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## Ode to the Rhododendron

The rhododendron is one of the showiest and most memorable blooms in the Blue Ridge Mountains. This hearty shrub that pops out white, pink or purple flowers is most vibrant in late spring and early summer. The best-known rhododendron in the Asheville area is probably Catawba rhododendron, which takes over the Craggy Gardens area of the Blue Ridge Parkway in early June. Find the white flowers of the Carolina rhododendron as early as late April by heading south of Asheville on the Blue Ridge Parkway, near Frying Pan Mountain and the Cradle of Forestry.







Mother's Day is an annual holiday intended to recognize the important contribution that mothers make to their families and society as a whole. In Canada and the United States it is celebrated on the second Sunday of every May and the traditional gift for mom is flowers.



## Current Project

The word "commercial" used as a descriptive title for real estate and/or businesses doesn't normally invoke thoughts of creativity and artistic flare especially when talking about landscapes. We just completed a commercial installation project that is quite an exception to the rule for curb appeal. The key to the success of this piece was the choice and quantity of materials. The site is quite large as are the buildings in the back ground. We worked with the client on a plan that included some

large scale plant material supported by some of the largest boulders we can move with our equipment. The plan was to use a lot of stone especially large ones to produce a visual impact in scale with the site. The scope was renovation of existing planting beds so after removal of the old plantings we commenced the Naturescape transformation. We were able to provide an fresh look to an older facility that is sure to impress folks for years to come. One neat twist to this project is the absence of bark mulch.



The long term maintenance cost of the new plantings will be greatly reduced by having all exposed soil covered with a generous layer of clean river stone. As the perennials and smaller plants grow and mature in the stone the overall texture will continue evolve and blend. We enjoyed creating this local landscape masterpiece.





