

Sample Seminar Topics:

Kathleen has lectured on the following **topics** to numerous associations, industries and clubs. Topics can be customized for your particular group or interest. Please email us: info@petrodesignbuild.com for more information.

Sustainable Landscaping – Living with your Environment

Details of the many ways available for the homeowner to reduce pollution sources, conserve natural resources, benefit wildlife and reduce the maintenance of their landscapes. Emphasis will be on awareness of planning our landscapes with specifics of material selection, water dispersion methods, native plantings and maintenance practices necessary to consciously partner with our surroundings for us and future generations.

This critical and timely talk will provide the attendee with knowledge necessary to make simple changes on their own sites that will make huge differences to everyone.

The Basics of Landscape Design, Construction and Cost

This is a tailored 3-5 hour presentation primarily geared for design trade professional and is an approved CEU course for ASID/IFDA

A comprehensive presentation of the various considerations and elements of residential landscape design as it relates to interior spaces and planning. Lecture includes studies of existing site conditions, views through the house, necessary drainage considerations, and a variety of design fundamentals when planning the exterior spaces. Objectives are to provide a basic understanding of the relationship between interior and exterior design and an understanding of how the exterior spaces are an integral part of the interior design from the initial entrance through interior views, light, color, materials and environmental conditions.

Curb Appeal – Getting them in the front door.

Developed for the Real Estate professional but can be tailored for the homeowner.

What may appeal to one person may completely repel someone else. Yes, the seller took great pride in their garden but those beautiful blooming roses and bulbs might look like a costly maintenance challenge to others. From ‘must do’ to ‘would be helpful’ – learn updated techniques and refresh your knowledge in selling a home from the street.

Inside Out – Relating Garden to House

A pictorial presentation of the various considerations and elements of residential landscape design as it relates to interior spaces and planning. Seminar includes studies of existing site conditions, views through the house, necessary drainage considerations, and a variety of design fundamentals when planning the exterior spaces from.

Landscape Design and Its Effects on Architecture

Consideration of existing architectural elements when planning and designing outdoor areas is critical to achieving balance and harmony of the site. This seminar focuses on a variety of hardscape, shapes and plant materials to compliment several styles of architecture so that your landscape does not look like an *afterthought*. *Developed and presented to the National Home Builder’s Association*

Year Round Color in the Garden

Brighten a winter landscape, add interest to a woodland setting, or prolong the beauty of a garden; through the use of a variety plant material and/or ornament, year-round color can be achieved.

A Step-by-Step Approach to Landscapes

You may know what you like or dislike in a landscape, but how do you plan, budget, and install a landscape that will work for you or your whole family? This seminar provides a step-by-step approach to the specifics of landscape installation; highlighting some of the key factors most often overlooked.

The Working Person's Landscape

Landscape gardening can be a great way to relax after a hard day at work. This seminar highlights some key aspects necessary to keep this hobby from becoming a chore through tried and true garden practices, design and plantings.

Ornament in the Garden

The strong visual interest of sculpture and statuary; the motion and serenity created by water, or the accents and divisions provided by walls, boulders, gravel, gazebos, and trellises all add flavor and individuality to the garden. This seminar highlights several ways of using ornament individually and successfully in the landscape.

What Have I Done To My Yard?

For close to 40 years Kathleen has had the opportunity to observe (and photograph) what works and what doesn't in the landscape. This seminar is an *entertaining* look at several approaches to landscaping and the subsequent pitfalls. *This topic is a regular Blog of Kathleen's and a frequent Facebook Post.*

Landscape Renovation

Your landscape has matured your home and, in some cases, caused more damage than the cost of the initial landscape itself. Kathleen Litchfield of Petro Design/Build will review a variety of practical and sustainable considerations for a successful landscape renovation

The Well Organized Garden

Just as you would plan and organize your interior spaces for ease of movement and function, your exterior plan should include the organizational elements necessary to keep a potential hobby from becoming a chore. This seminar will detail many factors to consider when planning and implementing an organized landscape.

What is that Smell?

Drainage correction is one of the least expensive yet most important and effective repairs you can do to avoid hazardous exposure to molds, ensure the sale of a home, and protect your interior finishes or even the structure of your home. This seminar focuses on solutions from the top – down to ensure that your interior and exterior spaces remain dry and safe. *Presented to numerous real estate agents and a published topic*

18th Century Gardens

Today's garden styles were shaped by many noteworthy landscape designers of the 18th

century in particular. This seminar reviews the history and the emphasis of several 18th Century Garden styles and their evolution into today's landscapes.

Gardens to Inspire and Sooth the Soul

Gardens have the power to disrupt, confuse and control *or* calm and sooth. The ancient Chinese discipline of ***Feng Shui*** examines the relationship between person and place. By emphasizing how a place will be experienced emotionally and physically. This seminar focused on the partnership of person and garden rather than a means to control.

Developed for participants of Women's Retreat Weekend at Camp Letts on the Chesapeake Bay
