

## Waterscaping- A Novel Approach in Landscaping

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### Abstract

Recently, people's interest in the urban environment has increased along with the developments in living standards. Thus, the planning-design of waterscapes has started to attract more attention and the living spaces with water elements have become an indicator of fashion. A waterscape is a type of landscape in which the expanse of water is a dominant feature where planned planting of aquatic and semi-aquatic plants in and around the pool is done. Water, mankind's most important source of life, is an important element that can be included in landscape design and is a unique material in landscape planning (Burmil *et al.*, 1999).

### Introduction

A garden landscape and its components are more important as they contribute significantly to our well-being and quality of life. The art of landscape gardening was sharpened by using natural components like soil, water and air. Among them, water plays a major role as it is a multidimensional object of research that appears in various fields like environmentally, socially, financially, culturally and aesthetically. Water, mankind's most important source of life, is an important element that can be included in landscapes as they appeal to all the senses and people of all ages.

### Waterscaping?

- Endowed with the feature of being clear and transparent, clean and pure, gentle and charming, water has become an inevitable element in garden art.
- Waterscaping is a landscape in which an expanse of water is a dominant feature wherein planned planting of aquatic and semi-aquatic plants in and around the pool is done.

- This waterscape is one of the oldest art of gardening (Lingyu *et al.*, 2011)



### Significance of waterscape:

Water has always maintained its place as one of the most important elements devised from past to present

1. Waterscaping serves as an attractive spatial component as the flexibility of water attracts attention and arouses curiosity
2. Mobility- Water moving at different speeds with nice sounds is a dominant element that adds life to space
3. Microclimate- Waterscaping helps to create a microclimate by cooling the local atmosphere, especially in a heavily urban area
4. Waterscaping plays an effective role in providing the functional and aesthetic requirements
5. The aesthetic purposes of the water are divided into five, which are Visual, Auditory, Psychological, Tactile and Cooling purposes

### Benefits:

- Provide a relaxing atmosphere
- Add negative ions to the environment
- Promote backyard ecosystem
- Helps to improve the environment
- Promotes social well-being
- Healing psychological effects (Noise barrier, changing climate etc.)

- Decreases mental fatigue (Lingyu *et al.*, 2011)

### Best water garden in the world

- 1. Stanway House and Fountain, Gloucestershire, United Kingdom:** This 18th-century garden was probably designed by British landscape gardener Charles Bridgeman and is home to the highest fountain in Britain, at 300 feet.
- 2. Rashtrapati Bhavan water garden, Delhi:** Inaugurated in February 2006, the Musical Garden was President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's initiative. The Musical Garden has three large water fountains demonstrating digital electronics, electromagnetism, hydrodynamics and hydrostatics. The music is digitized and the audio system is fed through a computerized program controller.
- 3. Brindavan Garden, Mysore:** The musical fountains are popular features of the Brindavan Gardens. The fountains are maintained by the water pressure from the dam and are operated through a controller. The musical fountain show presents a harmonized water dance accompanied by colorful lights and music.
- 4. Dal lake of Srinagar:** It is famous as a floating vegetable market, which is a prime fascination for the tourist in the valley of Kashmir.
- 5. Almatti water garden, Bijapur, Karnataka:** Famous for its musical fountain, it is based on the Mughal gardening style.
- 6. Westbury Court Garden, Gloucestershire, England:** is a Dutch water garden that remarkably survives in Britain.
- 7. The Peto Water Garden at Buscot Park, United Kingdom:** Designed by Harold Peto, the water garden at Buscot was laid out in 1904 for the 1st Lord Faringdon and is surrounded by box hedges, statues and terracotta jars.
- 8. Longstock Park, Hampshire, England:** Park of the Leckford Estate, Longstock Park's extensive water garden was created in the 1940s, comprising seven acres of garden, with over 40 different types of water lilies throughout the two acres of lake.

### Conclusion

Water is the eternal theme of the garden and is one of the important elements in the landscape. Water has vitality. The natural water could bring dynamic noise, quietness, peace and charming reflection. Water provides us with a living environment. In a public space, water is often used to organize space and attract sights. Some aquatic plants play an

important role in removing water pollutants control weed growth. Besides all these, water use provides a visual, auditory, psychological, tactile and cooling effect to the design from an aesthetic point of view.

### References

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