

GARDENS Four Seasons

GARDENDESIGN - AUGUST 2016

Gardening is about enjoying
the smell of things,
growing in the soil,
getting dirty without feeling guilty,
and generally taking the time
to soak up a little
peace and serenity.

Lindley Karstens



WATER WHISPERS

part 2

I'm back with even more thoughts on using a 'Whisper of Water' in your yard . . .
.....where if you don't want the maintenance of water you can create the illusion of
Water!

Timeless Japanese Gardens commonly include an area of fine rock or sand raked into various patterns that mimic water. Classic!





A client of mine, Carol K. graciously shared this shot of her newly planted backyard oasis complete with a raked 'sand' garden. Note how the raked ripples around the boulders simulate an island or even a pebble tossed into a lake. Very Serene!



She also took this pic of her front yard where she made dual use of a pathway by utilizing the shape of it as a 'Dry Stream Bed.'



& then, while on the Nest Tour recently - there were a few more examples of using Dry Stream Beds as walkways. The picture above shows a lush back yard with a narrow strip of gravel path that doubles as a drainage for the space. Some people like to use a border & some prefer to 'blur' the edges with rocks & boulders. It is really a personal preference.



A proud homeowner showed off his version of a Dry Steam Bed/Walkway ingeniously making use of the oft-underused boulevard - nicely done! I love it when people make the best use of every bit of space they have & it becomes a beautiful neighbourhood feature to boot!



Still on the topic of rocks, how about painting a slate surface to become a faux koi pond - or even simply painted rocks to use in a bowl or bird bath - TOO COOL!

Here is a unique way of simulating water outdoors - just place a small mirror where you want to 'see' water!



Going back to the actual use of water - I've discovered there are solar-powered water features! Cool idea for a patio or deck & the water moves only when the sun is out - the perfect time to enjoy it!



There are even *floating* solar powered water pumps available!



Craving more incredible pictures of WATER WHISPERS?

Head to my PINTEREST site by clicking the following link :

<https://www.pinterest.com/gardens4seasons/boards/>

My LANDSCAPE DESIGN CLASS Schedule
is now set for FALL !

DESIGN your own DREAM YARD

In just 5 fun & lively classes you will create a plan for your own EDEN at the only class of its kind in Saskatoon!

NEW & EXISTING YARDS - start dates

Tues. Sept. 27 - 10am-noon or 6:30-8:30pm

Thurs. Sept. 29 - 10am-noon or 6:30-8:30pm

Sat. Oct. 1 - 10am-noon

Avoid disappointment - BOOK EARLY ! \$299 plus GST

click here to go to my website for details -

<http://www.gardensfourseasons.com/classes/>



- a yard planned by a Class participant.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GARDENDESIGN's 1st Annual Container Parade

A REMINDER - to take pictures of containers you have grown this year. I invite everyone to share theirs in an upcoming edition of GARDENDESIGN - that way we can all learn from each other.

Just send me your photos along with a description of the plants used & any background info - it'll be fun to read about each other's 'Container Adventures!'

SASK PERENNIAL SOCIETY

August 28, Sunday

Friends of the Forestry Farm House - Walking Tour & Open House

Superintendent's Residence - Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo

Come learn about the Forestry Farm Park, explore the house & walk amongst the trees. Free & open to the public.

House is open for viewing, & interpretive tours are ongoing 1:30pm - 3:30pm

The Walking Tour of the park starts at 2.00 pm at the house.

September 11, Sunday,

Fall Plant & Seed Exchange

Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo Hall

Bulb sale starts at 1 pm, Plant exchange starts at 1.30 pm

Bring perennials, seeds, dessert to share.

Only members can take part in the exchange, BUT memberships are available at the door for \$10.00.

Please label your plants, & indicate if they like sun or shade.

This event is like Christmas for Gardeners but in Sept.! I remember the first one I attended - I was so excited by all the free plants!

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Sutherland Caragana

- *Caragana arborescens* 'Sutherland'



I attended the Country Garden Tour earlier this month & found the Saskatoon Horticultural Society offering varied from regular garden tours.

We started at The Little Tree Nursery in Martensville - enthusiastically owned & operated by Deanna & Darryl Fehr. Darryl spoke of a number of plants but the one that really caught my attention was Sutherland Caragana.

I've recommended this shrub/small tree previously but I've always found any Caragana variety a tough sell in SK - perhaps I can change your mind?

Darryl pointed out that while it doesn't grow as fast as a Swedish Aspen or Tower Poplar - it establishes & flourishes quickly. Max. growth is about 15' but I think think one of it's best traits (aside from being extremely drought tolerant) is the shape - multi-branches fan out from the base looking for all the world like it is announcing "Here I am world!" Interesting silhouette for Winter gardens.

It is a bit spiny typical of all Caraganas & features a smooth olive-toned bark. Tiny yellow flowers appear in Spring & leaves turn a pretty yellow in the Fall.



The tall upright stature makes it perfect for any sunny spot where you require quick shelter or a visual block. Being a Caragana - you know it will be hardy & suckering is minimal. If it does occur - it's mostly close to the trunk. (it is nowhere near as bad as so many Swedish Aspen or Tower Poplars that are used for quick growth.) With a maximum spread of 5' 6' - what are you waiting for?



DESIGN BRILLIANCE



OKA-A-AY!

I'd like to know who came up with this 'FISH OBSERVATION DECK'
in the middle of a pond ?

GARDENDESIGN in SEPTEMBER

- it'll be here sooner than you know it - I'd like to share **HIGHLIGHTS** of the
NEST TOUR (amazing!)

Thinking about a **SHED**? Shoot me a request & you can read all about it in a **BACK ISSUE** of GARDENDESIGN!



Please feel free to forward GARDENDESIGN to any friends!
(or they can email me a request to receive their own copy!)

DID YOU KNOW? - I never, Ever, EVER share my email list - EVER! :)

-to UNSUBSCRIBE from GARDENDESIGN please reply to this email with NO THANKS!
