

INVEST IN YOUR LANDSCAPING

The Return is Worth It!



- \$ Did you know that some believe an attractive landscape can add 15% to the perceived value of a home?
- \$ Is your mature landscaping aging gracefully?
- \$ Does it look neat and attractive, like someone takes the time to lovingly prune the plantings each year?
- \$ Or does it look old, tired and beaten down?
- \$ Have you been less than attentive over the decades leaving a neglected appearance?
- \$ Is it overgrown to the point you can't see your windows and you have to turn sideways to walk to your front door?
- \$ Does it look good with the exception of one area or one plant that needs attention?

Mature and attractive landscaping is highly desirable by home buyers and helps set South Riding as well as your individual home apart from competing communities. There are tons of articles and studies on the internet spouting impressive statistics about the positive impact quality landscaping can have on property values, individually and community wide. Alex Niemiera, Extension Horticulturist with the Department of Horticulture at Virginia Tech, published a paper entitled "The Effect of Landscape Plants on Perceived Home Value" checking the theory that an attractive landscape adds 15% to the perceived value of a home. The paper is available in entirety at pubs.ext.vt.edu.

Take a step outside, look at your landscaping objectively and take the next best steps. Call a professional (many advertise in this magazine), visit a local nursery to meet with a landscape designer, talk to your 'green thumb' neighbors, check out videos on the internet, the resources are endless for inspiration.

