

# THE CONNECTICUT DESIGN GUIDE 2022

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FROM THE EDITORS OF  
CTC&G

DESIGNING YOUR DREAM HOUSE | EMBRACING THE OUTDOORS | YOUR SMART HOME  
DREAMING OF KITCHENS AND BATHS | READY, SET, DECORATE! | SHOPPING IN STYLE



# EMBRACING THE OUTDOORS

As we continue to extend our living spaces into the great outdoors, it's truer than ever that smart planning can help keep you enjoying your outdoor "rooms" for years to come. Experts in the field chime in on how to achieve landscape design success.



**FEATURING:**

Louis Fusco Landscape Architects  
McArdle's Florist and Garden Center  
Walpole Outdoors





## WHAT'S AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT FOR A CLASSIC CONNECTICUT GARDEN?

“Visual rhythm. The most captivating properties are not visible all at once, but reveal themselves as you move through various spaces leading you to a stunning view or special private space.” —Nancy King, *Seventy Acres Landscape Architecture & Design*, [seventyacres.com](http://seventyacres.com)

“GARDENS IN CONNECTICUT CAN VARY IN STYLE, SIZE AND SETTING. BUT ONE COMMON ELEMENT IN OUR VERNACULAR IS STONE. IF YOU DON'T ALREADY HAVE A STONE WALL ON YOUR PROPERTY, YOU COULD EASILY MAKE A CASE TO ADD ONE.” —Rosalia Sanni, *Rosalia Sanni Design*, [rosaliasanni.com](http://rosaliasanni.com)

“CONSIDER THE ENTIRE YEAR WHEN DESIGNING. ADDING STRUCTURED PLANTINGS WILL MAKE OUR LONG WINTERS MORE INTERESTING!” —James Doyle, *James Doyle Design Associates*, [jdda.com](http://jdda.com)



## NEW PROJECT? FIRST STEPS

“Listen to your clients and deliver great design based on their programmatic needs. Give them more than they could ever have imagined!” —James Doyle, *James Doyle Design Associates*, [jdda.com](http://jdda.com)

“THE FIRST THING I ALWAYS ASK IS ‘HOW DO YOU WANT TO USE YOUR LANDSCAPE AND WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WITH IT?’ CREATING THE PROGRAM AND WISH LIST TOGETHER IS A KEY FIRST STEP, AND THEN THINGS START TO CLICK INTO PLACE FROM THERE.” —Rosalia Sanni, *Rosalia Sanni Design*, [rosaliasanni.com](http://rosaliasanni.com)

“A clear wish list from our clients always drives the design program. Dreaming big in the master plan phase allows our clients to envision how they will use the property now and in the future. There is nothing better than holding a property space for a future wedding tent or designing a swimming pool sun shelf that will be perfect for future grandchildren.” —Brook Clark, *Seventy Acres Landscape Architecture & Design*, [seventyacres.com](http://seventyacres.com)

## TOP 5 TIPS FOR A “GREEN” GARDEN

By carefully considering what you plant and how you tend your garden, you can support local wildlife, attract birds and butterflies, and benefit more of the ecosystem than you can see right in front of you. Here, Nature Conservancy ([nature.org](http://nature.org)) conservation ecologist Dr. Deborah Landau shares her best tips for a garden that's beautiful *and* beneficial.

- 1 Focus on native plants.** Using flowers and plants that are native to your area will attract and support the butterflies and birds that have evolved to pollinate them. Your native plant society ([ct-botanical-society.org](http://ct-botanical-society.org)) will have a list of what's best. Look for native plants that flower at different times, so there will always be something available for pollinators. For instance, violets are great for early spring blooms, while asters will bloom in late summer. And, you can never go wrong with planting native species of milkweed, as migrating monarch butterflies rely on them.
- 2 Plant a garden that's any size—small to large.** Even a tiny garden patch can help local pollinators like bees and butterflies, as well as a wide array of other insects like beetles and ants that are equally important to the ecosystem. Besides being a critical food source, your garden also supports these species at all stages of life, such as providing a place for them to lay eggs, hide from predators and survive the winter.
- 3 Tolerate some weeds and avoid chemicals.** Dandelions provide an early spring pollinator meal before other flowers appear. By avoiding the use of chemicals like weed killers and pesticides, you're protecting a host of others that might otherwise be killed by them, including beneficial fungi, bacteria, and a huge network of underground living things that help the plants growing above them.
- 4 Go a little wild.** You can save yourself a lot of time and energy down the road by replacing a patch of your lawn with a native garden. Once it's established, a native garden doesn't need to be mowed, rarely needs to be watered, doesn't require any chemical treatment, and will provide you with beautiful blooms and interesting visitors to enjoy.
- 5 Take it easy at season's end.** Leaving flowers, stalks and leaves in place provides shelter for helpful insects over the winter. Rake autumn leaves into piles or move them to one side of the yard, but then let them be. Fireflies overwinter as larvae in leaf litter: If you want them lighting up your yard next summer, don't rake them away!



# OUTSIDE INSPIRATIONS

CREATE THE OUTDOOR SPACE OF YOUR DREAMS



**ALL FIRED UP**  
Become the ultimate grill master with Wolf's 36-inch outdoor gas grill. The stainless-steel unit can be built-in or used as a free-standing cart and boasts 25,000 BTUs. Two powerful halogen lights illuminate the grilling surface for nighttime use. *Clarke, clarkeliving.com, subzero-wolf.com.*

**KEEPIN' IT GREEN**  
Unlike synthetic chemical pesticides, Arber's new line of plant wellness products for indoor and outdoor plants is made from organic biologicals—naturally occurring elements like plant extracts, microbes and bacteria proven to prevent disease and unwanted pests. *growarber.com.*



**SOFTTEST SEATS**  
The Trilogie ottoman grouping was designed by Sacha Lalik for Roche Bobois. These fanciful pieces are upholstered in Missoni Home and Sunrise fabrics. *Greenwich, roche-bobois.com.*



**THE GARDEN GATE**  
Artisan Sandra Vlock custom designed this gate, incorporating an apple-tree motif to pay homage to the pastoral property of its CT home. Made-to-order architectural elements, including decorative gates and sculptural garden screens, can be created in a variety of metal finishes with the option of powder coating to match any specified color. *Studio Vlock, studiiovlock.com.*



**GAME ON!**  
Suitable for indoor or outdoor use, the backgammon coffee table by James De Wulf is cast from carbon fiber-reinforced concrete, and sealed and waxed for a unique luster. *jamesdewulf.com.*

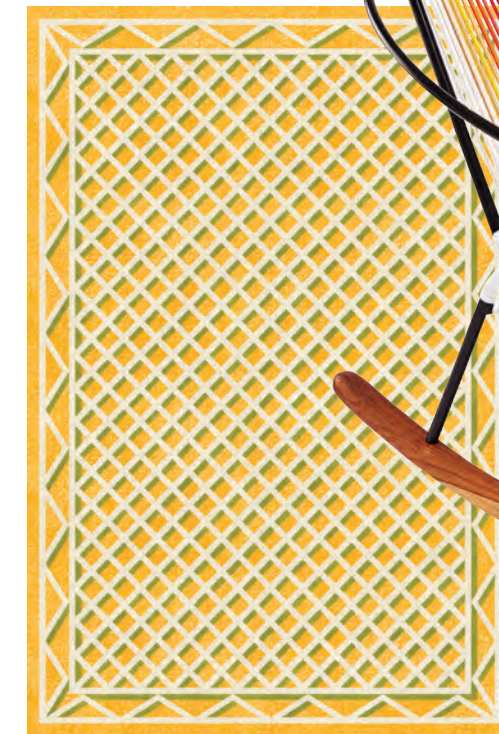
**JOIN THE FAN CLUB**

Oomph and Big Ass Fans combined creative and engineering forces to present the Haiku fan in Oomph's signature lacquered colors. Choose from Oomph's fun and sophisticated palette—shown here in Knockout Orange—or design your own in a custom shade. The smart fan features environmental sensors and can be controlled via an app and voice integration. *Oomph, Greenwich, oomphhome.com.*



**NOT YOUR GRANNY'S ROCKER**

The colorful Mamatoco Rocker is handcrafted for MoMA in Santa Marta, Colombia, by artisans employing traditional weaving techniques using the nontraditional material of PVC cording. *store.moma.org.*



**STYLE UNDERFOOT**

Designed by Caspari, the tufted Trellis rug from Pierre Frey is made entirely of high-performance outdoor polypropylene fibers. *D&D, pierrefrey.com.*



**ALL THE BUZZ**

Inspired by the beehive, these lightweight and weather-resistant pots—available in six sizes—are beautiful in a group filled with plants or as a stand-alone garden ornament. All Pennoyer Newman planters are made of pummeled marble and rock mixed with resin and handcrafted in New York City. *NYDC, pennoyernewman.com.*

**AMERICAN GOTHIC**

McKinnon and Harris has reissued its classic Gothic-style Benedict Badminton bench, which was first introduced in 1991. Handcrafted in aluminum, the bench is an extravagantly detailed statement of artistry and craftsmanship for the garden. *D&D, mckinnonharris.com.*

