

“For good design, work with masses. Keep your plant selections to a minimum and use them with impact. The end result is calming and less busy.” — *Ryan Youngblood*



R. YOUNGBLOOD & CO.

WHO: As the president of Rochester-based R. Youngblood & Co., Ryan Youngblood has cultivated a passion for horticulture and design into a thriving landscape design and build firm.

For the past 18 years, his company has taken pride in being a “single-source responsibility” — meaning the design team handles everything from site planning services to installation and management, including maintenance and upkeep. R. Youngblood & Co. has won numerous awards, including two *Detroit Home Design Awards* in 2010 and 2013.

INFO: 248-650-1990, ryoungblood.com



◆ **DAISY DAYS:** “The shasta daisies (shown above) are strong performers,” Youngblood says, “and always are great in combination with purple coneflowers and black-eyed Susans. Between the three, and in perfect sequence, the garden will have color late June through August. Leave the spent flowers for winter interest.”

◆ **NIGHT LIGHT:** Unique Lighting’s Mercury 7, \$232/ea., John Deere Landscapes, Livonia, uniqueighting.com. “Lighting extends the usability of the space far beyond sunset and adds greatly to the experience of the space,” Youngblood says. “Unique Lighting was used because of its high-quality brass fixtures.”

◆ **OH, CANADA:** “The Canadian hemlock is a lush and graceful evergreen,” Youngblood says. “It’s one of a slim few that will be happy in shade. It serves well as a screen or backdrop.”

◆ **HIGH-RATING HYDRANGEA:** “The Annabelle hydrangea variety is classic and elegant in every aspect — it’s always a showstopper! And it’s also proved to be hardy,” Youngblood says.

UP NORTH AT HOME
The goal was to “get away”

The owners of this Oakland Township property (photo above) wanted a northern escape, Ryan Youngblood explains, but their professions in the medical field didn’t allow them enough time to get away. “My goal was to create a space for them that would make them feel as if they had stepped into a northern destination,” he says. Overlooking a pond, the outdoor space makes for a nice area for conversation; it’s nestled among natural plantings and features a fireplace as the centerpiece. “Here, they can enjoy nearly all the senses of a northern getaway.”



◆ **FOOT STEPS:** Belgard Arbel in fossil beige, \$8/square foot, Haley Stone, belgard.com, haleystone.net. “The patio pavers were selected to allow for a natural feel, but to be functional and usable,” Youngblood explains.

◆ **SIMPLE SALVIA:** “Blue salvia blooms throughout summer — and it’s forgiving, if you miss a watering,” Youngblood says. Tellys, tellys.com.



◆ **FIRE D UP:** A hammered copper fire pit (like the one in the top-of-page photo), \$320, Target, metro-area stores, target.com. “Consider lighting effects from items like a fire pit when designing a space. Include elements that are visually strong and can then become nighttime focal points,” Youngblood suggests.

PLANTER'S PUNCH

Down the garden paths and up the walkways we go with insights from some of our favorite garden and landscape experts



arrangements. **Plant Palette:** Pink petunias, hot-pink geraniums, and lime-green sweet potato vines. **5.** These pots (at a Birmingham home) enjoy full sun, which makes them thrive, says Wilberding. **Plant Palette:** White mandavillas, hot-pink petunias, and trailing grass. **6.** This Bloomfield home features front-porch sun. **Plant Palette:** Red mandavillas, petunias, coleus, and trailing dark-red sweet potato vine.



POTS 'N' PATIOS:

1. The sunniest place in this newly built Birmingham home is the front entrance; here, these pots thrive, says Colleen Wilberding of Beverly Hills-based Pretty Pots. **Plant Palette:** Large-leaf banana plant, sun-tolerant New Guinea impatiens, pink million belle petunias, and lime-green licorice trailing greens. **2.** These urns/arrangements, by Wilberding, go well with this farmhouse-style home in Birmingham. **Plant Palette:** Blueish hydrangea, variegated ivy, pussy willow, and flowering blossoms. colleen@prettypotsandpaths.com

3. Cathy Rosenhaus, of Garden Designs (she's also a designer for Goldner Walsh in Pontiac), designed this sunken courtyard that features bluestone and rugged black granite block. Working with installer Derek Spurlock, she chose black granite to create contrast with the bluestone and fond du lac wall. **Plant Palette:** Masses of 'Rio' City Line hydrangea, Japanese maple, cut leaf Japanese maple, huge cabbages, boxwood, arborvitae, and pachysandra. iamgardendesigns.com **4.** This Tudor in Birmingham charms with Wilberding



DIVINE DESIGN: 7. Curb appeal and privacy were the goals here, recall the experts at English Gardens. A decorative privacy fence with a gate leads to an enclosed backyard space, and makes a nice backdrop for a colorful entrance garden. englishgardens.com **8. & 10.** Once a working farm and now a personal residence, this Metamora property still features old barns and a silo. The landscape design's intent? "To continue with the timeless feel," says Ryan Youngblood of R. Youngblood & Co. in Rochester. Masonry stone columns, horse board fencing, and cedar pergolas help to meld areas. The designer added "a bit of the unexpected," he explains, like an oversized chipped gravel courtyard with locust trees planted on a grid and rusted spheres. He selected hydrangea, warden yews, serviceberry, and magnolias to round out the space. ryoungblood.com (See more of Youngblood's work on the opening pages of this section.) **9.** Working with English Gardens designers, the homeowners here expanded the use of their backyard by creating a patio for cooking, entertaining, and relaxing. **11.** The goal of Davisburg's Zaremba & Co. was to fashion a casual outdoor retreat at this Bloomfield Hills home. The results? Magic ... with white pine and Norway spruce that create an evergreen backdrop, separating a more formal area. Dragon's blood sedum pops from within boulders, while mazus reptans poke from 7-foot-long Canadian limestone slabs. zarembaandco.com



INDOOR BLOOMS

Welcome Mother Nature in with these petal-inspired objects, from small soaps and wallpapers to lighting and dishware

1 PATCH BATCH:

Organic beauty products made with items from the garden. Rose leaf bath tea, \$12; flower essence, \$26, gardenapothecary.com.

2 TO THE POINT:

Elizabeth Bradley Home's Blooms Collection pansy pillow features pretty posies in needlepoint, \$395, elizabethbradleyhome.com.

3 BLUE BLOOMS:

Daisy Capiz pendant, \$129, Pier 1 Imports, metro-area stores, pier1.com.

4 PEONY POP:

Peony soap with peony extract, l'Occitane, metro-area stores, loccitane.com.

5 PETALED

PILLOW: Elizabeth Bradley Home's Blooms Collection anemone pillow features pretty posies in needlepoint, \$395, elizabethbradleyhome.com.

6 WALLFLOWER:

Peony wallpaper by Kimberly Lewis, \$195/roll, is a summery splash from a creative boutique wallpaper house. kimberlylewis.myshopify.com.

7 BATH OF ROSES:

The Tisty Tosty bath bomb, \$6.35, is an enchanting additive, LUSH, metro-area stores, lush.com.

8 PURE PORCELAIN:

Corbett's "Lily" has porcelain flowers, scone, \$738, pendant, \$5,988, Russell Hardware, Bloomfield Hills; Advance Plumbing & Heating, Walled Lake; Herald Wholesale, Troy; Great Lakes Electric, Auburn Hills; and Pine Tree Lighting, Lake Orion.

9 WHAT A DISH:

Kate Spade's "Rose Park," \$139/setting; coffee pot, \$270; cup, \$38. Order through the Kate Spade store, Troy.

10 APRON ABLOOM:

Poppy apron, \$25. Several metro-area stores carry the Charles Viancin line — listed at charlesviancin.com.



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1 HAPPILY EVER AFTER: Corbett's "Enchanted" LED seems fairy tale-like, \$5,738, Russell Hardware, Bloomfield Hills; Advance Plumbing & Heating, Walled Lake; Herald Wholesale, Troy; Great Lakes Electric, Auburn Hills; and Pine Tree Lighting, Lake Orion.

2 CANDLE CAN-DO: Corbett's "Dresden," \$1,948, epitomizes modern elegance — note the cluster of candlesticks that suggest crocuses. See above for shop info.

3 GREAT GREENS: Inessa Garden indoor/outdoor decorative pillow, \$30, JCPenney, metro-area stores, jcp.com.

4 COOL WHITES: Royal Velvet cool white print, oblong, decorative pillow, \$52, JCPenney, metro-area stores, jcp.com.

5 LOVELY LILY: Corbett's "Tate" is inspired by the wispy curve of a Calla lily, \$375, Russell Hardware, Bloomfield Hills; Advance Plumbing & Heating, Walled Lake; Herald Wholesale, Troy; Great Lakes Electric, Auburn Hills; and Pine Tree Lighting, Lake Orion.

6 ESSENTIAL ESSENCE: Garden Apothecary presents small-batch organic bath and beauty products made with items right out of the garden. Essence of lime peel + neroli organic perfume (a best-seller), \$26, gardenapothecary.com.

7 VINTAGE STYLE: Bobbin chair, in "Banana Green," \$499.95, Pier 1 Imports, metro-area stores, pier1.com.

8 GREETINGS!: Artist Janie Fleckenstein, of Bloomfield Hills, captured the beauty of the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in paintings that are showcased on these greeting cards, \$29.95/eight (\$4.95/ea.), Ford House gift shop, Grosse Pointe Shores, fordhouse.org.



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OUTDOOR ROOMS

Create comfy — and stylish — outside spaces with these summer essentials

1 PILLOW PERFECT:

Sunbrella "Zara Sunset" indoor/outdoor fabric, \$67, Calico Corners, metro-area stores, sunbrella.com, calicocorners.com.

2 RAISING THE BAR:

Chatham bar, large, \$2,374, Pottery Barn, metro-area stores, potterybarn.com.

3 STAY AWAY:

Hillhouse Naturals eucalyptus mint mosquito repellent hanging candle, 7oz., \$19, Detroit Garden Works, Sylvan Lake.

4 SERENADE:

Treasure Garden Serenata umbrella light and music player in bronze and silver shadow, \$185/ea., metro-area stores, englishgardens.com.

5 DO NOT DISTURB:

Hillhouse Naturals geranium mosquito repellent candle in hypertufa pot, 32 oz., \$58, Detroit Garden Works, Sylvan Lake.

6 BE SEATED:

Safavieh Dragon Coin garden stool in orange, \$200, kohls.com.

7 OUT OF SIGHT:

Hose holder "Caludron" by Cobra Co., in solid copper, \$300, avantgardendecor.com.

8 GROWING UP:

Vertical garden bed, \$300, Crate and Barrel, Somerset Collection, Troy.

9 FOUNTAIN FINESSE:

Arles wall fountain, \$2,495, Restoration Hardware, rh.com.

10 WALK ON WATER:

Visions IV coral reef/water rug, 5 by 8 feet, \$1,075, Hagopian, metro-area stores, originalhagopian.com.



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