



PHOTO COURTESY OF CIPRIANO LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Into the Woods

A deck and encroaching woods left a Mahwah family with little space for outdoor entertaining. Basic landscaping and just a small patch of grass made it even less inspiring. The homeowners contacted Cipriano Landscape Design, where landscape architect William Moore suggested replacing the deck with a patio featuring multiple focal points so there's room and reason for guests to spread out. A table now seats eight, a retaining wall bears a top used for extra seating, and a curved stone wall partially forms a wood-burning fire pit. The patio itself is Pennsylvania bluestone with clay brick inlays and borders that match the brick veneer on the front of the home. The umbrella in the upper center of the photo marks a second seating area for the homeowners' children and their friends. In addition to providing their own space, this area draws the eye out into the yard and shows the depth of the property, says Chris Cipriano, the company's president. Landscaping softens the hard angles and provides shade. The company selectively removed a few trees and cleared underbrush, allowing room for sweeping lawn beds and new plants, including some with deer resistance closer to the woods. The plantings include two Zelkova trees; ornamental grasses such as Maiden grass and Fountain grass; shrubs such as 'Knock Out' roses, boxwood, Spirea 'Gold Flame', and Hydrangea 'Nikko Blue'; and perennials such as Shasta daisy, Stella D'oro daylily, and creeping sedum.

SOURCES: patio and landscaping design and installation, Cipriano Landscape Design in Ridgewood; furniture, homeowner. **DNJ**

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