## **Curb Appeal!**



## Thursday July 20 9:30 a.m.-12:00 Lakewood Ranch Town Hall

Join Landscape Architectural Designer John Gidding Host of HGTV's hugely popular show Curb Appeal, Designed to Sell on Trading Spaces, and a frequent guest on Rachel Ray

Interested in the latest take on front and back yard designer's trends? Some of John's favorite projects

include Brooklyn Bridge Park, Union Square in New York, the campus plan for Carnegie Mellon University, a pavilion for 2008 Olympics in Beijing. He has done numerous residential and commercial renovations and landscapes in the US and around the world. He is also an author, illustrator, mural designer, and environmentalist.

In a recent interview with WSJ he said that most builders devote most of the plot to turf with shrubbery and a few trees hugging the property. He calls this "houses on platters". He joins with the current wave of landscape designers and architects who evangelize gardens that factor in the local ecology and dwindling resources.

His philosophy is as much about aesthetics as it is about climate change. Instead of mowed turf bisected by pavers that march from the curb to the doorstep, he prefers to layer native greenery comprising shrubs, perennials and ground cover. Part of the point of using native materials is its low water usage and chemical products. Reducing turf is a huge leap for most yard owners and often is done in baby steps.

Interested in the latest take on front and back yard designer' trends? This is the place to come. Along with hearing how to accomplish a beautiful yard, there will be gift cards and coupons to be used on plants and trees. There will be raffles and drawings for Florida native trees. He will personally sign the books he brings for sale.

Sponsored by Lakewood Ranch Garden Club.

Town Hall is located at 8175 Lakewood Ranch Blvd

