

All the Dirt

A periodical for friends and clients of **Landscape Associates**

Summer edition

Gardening is a matter of your enthusiasm holding up until your back gets used to it.

Author unknown



Summer Special

Sign up by August 1st for landscape maintenance, renovation, or new landscaping (minimum \$2000 contract) and receive a free, colorful container plant for your patio or entrance—a \$75 value.

Browse or call

Browse our web site to learn more about our professional team and services. Take a guided tour of our landscape designs, ask your landscaping questions, schedule an estimate or contact a member of our team.

www.landscape-associates.com
(920) 337-4915



Protect your trees during construction

Mature trees, prize specimens and trees of sentimental value are worth protecting during a construction project—and it's not always easy to do so. Trees may take a direct hit, creating a wound that depletes the tree's resources and makes an opening for insects and disease. Worse damage, however, can be inflicted on the part of the tree you don't see—its roots.

Since roots are the plant's main nutrient and water source and anchor it in place, root damage will harm the plant. How much so depends on the species, extent of damage and overall health of the tree. We can help assess a tree's likelihood of survival and ways to protect it.

Here are some tips for safeguarding plants:

Map & mark the construction zone.

Ask your builder or architect to mark areas where heavy equipment will be used, where soil will be permanently added or removed and to what depth, & where fill and building materials will be stockpiled.

Take stock of trees on the site. Trees that are over-mature, display poor form, lean over future buildings, or have severe disease or insect problems should be removed. Mark trees that need pruning to make room for future structures and construction equipment.



Determine trees to be saved. Note how each tree fits into the future landscape. Consider ways that a utility line, driveway or even the location of a building might be shifted to accommodate a tree.

Protect trees you plan to save. Map the location of trees to be protected and the safest route to the building zone. Fence and mark plants you want to save. Provide trees as much space as possible to protect delicate root systems. Make sure workers know that nothing in this area is to be stored, cut, or in any way disturbed.

Prepare plants for disruption. Make sure trees are healthy before construction begins. Water if rainfall is inadequate. Fertilize if testing or symptoms show they are nutrient stressed. Prune branches that are dead, diseased, hazardous or detrimental to the plant's natural form.

Protect and preserve the soil for future tree planting. Apply at least six inches of wood chips over areas that will bear traffic or store materials during construction. Wood chips will prevent soil from getting too compacted in new landscaped areas.

continued on next page

Design, construction, maintenance and renovation for homes & businesses—always, with nature in mind



Landscape Associates

Unique design, with nature in mind

2385 Lawrence Drive
DePere, WI 54115
www.landscape-associates.com

Check inside for Summer Special!

Landscape Associates serves homeowners and businesses throughout northeast Wisconsin. We are ready to help with design, plant choice and installation, hardscaping and maintenance. **Call (920) 337-4915**

Protecting your trees during construction, *continued*

Monitor throughout construction. Inspect trees periodically. Water regularly—never let plants become water-stressed. If damage occurs, begin repairs as soon as possible.

When project is done... and beyond. Look for signs of plant damage or stress. It may take several years for severe problems to appear. Careful monitoring and preventive treatment, e.g., watering, may help minimize damage.



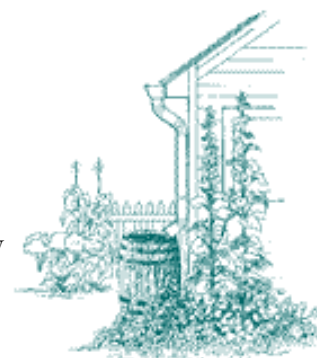
Our professional team can help evaluate and protect your plants.

Haul out the (rain) barrel!

Want to conserve water? Reduce your water bill? Cut down on stormwater runoff pollution? There is one answer to all these questions that is inexpensive, easy to install and simple to operate and maintain: the rain barrel.

Rain barrels collect and store rainwater from rooftops to use later for lawn and garden watering. This water would normally pour off your roof or flow through roof gutter downspouts and become stormwater runoff. Water collected from rain barrels is not considered drinkable water—roofs can contain bacteria and other disease-causing organisms from bird and other animal waste. This chlorine-free “graywater” source can be a boon to your landscape, however.

Contemporary rain barrel systems generally rely on an outlet from a gutter that flows into a screened barrel. The barrel, ideally elevated a bit off the ground, has a spigot at the bottom from which to fill containers or attach a hose. Buy one at garden or hardware stores, home improvement centers—or try your hand at making one.



To learn more, read the University of Wisconsin Extension’s rain barrel information at: <http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs>