



Winter 2009 / 2010

Spotlight on: Pavers

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Defensible Space

Winter is a great time to clear the brush, debris and needles around your property to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire loss.

If you need help with your firewise cleanup, the professionals at Vicente Landscaping are certified in the creation of defensible space.

Defensible space can mean the difference between minor damage and total loss.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!

The popularity of interlocking concrete pavers is no accident. In a driveway, patio or walkway, concrete pavers can tie a home to its setting better than any other hardscape material. Paver colors are warm and earthy and can be planned to match or blend with native rock and the house facade.

Concrete pavers are available in a variety of shapes, sizes and textures and can be combined to provide a custom fit in almost any area. Paver surfaces can resemble stone, brick, a cobbled street and even travertine or granite.

The attractive appearance of a paver patio or driveway can provide a high-end look without a high-end price and will increase the value of your home.

Not just pretty, a surface created with concrete pavers is strong and extremely durable. The interlocking design of a paver surface creates remarkable load bearing capacity because the weight is spread over a large area. In addition, joints in a paver driveway relieve pressure and allow the driveway surface to move with, rather than resist, freeze-thaw cycles.



The properly installed, finished paver patio or drive should last 40 years or more. This makes concrete pavers a cost effective and aesthetically pleasing alternative to other hardscape materials.

Did You Know?

In our area, it's best to wait until late February or March to prune your fruit trees and roses. By that time, most risk of a hard freeze has passed and it's usually safe to prune.

Planting for Winter Interest

Is your winter yard looking barren and bleak? Some selective planting can provide an easy solution.

When designing a yard for winter interest, evergreen trees and shrubs are a good place to start. Evergreens will anchor your winter landscape and provide structure and texture to your yard in every season.

Not all evergreen trees are green. Try to select an evergreen with foliage in a different color than neighboring plants in your yard. Select an Austrian Pine for dark green foliage, Leyland Cypress for an emerald green or Blue Spruce for a beautiful gray-blue hue.

Deciduous trees can be added with an eye toward

selecting a tree with beautiful bark or an interesting silhouette.

Evergreen shrubs like Oregon Grape, Rosemary or Boxwood can provide some nice winter color when mixed in your gardens of annuals and perennials. Some evergreen bushes like Winterberry and Holly sport berries to brighten your winter landscape. Cuttings of these plants are also popular as holiday decorations.



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**Waterwise Plant of
the Month**



The Arizona Cypress (*cupressus arizonica*) is a fast-growing evergreen tree which tolerates hot, dry conditions and thrives with minimal care. The foliage ranges from blue-green to gray. The tree can grow to 40 feet tall and 20 feet wide and requires little pruning. For best results, plant this tree in full sun.

*Happy New Year
from all of us at*
Vicente Landscaping

*Best wishes for a new year filled with joy, peace
and happiness.*