The Total Package

SLS Landscaping offers every service you need for your outdoor living space under one roof.

by LIZ HUNTER

An outdoor living project can take many forms. It might begin with a patio, then a pergola or roof might be added for shade; the following year the owners might decide an outdoor kitchen space would be beneficial, and perhaps they could even fit a pool down the road. It would be a headache to contact multiple companies for every piece of the puzzle.

For this reason—and many more—SLS Landscaping is the obvious choice for designing and installing outdoor living elements. Founded in 1992 by owner Sam Waddell, this premier design/build and maintenance company has a staff of fully licensed and degree professionals who offer the newest features in the landscaping and hardscaping industry. Now, SLS is adding a new service to its roster—pool construction—to continue its tradition of excellence.

"SLS Landscaping has grown through the years and we have continued to offer additional services to meet the demands of our clients," says Waddell. "Our architects and designers have designed many pools over the years as a part of our complete outdoor environment and adding the pool construction division provides us the ability to offer that service under one roof and company name."

Waddell says he has chosen to work with custom gunite (concrete) pools because of their quality and reliability. "By offering custom gunite pools, this allows our designers the flexibility to offer our clients that custom size, shape and depth that best fits our clients' needs and wants. Also, we can provide the amenities and pool finish that fits our clients' lifestyles."

The pool designers approach each project individually, discussing a client's wants, needs and budget, he says. The site must also be reviewed, identifying any potential problems and coming up with solutions. Designers use their knowledge of design principals, construction, horticulture and installation experience to present a design concept to the client, showing the functionality of all aspects of the pool and surrounding environment.

"When we prepare a plan for a pool and outdoor environment we take many aspects into consideration such as how the client will use the outdoor environment. Are there young children in the home or will the pool be used by primarily adults? Do they entertain a lot or are they looking for a smaller intimate space? Sun angle and exposure can determine placement of a pool or the need for a pavilion to escape from the summer sun. Will the client do a lot of outdoor cooking and will they need counter space for eating and entertaining? These are a few of the components we consider when planning a pool and outdoor environment," Waddell says.

After learning about how the pool will be used, SLS designers will recommend some amenities to add to the pool. "Pool trends today include custom waterfalls of all sizes, sun shelves, deep water swim outs, LED lighting and energy-efficient pool equipment to name just a few," he says. "Elevated spas offer a gathering spot for people to have quieter conversations or just relax with spa jets to wash away the active day stresses. Water slides offer hours of fun for children or the adventurous adults. Stone waterfalls create that island getaway feel and tranquil splashing sound."

The real beauty comes in SLS's ability to bring together the big picture of an outdoor environment, ensuring that every element works together, leaving no detail out. "We can design the entire outdoor environment that may include a custom swimming pool with waterfall and water slide along with an outdoor kitchen complete with grill, sink, refrigerator and ice maker under a pavilion with recessed lights, ceiling fan and fireplace," Waddell says. "The landscape will be completed with lush plantings that offer shade, color and year-round interest, along with low-voltage lighting. The plan can be phased into stages and completed over a period of time that fits our clients' budget."

All of these services are offered under one roof, with one point of contact, taking away any hassle on the part of the client. From the initial consultation through the design phase and sale, to construction and the regular follow-up maintenance, SLS Landscaping strives to not only meet, but exceed its clients' expectations on every project.

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