



Above left: Outline of the new outdoor areas around the waste-to-energy plant in Roskilde, Denmark. Top right: Functionality and aesthetics combined with sustainable solutions in a proposal for the Nordic House in Reykjavik, Iceland. Below: Anne Stausholm and her colleagues are specialists in water solutions – in this case a small natural swimming lake in a private garden.

Sustainability and aesthetics outdoors

Whether designing private gardens or larger outdoor areas for companies, the landscape architects at Anne Stausholm find sustainable solutions that showcase both the green profile and beautiful scenery.

By Julie Bauer Larsen | Photos: Anne Stausholm

When the new waste-to-energy plant KARA/NOVEREN in Roskilde, Denmark, needed an outdoor area to fit the sustainable profile of the company, they got their design from a local landscape architect. Anne Stausholm has years of experience creating stunning outdoor areas with a strong sustainable profile.

“In the case of this waste-to-energy plant, the very core of the business is sustainability and naturally the surroundings should mirror this. We are creating an outdoor area within 20,000 square metres that helps communicate this – for instance there will be a show of steam running over rocks to illustrate that what comes from the chimney is in fact just steam,” she explains.

Combining fun and function

Using landscape architecture, you can create solutions that support the story of

the business and are equally sustainable and easy on the eyes. Another example is found at a large housing association in Copenhagen, where Anne Stausholm and her colleagues have created a system for draining excess rainwater and using it for decoration.

“The weather is becoming more extreme in Denmark with heavy rain and subsequent floods. These can be reduced by using drains in your outdoor areas. For the housing association we created a system of drains that at the same time served as decorations, including water streams, fountains and small ponds,” says Anne Stausholm of the project.

The perfect first impression

Having a well-planned outdoor area can both help you avoid floods and create positive impressions for people passing by or visiting. This should be essential to com-

panies and also a thing to consider for your home, says Anne Stausholm.

“First impressions usually last, and the first impression any visitor gets is the surroundings of your company or the front yard of your house. Therefore, I find it natural to consider the image you portray with your outdoor areas – and if you have a strong focus on sustainability, why not showcase it in a beautiful manner.”

Another project combining function and aesthetics is her winning proposal for the Nordic House in Reykjavik, Iceland. Here a range of environmental actions are taken to ensure drainage of rainwater from the area surrounding the building into areas on the ground, where it strengthens nature and adds a distinct visual character to the park. The jury commented that the collection and cleaning of rainwater in the proposal shows several good ideas and adds quality to the area adjacent to the wetland.

For more information, please visit:
www.annestausholm.dk