



mass and scale

Massings of evergreen inkberry provide a backdrop for a colorful perennial border. Shrubs and perennials are arranged in tiers to create foreground and middle-ground views while the existing salt marsh vegetation provides a natural background to the scene.

From 25

Mass and Scale

Mass and scale are important components as well. Plantings that are too large for a location will outgrow the space and it might become unusable. Massing shrubs and perennials, even trees in groups of odd numbers of three, five and seven make a greater impact on the site. A large massing of plants can provide a nice background for select specimen plants. Having plant beds with more than one row of plantings also provides more interest and the opportunity for greater textural variety. Creating wide plant beds with tiered plantings increases the perception of depth in the landscape adding a foreground, middle ground and distant ground to the plant bed and can be done with any combination of plantings.

Landscape architects and designers are trained to use the elements of form, texture, color, scale and massing to create spaces within the landscape that become our much loved outdoor rooms. Designs that are interesting and well planned will be appropriate for the environment, easier to maintain and enjoyable year-round.

Next time The focus turns to entrances and front yards.

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TIP of the Month More injuries are caused by slippery conditions, rushing, and not having the ability to react and regain your balance when faced by sliding on wet leaves, or slipping on icy spots. Make extra time in your day to be safe when the weather strikes. Improve your body awareness with a few simple exercises... Such as: Standing on one leg of the stairs, holding on if needed. Stand and bend one knee behind you, alternating feet 20 times as if wiping your feet on the mat. Stand and march in place for one minute. All these will challenge your balance and awareness senses. If you have a fall, consider physical therapy before your muscles get tight and limit your abilities. Ask your doctor for a referral to physical therapy and GET YOUR LIFE BACK!

Jen Chamberlain
PT, A.T.C.

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