

Alameda Magazine

Natural Wonders

Let the Water Features Flow

by Wanda Hennig

Photography by: Bill Myers



Yours, Mine and Ours

“Sue Falls” is what neighbors call the pondless waterfall Dave and Susan Franklin introduced into their small Alameda backyard in November 2006. They’d lived in the house since 1974, and it was time for change. They entertain a lot, so wanted something aesthetically pleasing. They travel a great deal, so low maintenance was a priority. Susan Franklin had long wanted a water feature, and when she spotted one she liked at the Alameda County Fair, the Franklins called the supplier, California Aqua Pros in Discovery Bay, and arranged for the installation.

“They brought in five flatbed trucks of rocks,” says Dave Franklin, who describes the process as “kind of an art form.”

“The guy they sent was really enjoying himself, rolling rocks around and free-styling it, and we ended up with a waterfall that is a foot higher than what we’d ordered, for the same price,” laughs Franklin.

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