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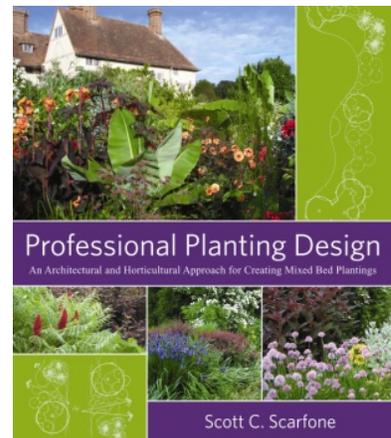
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Professional Planting Design Book written by Principal at Oasis Design Group Wins Award

BALTIMORE—A professional planting design book written by the founder of a top landscape architecture firm in Baltimore earned a Merit Award from the Maryland and Potomac Chapters of the American Society of Landscape Architects during its annual chapter awards ceremony Dec. 12, 2007.

Professional Planting Design: An Architectural and Horticultural Approach for Creating Mixed Bed Plantings is written by **Scott C. Scarfone**, ASLA, PLA, principal at Oasis Design Group, a landscape architecture, master planning and urban design firm in Baltimore, Maryland.



The book first initiates people about the principles of planting design then helps readers create their own effective compositions that sustain multi-seasonal interest year-round.

“When done successfully, mixed beds represent the pinnacle of planting design—in which small trees, shrubs, perennials, grasses, bulbs, tropicals and groundcovers combine to create a living work of art,” Scarfone said.

Richly illustrated with photographs and drawings, *Professional Planting Design* covers the basics as well as the advanced concepts of planting design including how to:

- Recognize the various types and uses of mixed bed plantings;
- Design using plant characteristics—form, color and texture;
- Structure and compose mixed bed plantings;
- Create mixed palettes for year-round interest;
- Develop layered planting compositions;
- Visualize plants in elevation and plan view; and
- Select plants appropriate to specific design criteria and environmental conditions.

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Professional Planting Design covers design, landscape architecture and horticulture, which are interwoven throughout the guide, along with detailed steps for developing mixed bed planting compositions at a variety of scales.

Botanic garden and industry professionals have touted *Professional Planting Design*. Holly H. Shimizu, executive director at the United States Botanic Garden, said, "This is a great reference book for planting design, which is an arena where so many of us are hugely challenged. Information in it is well written, engaging, useful, accessible and original." In addition, Scot Medbury, president at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, said that the book is "a unique blend of classic planting-design principles and ecological plant-selection criteria." Two experts each wrote a Forward for the book: James A. van Sweden, an internationally renowned landscape architect at Oehme, van Sweden & Associates, Inc., in Washington, D.C., and Fergus Garrett, head gardener at Great Dixter Gardens, a famous estate of the late Christopher Lloyd in East Sussex, England.

Illustrations within *Professional Planting Design* were done by Colleen Bathon of Baltimore. The book's cover design was done by Will Hart of New York, along with Scarfone.

Scarfone is an instructor in the continuing education programs at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pa.; The School of the Chicago Botanic Garden in Chicago; and Brookside Gardens in Wheaton, Md. He frequently lectures around the country on various topics including garden design, planting design and garden travel. He is a registered landscape architect and a certified professional horticulturist with a specialization in herbaceous perennials.

Professional Planting Design (ISBN: 978-0-471-76139-6) is available at local bookstores or from the publisher [John Wiley & Sons, Inc.](http://www.wiley.com), at www.wiley.com or 1-800-225-5945. For a list of book tour dates and places, visit www.oasisdesigngroup.com.

Oasis Design Group designs memorable places by providing landscape architecture, master planning and urban design services to public and private clients throughout the United States.

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