together, this limited plant palette work well and provides a calm, sophisticated, and welcoming entrance to this home. ♣



WATCH THOSE HIGH FLYERS

"A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon you're talking real money," Senator Everett Dirksen once remarked. The same goes for our innocent feathered friends. Approximately one billion birds die each year in the United States flying into windows.

FRAME IT WITH FLORA

By Chris Cohan

This handsome house, with boxed bay window, was hidden by overgrown shrubs and tall arborvitae. The first thing was to transplant and reuse all of the arborvitae and shrubs in better locations on the property. Once completed, the front foundation was prepared for new, colorful plantings that would be in scale and flatter the home.

We added medium-height blooming shrubs, from purple flowering PJM rhododendrons to white flowering azaleas to blue flowering hydrangeas. Right around the seating area we planted Summersweet and fragrant lilac for all to linger near and enjoy. Russian sage, astilbe, re-blooming dwarf bleeding heart, and day lily were added to provide summer-long flowering perennials.

A multi-trunked river birch was placed off the corner of the house to extend the edge of the garden, provide afternoon dappled light against the house, and offer year-round interest with its handsome peeling bark.

The project was completed with a new lawn and a walkway connecting to the front stoop. A white picket fence was later added at the street with plantings of roses and summer flowering perennials. ♣

