



Inspiring Gardens

Find inspiration for your own landscaping project by viewing beautiful yards on a bus tour.

WHEN YOU PLAN A NEW GARDEN, you may have trouble visualizing how all of the elements will come together. Walking through an exceptional garden can provide the inspiration you need to select your landscaping style. Hearing the sound of water splashing in a fountain, seeing how the light washes across a flagstone patio, and appreciating the variety and beauty of the plants as the garden transforms in the evening light can help you decide what you want in your garden. Metamorphosis Landscaping Design and Construction offers an annual Garden Tour for a select group of prospective clients so they have the opportunity to experience a variety of gardens for just this kind of creative inspiration.

Every spring, Metamorphosis Landscaping rents a full-size passenger bus and provides a tour of six to eight of its clients' homes. Metamorphosis Landscaping owner Michael Galli believes that people who experience extraordinary gardens make better decisions as they select each component for their own landscape projects. Michael says, "This outing offers guests an opportunity to learn about the important components of a garden, see the quality of construction they can expect from

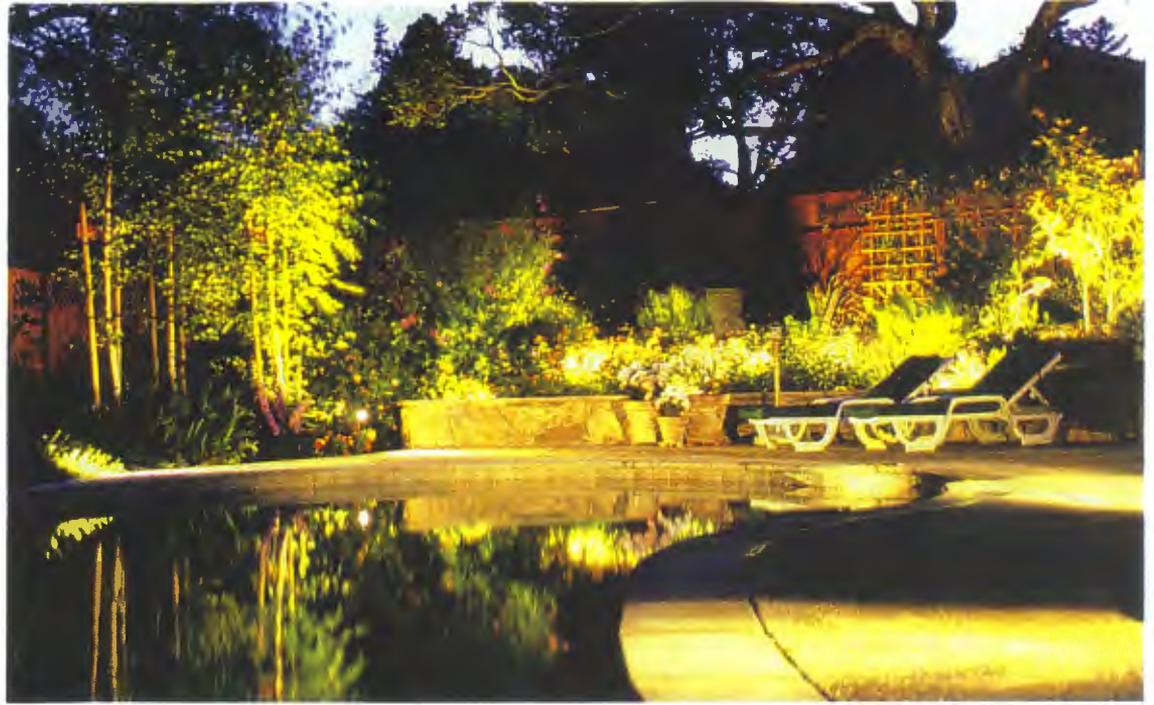
Metamorphosis Landscaping, and get a sense of the themes they like." The gardens on the tour range from small to large and show different stages of maturation, from newly constructed to over 15 years old, so guests can see how the gardens develop over time.

Seeing Metamorphosis Landscaping's older gardens is a testament to the company's blend of Old World craftsmanship with today's technology. "The best gardens I've designed and built incorporate and reflect the owner's taste and the style of the home, and flow with the terrain of the property," Michael explains. As the guests travel to the various homes, he points out how a design aspect enhances the property, and how engineering must-haves disappear in a beautifully planned and constructed garden.

With the creative inspiration from the Metamorphosis Landscaping Garden Tour, you can better visualize the personal paradise you create in your yard—one exciting home garden at a time.

To upgrade your landscaping or learn more about Metamorphosis Landscaping Design and Construction's spring special, call (650) 583-5309. Garden Tour guests are chosen from those who participate in the spring special. THM





Divine Design

A local landscaping company combines Old World craftsmanship with New World technology for exceptional style.

IMAGINE DRINKING A CUP OF COFFEE ON A PEACEFUL SUNDAY morning in a tranquil oasis of sights and sounds, or enjoying a warm evening with friends and family in a magnificently illuminated garden. These are just two of the many delightful experiences that homeowners can enjoy in an outdoor living area.

When it's time to turn that dream into reality, Bay Area homeowners turn to Metamorphosis Landscaping, founded over 20 years ago by Michael Galli. Metamorphosis

Landscaping is a landscaping design and construction company known for its stellar construction skills and its specialty for creating inviting outdoor living areas.

"My vision was to offer unique designs and high-quality construction services, and to provide my clients with easy-to-maintain, affordable outdoor living areas that fit their lifestyles," Michael explains. As a young boy, Michael admired an elderly Italian-American mason who was the embodiment of Old World craftsmanship. Michael learned from the mason that craftsmanship is the cornerstone of any quality service and modeled his level of service and attention to detail after his mentor.

This combination of technology and art is incorporated into the outdoor living areas created by Metamorphosis Landscaping. The process starts with a detailed plan created with the company's sophisticated computer software program, which uses the most current landscape design software to provide an intricate blueprint that surpasses the industry standard.

The next step is for Metamorphosis Landscaping to help homeowners choose the specific features and products to meet their family's needs. Selecting the appropriate products is crucial to getting a project that fits the homeowner's lifestyle, Michael says. For example, by using water-saving sprinklers, rain sensors, and advanced irrigation controls, homeowners can save over 40 percent in water usage compared with standard irrigation systems. Other important details include using



As seen in **TODAY'S HOME**
LIVING SPACES • HOME IMPROVEMENT • LIFESTYLES

PHOTOGRAPH BY GARY SPAN



Misters are one of the many features to choose from for an outdoor living area.

the most appropriate and cost-effective products for well-engineered retaining walls for homeowners whose yards are on a slope.

And when it comes to construction details, Michael's years of experience will ensure that the landscaping elements will stand the test of time. For those who are planning a deck for extra living space, Metamorphosis Landscaping bolts the main girders of a deck, and the deck surface is attached with stainless steel screws so the new decking will be secure and look newly built for years to come.

Once all of the practical selections are made, homeowners can choose finishing touches—such as outdoor speakers, water features, and fire pits—to personalize their outdoor living areas, and they can rely on Metamorphosis Landscaping for clever

solutions and ideas. Michael suggests an outdoor “air-conditioning” feature to cool a patio by 20 degrees with the flick of a switch so homeowners in warmer areas can spend more time enjoying their outdoor living spaces in the heat of the summer.

The most requested garden item is outdoor lighting so homeowners can easily enjoy their beautiful gardens at night. With the advent of LED fixtures and computerized dimming systems, Metamorphosis Landscaping can create a lighting system that brings excitement and beauty

to the yard while reducing energy consumption and improving system functionality.

Homeowners who want to create an outdoor living space can find inspiration by looking at other outdoor designs created by Metamorphosis Landscaping on its annual Garden Tour. The company gives a tour of Metamorphosis Landscaping's finished projects for a selected group of 50 potential clients so they can see new and matured gardens, view the quality construction, and find ideas for their outdoor living spaces.

*For more information about Metamorphosis Landscaping and the annual Garden Tour, call the company at (650) 583-5309 or visit the Web site at www.metamorphosislandscape.com. **THM***