Landscape Planning

Distribute 02-18-2012

This time of the year it is common for us to think about improving our landscapes. It is also a time of the year when new home purchases are common. New home buyers may have a whole landscape to plan and complete.

There are several routes available to plan landscape improvements. One desirable option is to enlist the help of a professional landscape designer or landscape architect.

If you are more into the do-it –yourself mode you can help prepare yourself by reviewing available literature and/or attend a landscape design class.

My favorite landscaping book is “Home Landscaping Texas” by Greg Grant and Roger Holmes. It divides the home landscape into manageable pieces and provides landscape ideas to address each piece. Find it at area nurseries, local bookstores and on Amazon.

If you want to attend a landscape design class, you are in luck, two classes are scheduled for March 5. Here in San Antonio the Gardening Volunteers of South Texas (GVST) are offering a program from 8:30 am until 1pm at the Bishop Jones Center in Alamo Heights.

On the same day as part of the Wilson County Home and Garden Day a landscape design class is being offered from 8am until noon at the Alternative School. Turn East on Sutherland Springs Road off of Hwy 181, North of Floresville.

Both programs offer lectures on landscape principles and plant materials with an emphasis on environmentally appropriate landscaping. Both classes also provide time at the end of the session for personal consultation on your preliminary plans, photos, and specific questions.

There is a $25 fee per individual for the programs. A second person from the same household can attend the Wilson County class for an additional $10 and for an extra $15 for the San Antonio class.

Attendees receive the SAWS Landscape Care Guide, the Drip Line Gardening CD by Tom Harris and Ron Csehil, and several other useful resources.

SAWS is co-sponsor of both classes. The fees from the Wilson County Landscape School will be donated to the Floresville ISD Alternative School Horticulture Program. The Alternative School serves 12 school districts across 5 counties.

RSVP for the class of your choice. For the GVST class visit their website or call 210-251-8101.For more information on the Wilson County event, visit the Wilson County News website, the Floresville Chamber of Commerce, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Pfeil’s Garden Supply or Color Me Green in Floresville. In San Antonio, Milbergers, or Fanicks have information. You can also call Dr. Jerry Parsons or me at our Gardening South Texas Radio Show at 210 308 8867 on Saturday or Sunday from noon to 2pm. We will both be making presentations at the Floresville Program and can answer your questions.