



Association of  
Professional  
Landscape  
Designers  

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California Chapter

Fall 2022

California Landscape Design Newsletter®

*"Designing today's gardens for tomorrow's California"*

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## *Announcements*

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### *Slow the Burn*

There is still time to register for the Slow the Burn Webinars. Event information, QR Code, and link is available in this newsletter.

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### *Show the Flow*

Check your email or go to [APLDCA.org](http://APLDCA.org) to learn more about the upcoming "Show the Flow!"

# The President's Message

APLD California Chapter President

*Martin G. Carrion van Rijn*



Dear APLD CA Colleagues,

May this message find you all well, personally as well as in your business and profession. Before I say anything else, I want to point out that this issue of our Newsletter, marks the transition from our previous Editing Team, Mary Fisher and Maggie Elias to our new team, Traci Carr, and Jim Turner. Even though in the newsletter, Francesca Corra honors Mary's, and Maggie's contributions to CLD in a wonderful way, I want to extend my personal gratitude to them, for their leadership and professionalism. I wish them all the best in their new endeavors.

Also, I want to personally Welcome Traci and Jim, as our new Managing and developing editors, and I look forward to working with them on our upcoming newsletters. I also ask, for everyone to please help us support Traci and Jim in their new role, be it by following their protocols to send information to them, or by participating directly, by supplying articles and content.

Let's make the newsletter our own. It is a great opportunity to share our Landscape designer's expertise and experience with each other. We make each other better and stronger when we do that. Also, I encourage you to read through the newsletter. It is a great way to stay connected with each other and see what is happening at different levels of APLD, whether it is an individual member, district, chapter, or industry.

Furthermore, I take this chance to reiterate my encouragement, for all of us to stay connected and engaged with APLD, in any way possible, attending events, joining a board, etc., making the best of our membership. Lastly, if you have not signed up yet for our APLD CA "Slow the Burn Symposium," I encourage you to do so. Tickets will be open until the last module is given on November 10th. Depending on what you sign up for, you will still have access to past recorded sessions and modules.

Our APLD CA volunteers have worked very hard to bring this program to you. We hope you can take advantage of and gain much from it. Please see details for the symposium in the Newsletter. Enjoy!

*Sincerely,*

*Martin G. Carrion van Rijn*

## *2022 APLD California Chapter Board of Directors*

President [Martin Carrion Van Rijn](#)  
Immediate Past President (2020) [Francesca Corra, CPLD](#)  
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San Diego District Rep [Joel Berlin, CPLD](#)





Education



Environment



Outreach

## APLD Advocacy Committee

Marcia Jimenez Scott  
Advocacy Corner Section

### Add Value to Your Landscape Design Practice

Our daily lesson, one shouted at us often, is to value transitory experiences. We are surrounded by shiny advertisements, sound bites, and momentary tasty treats. But landscape designers are a savvy lot, we are not fools. We do not often succumb to replicating the latest, greatest trend. Do we know our goal should be to design landscapes with real value and consider what makes a landscape valuable? And remember that valuable landscapes are not necessarily high-dollar landscapes.

A landscape should add value to the air we breathe. Value for creating clean water sources. Value to insects, not just the eye-candy insects but insects that are the essential base of our food chain. Value to all other wildlife that also keeps our food chain vibrant. Value in its ability to survive or even suppress a wildfire.

Value because of its permanence, at least in some form, so it can continue to contribute to the health of our earth. And finally, a valuable landscape gives so many different values to humans. Sure, there is value in making their property look good. That value is often the one that allows the landscape to be built.

#### Consider these invaluable thoughts:

- A valuable landscape refreshes our minds and spirits.
- A valuable landscape should support life, not take it away,
- A valuable landscape should *not* be expensive to the environment but rather enrich nature.

This all might sound like talk about landscape sustainability. Still, you usually do not hear that sustainable landscapes are rich in environmental value. We must understand that value in a landscape does not have to translate to eye candy but that a landscape is a tiny piece of nature. As such, a valuable landscape should contribute to nature.

Many of our clients will not feel the same way, but, really, part of *our job* as responsible landscape designers is to educate their clients, so they begin to understand.

Our clients do not need all the details, but they deserve a substantial landscape they do not even know they want.

As we move into the future, California landscapes should be water-conservative, fire-resilient, habitat-supportive, resource-conservative, and long-lived. These things are not lofty ideals, they are the future of our profession! We require new tools, more information, and more knowledge. Some tools are just being developed to have what we need to produce intelligent designs.

Marcia Jimenez Scott,  
APLD CA Advocacy Committee Member  
Marcia Scott Landscape Design

## Slow the Burn

**The APLD CA Chapter and Advocacy Committee Present:**

# Slow the Burn

Creating beautiful, native landscapes in the face of water scarcity and fire. Learning from the past and designing for future challenges.

**APLD** Association of Professional Landscape Designers California Chapter

**A Virtual Symposium**  
In 5 modules  
Sept 13 - Nov 10, 2022  
Tuesdays & Thursdays  
4:00 to 6:00 PM, PT  
(unless noted otherwise)

Our leading experts will present a compendium of research, experience and ideas for design, implementation and care of landscapes that work with fire ecology.

**For:** APLD members and all landscape professionals, from novice to seasoned who design, build and/or maintain residential and commercial projects, both new and renovated sites and those near or in Wildland Urban (and suburban) interface (WUI Zones).

**Purpose:** The changing climate in California and other states has dramatically escalated the demand for ecology-based landscapes that address issues of biodiversity collapse, water scarcity and wildfire threat. Creating landscapes to meet those challenges requires access to specialized knowledge that, until now, has not been readily available.

**How:** This virtual symposium is presented in 5 modules for a total of approximately 26 hours of instruction and panel discussions. It will all be recorded in case you can't watch live.

**Goal:** Upon completion, attendees will have practical information and a working knowledge of design solutions to develop and maintain resilient landscapes that use native plants and promote biodiversity. CEUs are available. Certificates of Completion will be provided for those that complete all 5 modules.

**More info:** Click here for the full [Slow the Burn Symposium](#) program, including topics and dates for each module, bios for our expert presenters, registration fee options and more.

This symposium is only possible due to the support of our amazing [APLD CA sponsors](#)

**PRESENTERS**

- Jerry Malins, M.S., M.L.A., M.P.L.D.
- Bob Miller, Fire Ecology Specialist
- Cheryl Miller, Dedic, Hensley, O'Connell
- Sue Johnson, Top of Life, Herway
- Julie Cook, Julie Cook Landscape Design
- Tracy Taylor, Gardens & Law, Nelson Landscape Design
- Estimote Probar, The On-Site-Workshop

### Two Ways to Register:

To register, scan the QR Code



eventbrite

## APLD CA Chapter Advocacy Committee

Karen Hunt  
Advocacy Corner Section



## Environment

### Healthy Pot, Healthy Planet Initiative

Several activities are underway on the Healthy Pots, Healthy Planet Initiative. Among other things, we have started to reach out to plant growers to introduce them to the Initiative and get their perspective and experience on reducing horticultural pot use. We had a very productive Zoom call in June, we had a very productive Zoom call with APLD CA Gold Sponsor Devil Mountain Wholesale Nursery.

At a client's request, Apple, Inc., Devil Mountain has started using a technology called Ellepots for seed starting and liners. The paper pots are placed in reusable plastic trays from Pioneer Pot that are then cleaned and solar disinfected for reuse. Root development is much better than in plastic pots, and the Ellepot can be planted directly into the ground. Disneyworld is also using the Ellepot/Pioneer system.

According to Devil Mountain, Ellepots are more expensive than plastic, but the extra cost is offset by savings in production and better-quality plants. A barrier to implementation is the upfront investment in new equipment and processes. Pioneer Pot and other suppliers also ship Ellepots pre-formed and filled with planting medium but at another layer of cost and environmental impact.

Devil Mountain recycles its Pioneer Pots through Blackmore Company, Michigan, which manufactures and recycles root-pruning Air Trays and Pioneer Pots in the U.S. and Canada. They say that their Ellepots are cheaper than plastic.

Check out this brief video from Blackmore, showing Ellepots in production: <https://youtu.be/yyMTqMlaDYc>.

Add your name today to supporting support sustainable alternatives to plastic horticultural pots [here](#).

Environment by Karen Hunt

APLD CA Chapter Advocacy Committee Member

APLD Healthy Pots, Healthy Planet Initiative Lead

San Carlos GardenWorks

# BLACK PLASTIC

**The Plant Industry's Dark Secret:**

## BLACK PLASTIC

"The problem is that optical readers at recycling facilities cannot detect black," said Marie Chieppo, a researcher, landscape designer and horticulturist. In 2020, Chieppo looked into the recyclability of plastic plant pots for the Association of Professional Landscape Designers. Through her research, Chieppo found that "most optical readers used at recycling facilities cannot identify black plastic pots."

- 1 UP-CYCLE**  
"Find different purposes for them. One of the best scenario would be if these [plant] nurseries took them back."
- 2 FIBER BASED POTS**  
These alternatives are made from biodegradable material like sawdust, vegetable oil and paper. But Chieppo says they haven't reached the level of mass production that black plastic has — they are more expensive.
- 3 RECYCLE**  
If you cannot reuse them, recycling centers would still prefer you throw the pots in the recycling bin as opposed to the general trash bin.  
"Recycling markets are always changing," Recology said. "It's still best to put all of the rigid plastic material into the blue bin and let the sorting machines do the rest of the work. We want to remind consumers that all of the plastic material must be clean, free of dirt and residue, in order to maximize recycling value."

**CREDITS:**  
<https://www.1x.com/climate/the-plant-industrys-dark-secret-black-plastic/54753/>  
This story is part of Connect the Dots, series that shows how different aspects of our lives are connected to each other.  
Marie Chieppo, Principal of EcoPlantPlans, LLC

**LET'S CREATE A BETTER WORLD**  
[www.healthypotshealthyplanet.org](http://www.healthypotshealthyplanet.org)

Author: Shireen Zia / Healthy Pot, Healthy Planet Initiative

*Platinum Sponsor*



## Humboldt Sawmill™

REDWOOD AND DOUGLAS-FIR

CREDITS:

<https://www.1x.com/climate/the-plant-industrys-dark-secret-black-plastic/54753/>

This story is part of Connect the Dots, series that shows how different aspects of our lives are connected to each other.  
Marie Chieppo, Principal of EcoPlantPlans, LLC

**LET'S CREATE A BETTER WORLD**



## APLD CA Chapter Advocacy Committee

Steve Harbour  
Advocacy Corner Section



## Legislation

APLD's advocacy arm is an unheralded and somewhat misunderstood part of the California Chapter's mission to serve our members. As the San Diego District advocacy chairperson, now in my fourth year in that role, I have realized how important our advocacy work continues to be in a state that already imposes some of the most stringent restrictions on a landscape designer's right to practice in the United States. Our local district and state chapter advocacy members seek to protect this right to practice, acting as a watchdog over the local and state governmental boards and agencies that can propose regulations and/or laws that affect and sort over the local and state governmental boards and agencies that can propose regulations and/or laws that affect and can potentially restrict our practices further.

The two-state boards that are most likely to regulate our profession are the California Architects' Board (CAB) and the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) of the two boards. The LATC is solely responsible for legislation that will impact our members. As an organization, we have regularly attended both CAB and LATC meetings for years, first in person and, more recently, online in virtual meetings. These meetings are usually, though not always, open to the public, and I would encourage anyone to attend who has an interest in learning more about how these two boards affect our practice. Since the meetings have gone virtual, it is especially easy to listen in. Are you a multitasker? Then you can watch the proceedings while working on your latest design.

As we round out the year, CAB has three more meetings scheduled: Aug. 24, Sept. 16, and Dec. 9. Their agendas and live webcasts can be found at: [https://www.cab.ca.gov/about\\_us/meetings/](https://www.cab.ca.gov/about_us/meetings/). As for the LATC, one more meeting is scheduled for 2022, taking place on Nov. 4. Meeting information for the LATC can be found at [https://www.latc.ca.gov/about\\_us/meetings/](https://www.latc.ca.gov/about_us/meetings/). If you have the opportunity, listen to any or all these meetings to educate yourself on these governmental bodies that affect your practice.

Steve Harbour  
APLD CA Chapter Advocacy Committee Member  
[Steve Harbour Landscapes](#)

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## Gold Sponsors

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## CALSTONE

*Because Quality Matters*



## FXLuminaire





**California Shines in the 2022  
APLD International Design Awards**  
by Linda Middleton, CPLD, FAPLD

California members were awarded a total of 17 Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards across all three Residential categories #1, #2, and #3, and Small Gardens, and Planting Design. From north to south, it did not matter whether the project's budget was high or low. The square footage was grand or compact; these designers' mastery of landscape design is reflected in their award-winning projects. Take fifteen minutes to see all the award-winning projects by visiting [APLD 2022 International Design Awards](#)

*These California members deserve special recognition for their multiple awards.*

Kristen Caldwell of [Kristen Caldwell Landscape Designs](#): 3 GOLD AWARDS

Debbie Gliksman of [Urban Oasis Landscape Design](#): 1 BRONZE AWARD, 1 SILVER AWARD

Colin Miller CLA and Melissa Lee CLA of [Envision Landscape Studio](#): 1 SILVER AWARD, 1 GOLD AWARD

**BRONZE AWARD**

Maryanne Quincy CPLD, FAPLD [Q-Gardens Landscape Design](#)  
Laura Osteen [Secret Gardens Landscapes LLC](#)

**SILVER AWARD**

Mario Herrada [Zacate Landscape Design](#)  
Sacha O [Living Gardens Landscape Design](#)  
Kristen Rudger [Kristen Rudger Landscape Design](#)

**GOLD AWARD**

Eileen Kelley [Dig Your Garden Landscape Design](#)  
Laura Morton CPLD, FAPLD [Laura Morton Design](#)  
David Thorne CLA [David Thorne Landscape Architect, Inc](#)  
Kelly Kilpatrick CLA [Floradora Garden Design](#)  
Gün Ü [Blue Hibiscus Gardens](#)

Take a moment to congratulate your colleagues and be inspired by their work. It is never too early to get your projects ready to submit to the 2023 International Design Awards.



*Photo courtesy of Slow The Burn Presenter Greg Rubin*

## Members

### Getting to Know You, Allyson Drucker

by Debbie Seracini

In this newsletter issue, we are "getting to know" Allyson Drucker, Emerging Professional, Greater Los Angeles District. Allyson was asked the following questions. She gave concise yet methodical responses that give us a little more insight into the wonderful work she is doing in the landscape industry.

**How did you learn about APLD, and what led you to join?**

A. Many designers I've met in the field told me how much they value being part of APLD and strongly encouraged me to join!

**What do you hope to gain through your membership with APLD?**

A. Meeting and learning from your network of members.

**What environmentally sustainable concepts do you apply to your landscape design practice?**

A. Mediterranean plants.

**What is your favorite landscape design style, and why?**

A. I come from the academic art world, and I'm drawn to classic, historical styles, most of which don't really have a huge place in Southern California, but I appreciate them from afar!





## A CHANGING OF THE GUARD

by Francesca Corra, CPLD

Our California chapter of APLD has had a newsletter in one form or another for many years. Still, the mother-daughter team of Mary Fisher, CPLD, FAPLD, and Maggie Elias absolutely catapulted it to another level. Most everyone knows Mary from her years of volunteer service in APLD. She has served in the Bay Area, spearheading programming, and sponsorship efforts for years, as well as holding the district president position. On the chapter level, she served in varied positions, most notably Sponsorship Chair and President.

Mary took over our chapter newsletter four years ago and renamed it *California Landscape Design*, affectionately known as CLD. She managed the coordination of all content and wrangled her daughter, Maggie, into helping her out by doing the editing. During these years, we have seen Maggie graduate from college and earn her master's degree while working an assortment of side gigs, CLD being one of them. She is now an adjunct faculty member for the School of Journalism at the University of Oregon. She holds a full-time position as Brand Manager for an online and brick-and-mortar enterprise.

One of the things that Mary would do to create such rich content in every issue was comb through members' websites in search of

projects that would fit the theme of a particular issue. According to Mary, who was the part of the process that interested her the most, being able to track and highlight all the interesting things our members in CA are doing.

Once she started, she knew exactly what everybody was up to and what kind of work they did. Invariably every single person she contacted to use one of their projects directly seemed very honored and pleased to participate and provide materials. "One cool thing about being an APLD member in CA," Mary says, "is the ability to be a part of CLD. Even if you do not think you are worthy of being featured in an article, the truth is that other people are appreciative of what you do." Mary feels that the nicest thing about CLD and the reason it is worthwhile is that it keeps us all connected. We live in such a big state, and CLD keeps us aware of what we are doing and how cool it is. The Summer of 2022 was the last issue for Mary and Maggie. CLD is now in new hands.

Just recently, at the Bay Area's Plant Fair, Mary was presented with a framed picture from the CA board illustrating all the editions of CLD. In addition, there will be a donor tile with her name engraved on it placed on the welcome wall of the Ruth Bancroft Garden. We are so grateful for all the effort and love that Mary poured into every issue.



Mary, you exemplify the best part of us, and we are truly appreciative.

Contact your local chapter to find out how you volunteer or submit an article for the winter or summer 2023 newsletter.

# CLIMATE CHANGE & FLUME SMART HOME WATER MONITOR

by Shireen Zia

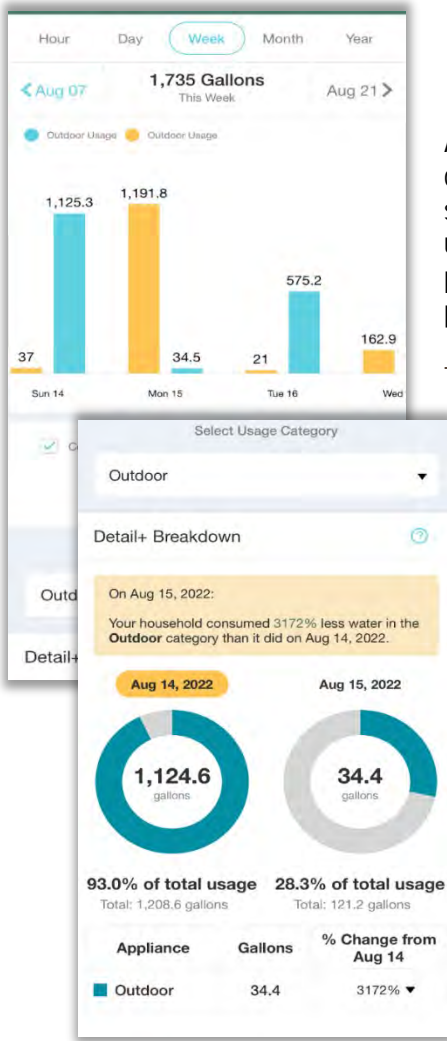
[EcoGardens Landscape Design](#)

As climate change makes California droughts more frequent and intense, the local cities and water districts are looking for long-term solutions, incentivizing homeowners with rebates and free water-saving products that work. When I saw CalWater rebates on Flume2, a device that calculates water usage and detects leaks instantly, I did not think twice about giving it a shot because that is the only product in the market that can be used to monitor water usage for both indoor and outdoor or without any plumbing involved.

The market price for [Flume Smart Home Water Monitor](#) is still \$199, but many water districts, including Cal-Water, offer it for \$49.99 for their residential customers. Before April 22, Flume offered a subscription and a non-subscription payment option. For now no subscription is required to use all the features. When we design hydrazones and calculate water usage, it is what we can estimate and give our clients a ballpark. Staying away from overhead sprinklers and following MWELO, designing with Waterwise plants, using drip emitters to control further the water usage or Netafim/subterranean drip tubing under the low water lawn.

A year ago, one of my Menlo Park clients asked if I could tell him exactly how much water each zone was using. I did calculations based on the number of plants, gallons per hour (GPH) of drip emitter heads, and duration of the irrigation cycle in each zone. A couple of months later, he excitedly mentioned finding Flume a device that could tell exactly how much water each hydrozone was getting. I also, order the Flume device for my home's main water system. The Flume app helped me in the installation process through step-by-step photos, and no plumbing was required.

Like my client, I am amazed at how easy it is to check indoor and outdoor daily water usage. For example, comparisons of the usage in hours, days, months, and years. Flume is an AI device, which needs a Wi-Fi connection to work. Several features are available such as manual irrigation categories, total percentages, daily use, gallons, and percent changes. More app features are coming soon!



## Gold Sponsors





## Featured Events



Image from Slow The Burn Symposium Literature. Retrieved 09/18/22

### [Slow The Burn Symposium](#)

\*Tuesdays & Thursdays September 13 – November 10, 2022

The APLD California (APLD CA) Chapter and Advocacy Committee are pleased to provide our members and landscape professionals with this educational symposium -- *Slow the Burn*.

(\*unless otherwise noted)

### Show the Flow

Thursday, October 13, 2022

*more information is coming soon to your inbox!*

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### More Learning Opportunities

September 2022

### [Rescue Design Qualification Training](#)

Online, September & October 2022

October 2022

### [Pacific Horticulture, San Diego & Southern California Gardens](#)

October 6, 2022

### [The Splendor of Portuguese Gardens](#)

A Travel Tour with Pacific Horticulture, October 1-9, 2022

### [CNPS 2022 Conference](#)

Rooting Together: Restoring Connections to Plants, Place & People

October 20- 22, 2022

November 2022

### [The 2022 – Anaheim Landscape Design – Build – Maintain – Supply Expo](#)

November 16-17, 2022

## The Elemental Series 2023

Earth, Water, Wind, Fire: The Elemental Series

As we work to feature the new theme for 2023, with help from our APLC CA President, we decided to define each element, in order, along with questions to consider for crafting an article and the issue in which it will be featured. We welcome your contributions to each issue as it relates to the theme.



Earth: Represented by matter, such as wood, stone, vegetation, and soil.

Questions: How do we use these elements, and for what purpose? What are all the possible variations of them? Another consideration is grading and how doing so prepares the landscaping for planting trees and plant materials.

Issue: Winter 2023



Water: Water features include nearby ponds, lakes, and oceans.

Questions: What water features do we often use as landscape features? What are the benefits of water in landscapes? Explore the flow of water, perhaps its dual use as a feature and irrigation. What about the speed and amount of water, its sound, and the qualities each type of water feature brings? Perhaps even consider the exploration of riverbeds as symbols of water flow or virtual representations, like in Zen gardens.

Issue: Summer 2023



Wind: Moving air caused by differences in air pressure. Air: Represented by space in the landscape.

Questions: Wind. Air. Are they the same or similar? Do we design with them in mind? When screening, creating a pathway for flow, breaking, or softening a wind's impact in space or protecting a structure is within a planning concept. What screenings do we include in landscapes to break wind or allow its breeze to flow through the garden?

Air, in a way, is what allows us to experience a garden, the open space. How do we create that space to create an experience, and to what scale does it move people emotionally and physically? Create intimate spaces, public spaces, and grand spaces. How do we use the width and layout of elements like paths to encourage not just moving through the garden but also an experience? How do we instinctively read those elements?

Issue: Fall 2023



Fire: Qualities of energy, assertiveness, and passion.

Questions: Explore fire in the landscapes, its resiliency, and the aesthetic benefits of fire through an outdoor fireplace, firepit, or even through its vibrancy of colors or culture. How do we use them in our designs, and for what purpose?

Issue: Winter & Fall 2023

### About Submitting Articles & More

We welcome you to participate in submitting an article, events, sponsorship information, photos, or cool information that supports our industry and the featured theme.

A **Groups. IO** message will disseminate on or after November 5, 2022, with details on due dates, where and how to submit content.

Get your information ready,  
we will be in touch soon!



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## Silver Sponsors

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ASIAN CERAMICS INC



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## Bronze Sponsors

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### About Our Sponsors

Our sponsors help us do the important work of landscape design while supporting our continued education and networking. Through sponsorship of APLD California Chapter, these industry leaders declare their support for best practices, educational programs and events, and the highest standards in landscape design. From veteran materials suppliers to producers of cutting-edge landscape products, these companies have committed to connecting with professional landscape designers and our clients.

Click the sponsors logos below to visit their websites.

[Learn More about APLD-CA Sponsorship](#)

For more information about our Sponsors or sponsoring  
Please contact

*Julie Molinare*

[sponsorship@apldca.org](mailto:sponsorship@apldca.org)

# Welcome New Sponsors

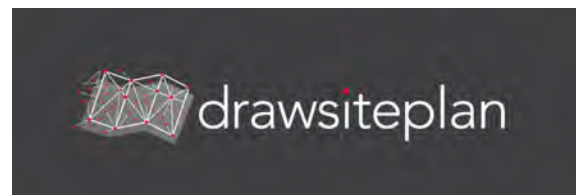
Please welcome these great new APLD California Chapter Sponsors!

Don't waste valuable time running from supplier to supplier.

SiteOne has everything you are looking for with a wide selection of [irrigation](#), [lighting](#), [turf and landscape maintenance](#), [nursery](#) and [pest control](#) supplies. With 63 stores across California and now Online ordering, we are here to serve you however we can. We'll get to know you and your unique challenges, so we can meet them like no one else. Make every moment of your workday count, go to the one destination that has it all.



An alternative to hiring a surveyor for your site plans, you can easily order customized site plans now that are produced using GIS technology and software. Your plans will be professionally drawn and downloadable in a day. Although we do not drive to your site and make measurements of the property, we are able to meticulously work on extracting the data from multiple sources, which are cross-checked to match and sometimes exceed the accuracy of site plans done the traditional way.



Basalite is one of the largest manufacturers of building materials in the Western United States and Canada. Our products include architectural CMU, interlocking paving stones, segmental retaining wall systems, garden line, outdoor living kits and a full line of packaged concrete/mortar products.





## *Contributors to the Fall 2022 Newsletter*

Martin G. Carrion van Rijn, Linda Middleton, CPLD, FAPLD,  
Debbie Seracini, Shireen Zia,  
Francesca Corra, CPLD, Marcia Jimenez Scott,  
Cheryl Buckwalter, Steve Harbour,  
Karen Hunt, and Julie Molinare



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