Landscaping: Improving the Human Condition

Yvette Goodiel, UF/IFAS Extension Martin County
Florida Master Gardener Conference, October 21, 2013
Session 1, 1:00
Objectives

• Review environmental, social, and economic benefits of trees and landscaping
• Learn how landscaping benefits children
• Understand how landscaping can reduce crime
• Identify the role of landscaping in strengthening community ties
• Discuss some ways we can bring these benefits to our neighborhoods
Environmental Benefits: Water Quality

Model home LID landscape design at Madera community in Gainesville. Designed by Glenn Acomb Associates, Inc.
Environmental Benefits:
Water Quality
Environmental Benefits: 
Resiliency
Environmental Benefits: Resiliency
Environmental Benefits:
Buffering the effects of development
Health & Safety Benefits:
Air quality, water quality, water flow

Photo: Theresa Watkins, UF/IFAS
Social Benefits:
Neighborhood social ties
Social Benefits:
Neighborhood social ties
Social Benefits:
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Social Benefits:
Neighborhood social ties
Social Benefits:
Reduced mental fatigue and aggression
Social Benefits:
Ability to cope with challenges
Economic Benefits
Healthy Child Development: Creative Play and Learning
Healthy Child Development: Concentration and self-discipline
Healthy Child Development: Concentration and self-discipline
Crime Reduction:
Does vegetation promote crime?
Where would you feel safer?
Crime Reduction
Buildings with more vegetation had fewer crimes overall.

# of crimes overall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity of vegetation</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>High</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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Crime Reduction
Signs of Life: Nature preschools
Signs of Life: Greening of Detroit

Photo source: http://greeningofdetroit.com/
Signs of Life: Community gardens
Taking it to the streets:
Start a community garden
Taking it to the streets:
Promote “biophilic design”
Taking it to the streets:
Go forth and plant!

Photo: Theresa Watkins, UF/IFAS
Taking it to the streets:
Picture a “nature-rich” future
Photo Credits

• UF/IFAS Florida-friendly Landscape Program (http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/lowimpactdev.htm)
• UF/IFAS File Photos
• University of Illinois Landscape & Human Health Laboratory (http://lhhil.illinois.edu/)
References


Each of the above articles are available at www.lhhl.uiuc.edu


• [http://www.biophilicdesign.net/](http://www.biophilicdesign.net/)