

# Designer from page 14D

housing and filtering system. The upper sides of this square are level with the bottom of the pond and are fitted with a steel mesh top that can be removed to allow ready access to the screen and filter so they can be changed or cleaned. The pump draws water through the screen and out a two-inch pipe to continue the cycle.

"I'm trying to create a work of art, as maintenance-free as possible. We install valves for cleaning and refill, for overflow, filters, etc."

He likes to work directly with the clients and will follow installation with maintenance, plant the pond if desired, or consult with them about the plants to use — water lilies, reeds, grasses. He has found that owners often prefer to study their ponds and waterfalls and select their personal choices. He does add "structural" plantings around each installation.

For instance, one garden I saw had yellow golden dwarf Cyprus march along the top of one group of rocks while cotoneasters, azaleas, hostas and a hydrangea are strategically planted for harmony. The feeling is quite restful. The owners can sit on their brick paver patio and view the running water while enjoying the sounds.

Another garden is reached from the side of the house on paths made of Canadian Bluestone, surrounded with slag sand that turns hard and holds the stones in place. It leads to a brick paver

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**Darren Yanke**

circle patio from which one can view the waterfalls and hear the melodies of the water — frogs are in residence and provide entertainment, as do the goldfish.

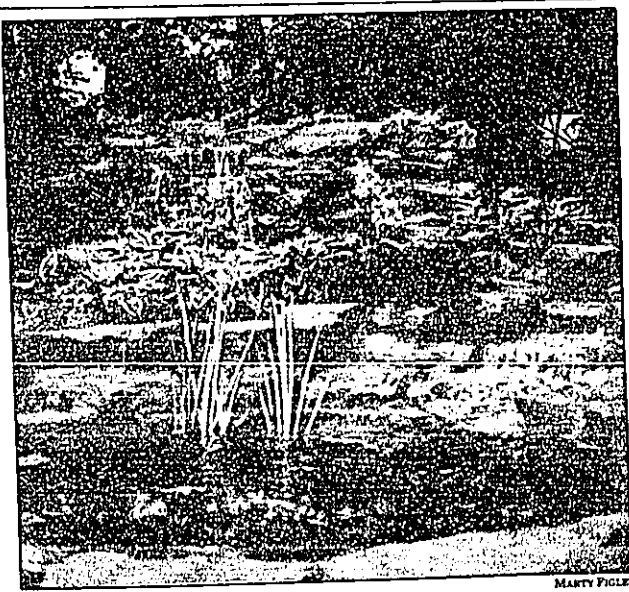
Ground covers such as lamium, sweet woodruff, pachysandra, snow-on-the-mountain, yellow archangel and red and yellow sedum add much interest, while specimen plants such as weeping cherry, Japanese maple and Harry Lauder's walking stick fit perfectly. Along one top edge a dwarf Koster blue spruce holds reign.

Still another installation is a very large design, which holds back a river embankment and contains seven cascading waterfalls that empty into a naturally existing pond. This design runs 350 gallons of water per minute and is recycled to that pond.

Yanke services Oakland and most of Wayne County. His work can be seen in cities such as Troy, Farmington Hills, Novi, Milford, Northville and Westland.

His dream?

"To build a waterfall like the largest in the world which is in South America."



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Variety: Yanke's waterfalls use different stones and plants and often can be regulated to be soft or loud.



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