

## Property Values Relate To Curb Appeal

*by Bend Weekly News Sources*

When a prospective buyer drives up to the home you're selling, the first impression is going to be a lasting one. Long before he sees the inside of the house, the exterior makes a statement about the property - one that's going to play a role in several decisions that buyer is about to make.

First will be the question of whether or not he wants the house based on its appearance, and second will be the issue of the home's value.

The impression of your home when the buyer first arrives correlates directly to property value. Homeowners could see a return on investment of 100 percent or more resulting from attractive, high-quality landscaping, according to the National Concrete Masonry Association.

Concrete segmental retaining walls are one popular landscaping option because they not only provide pleasing aesthetics but also boast a variety of attributes that may attract buyers:

- \* **Durability.** Unlike timber products used in landscaping, concrete segmental retaining walls are resistant to rotting and infestation by rodents or insects.

- \* **Ease of maintenance.** Unlike wood, segmental retaining wall units do not need to be stained or treated.

- \* **Design flexibility.** The variety of segmental retaining wall unit sizes and placement options enable creative and unique designs to set your home apart. For example, the wall units may have a split-face, rugged, natural or tumbled surface appearance. With such a variety of designs, concrete segmental retaining walls can satisfy nearly any taste and provide natural, enhanced beauty to many different yard layouts.

- \* **Environmental friendliness.** Concrete segmental retaining wall units are made of all-natural materials. Unlike wood treated with chromated copper arsenate, a popular landscaping material that was phased out of use in 2003, concrete segmental retaining wall units do not pose a threat to the environment or a health hazard to your family.

According to experts at the National Concrete Masonry Association, segmental retaining walls typically offer the best value per dollar when used for a landscaping product. For more information, visit [www.ncma.org](http://www.ncma.org).

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