



Landscaping: Not Just a Warm Weather Friend

The development of a beautiful landscape can add aesthetics and other values to the interior and exterior of any company.

Warm weather naturally is a time when people are more aware of landscaping, but landscape maintenance is a year-round activity for all but the most urbanized properties. The primary aim of landscape design is to use flowers, trees, or other foliage to beautify a property or to solve a site's environmental problems.

Live plants used indoors add color and human scale to open lobby areas, emphasize building architectural features, direct traffic flow within large open areas, and moisten and freshen building air. A well-designed landscape can create an area in which employees enjoy their surroundings. Studies have shown that people work better when their work environments are aesthetically pleasing.

Curb Appeal

Curb appeal is a great deal more than a few shrubs and a patch of grass. It includes every visual aspect of the property. For example, a group of trees or flowering shrubs pulls a visitor's eye away from a trash bin or transformer that might otherwise detract from the visual effect of the property.

Curb appeal accomplishes two desirable things. First, it draws employees into the property because it represents a place where they want to work. Second, it creates an environment that retains existing tenants because it is pleasant and attractive to them, to their employees, and to customers.

Functional Uses

Plants have numerous qualities that make them invaluable in addressing environmental conditions. They have the potential to define space, provide privacy, supply shade, control glare, block wind, improve air conditions, absorb sound, and curtail erosion. Perhaps most important, plants can absorb noxious gases, act as receptors of dust and dirt particles, and cleanse the air of impurities while consum-

ing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen.

BOMI Institute

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