



# Robin Talks Real Estate

## Enjoy Year-Round Curb Appeal with a “No-Grow” Garden

*Realtor Robin Jones*

It's been a cold winter, but the snow has finally melted and you can look out your windows to see...brown grass.

As a Master Gardener, I rarely recommend pulling out plants, but as a Realtor, I have to say that sometimes trying “hardscaping” is a good option.

Hardscaping is replacing grass, flowers, and trees with stone, concrete, and crushed gravel. The use of this style isn't new, but it is growing. The trend towards making over the backyard into another living space has gained steady momentum in recent years and it's just more practical to keep it low maintenance.

Landscaping is high maintenance and subject to the whims of weather. Plus, many homeowners are Baby Boomers who are hitting retirement age and don't want to spend their free time weeding and pruning.

It's possible to create such an inviting yard that buyers won't even notice the lack of greenery. Elaborate outdoor kitchens, colorful stone mosaics, and beautiful clay pots make it easy to maintain year-round curb appeal. Even faux foliage is making a comeback.

As with all other home improvements, there are factors to be considered. Hardscaping is more permanent than landscaping. There is also still a certain amount of maintenance required to avoid things like cracked concrete and water run-off issues. And finally, hardscaping is more expensive. However, in the long run, you will save a considerable amount of time and money on the maintenance.

Just remember, there are many options when trying to create great curb appeal.

**Contact Realtor Robin Jones**

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