

LOVELY LANDSCAPES

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Teri-lyn Greer is all about balance. In her career and her personal life, the landscape designer believes that harmony is critical to success – a conviction that is evident in the simple beauty of her work.



explains, noting that the two companies bring each other business and regularly collaborate on projects. “We complement each other. We make each other stronger.” Established in 1976, The Beaudry Group has a long history in the community and excellent reputation among clients and designers alike. Teri-lyn is a fresh addition to the group’s extended team and first collaborated with them three years ago. She is often brought on to a project for estimating and design purposes while the Beaudry team executes the project, bringing her vision to life.

“They are highly skilled at what they do,” says Teri-lyn. “It’s quality over speed, always meticulous.” When looking at a massive waterfront undertaking that the two companies completed together, it’s clear that their arrangement works. Teri-Lyn’s carefully planned layout balances a practical yet elegant stone hardscape with stunning glass panels and softer elements, including lush plants, furniture and décor. The project was executed by Beaudry with painstaking precision, working through challenging grade and elevation issues. “It was a big job, but I loved it. It has to come undone before it comes together. It’s messy, but then it’s beautiful.”



Known for creating outdoor spaces that are as beautiful as they are functional, Teri-lyn took a leap of faith in 2012 and decided to apply the same principle of balance to her home life. She resigned from her long-standing position at a busy landscape design firm, branching out on her own to create **Greer Design Group**. While leaving a full-time job at a successful landscape company was a risk, it paid off. Teri-lyn gained the flexibility and creative ownership that she was craving, and Greer Design Group is now in demand by clients across Southwestern Ontario. The company designs both corporate and residential spaces, most often creating backyard retreats in and around Halton.

While Teri-lyn owns and operates Greer Design Group independently, she works closely with the landscape design team at **The Beaudry Group** in Burlington. “It’s a good partnership,” Teri-lyn

While her style is classically influenced, often featuring uncomplicated, geometric lines and stone products in neutral tones, Teri-lyn has also created gorgeous rustic spaces and modern designs. “It’s important to understand each client’s lifestyle, and how they’ll use the space,” she explains. “I try to pull ideas out of them during our consultation, and take cues from the interior and exterior of the house.” The goal is to create a space that fits perfectly into the client’s world. “I love the process of clarifying their vision, creating a plan and seeing the excitement build for a client. I get excited, too.” Teri-lyn adds that a lot of couples have different ideas, which presents an added layer to planning. “That’s when I’m a mediator and a marriage counsellor. I can be objective and marry their styles.” She strives to create timeless spaces, asserting that less is best, and avoids trendy hardscapes that will date quickly. “It’s a better investment,” she says.

A large part of Teri-lyn’s strength as a designer is her ability to understand a project from multiple perspectives. After graduating from the Landscape Design program at Fanshawe College in London, Teri-lyn worked a number of related jobs, from garden centres to project labour and later, estimating and design. She is passionate about creating beautiful spaces that provide an escape for clients, allowing them to take a break from the chaos of everyday life. “People are busy – they need to stop and shut down, to disconnect,” she explains. “I really value calm and simplicity.”

In her downtime, Teri-lyn tackles reno projects at home – a rural horse farm that she shares with her equestrian trainer husband, Doug, and their daughter, Sydney. Family is extremely important to the designer, who often takes her daughter along to work sites. “Sydney sees client projects and wants to know why we don’t have a waterfall and a fireplace in our backyard,” she laughs, noting that she’ll get around to creating her own garden retreat one day. In the meantime, Teri-lyn is content, having achieved the professionally successful, family-friendly lifestyle that she values while making countless clients happy along the way. After all, she smiles, “Happy client, happy life!” **OH**

