

episode four: A Sustainable Garden on a DEADline



Owen and Billy are on a deadline to save Dirtrude, their trusty rubber chicken, from some nasty characters and the divine blond bombshell. It's simple: Mr. X gets a sustainable garden design and the Garden Wise Guys save Dirtrude from the deep fryer. The classy dame leads them to Mr. X's home where they evaluate the site, create and organize a plant list and generate "bubble diagrams" to start the landscape design. After checking in with "Alice" (Keck Park Memorial Garden) for inspiration, they complete their design satisfying Mr. X's wants and desires just at the stroke of midnight. In this episode you will learn how to create a sustainable garden design that will make the most of your space and resources.

key concepts

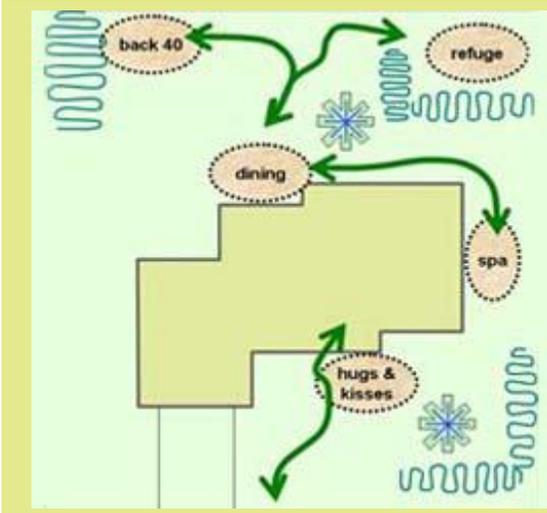
Create a Plant List

- 1. Function:** is there a need for screening, erosion control, food, attracting wild life?
- 2. Size:** how tall does it need to be and how wide can it spread?
- 3. Cultural Conditions:** plants thrive when you consider soil, water, sun/shade.
- 4. Aesthetics:** use foliage and flower color schemes, as well as the texture and shape of the plant.



Creating a Garden Design

1. Measure the house and dimensions of the lot.
2. Make a simple scale drawing to work with.
- 3. Site and Use Analysis:**
 - Understand your soil. Use a soil probe to obtain a sample and determine the texture.
 - Consider existing plants (are they thriving?).
 - Consider slopes (need erosion control?).
 - Other problems (ex: trees too close to the house).
 - Fences (planted vs. constructed).
 - Views, blocking bad ones or opening up good ones.
 - How would you like to use the site? Entertainment, hobbies, reading.



Bubble Diagrams Consist of:

Rooms (Activity spaces like a spa, retreat, vegetable garden, patio, etc.)

Pathways to connect spaces

Focal Points to attract the eye

Screening to enclose and for privacy

Create more than one diagram.
Create different configurations for comparison.

