



Association of
Professional
Landscape
Designers
California Chapter

California Landscape Design

Trees & Storms

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



Photo by Soleil Tranquilli, Tranquill Gardens

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The President's Message

by APLD CA President - Martin G. Carrion van Rijn



Greetings,

The season is upon us, and as landscape designers, we are moving around like bees, working on projects with clients nonstop. The topic of this newsletter is Trees. The original subject was modified, as we found that all the storms we experienced damaged the trees in our landscapes. We will resume our elemental series in the next issue.

In this president's message, I want to highlight the efforts being made by our board members at the chapter and district levels. All the great events and inner workings of APLD California and the CA district are thoroughly thought out and planned by APLD volunteers with our APLD colleagues in mind. Much work goes on behind the scenes, which is not usually visible to members. I want to express my gratitude and acknowledge all those colleagues and their efforts for their thoughtfulness, leadership, and dedication.

At the chapter level, there are many things that we are working on. To begin with, a lot of effort goes into the publication of this newsletter. Always working on finding current topics of interest in our industry and exploring principles and methods that can improve the practice of landscape design.

Our Sponsorship drive has come to a close for this year, enabling us to follow up on the several projects we have planned to serve our membership this year. Advocacy is working diligently on several aspects, like following bills and educational programs. Please keep an eye out for the updates within this Newsletter.

There are some very interesting and important things going on in Advocacy. The membership committee is also working on a couple of projects, aiming to enhance member benefits and entice new members to join. We are also working on making APLD CA more visible through social media by hiring an expert to help us reach out to a larger audience, expanding the APLD brand, and highlighting who we are, what we are about, and what our members practice and do.

I encourage you once more to stay connected and watch for all the great programs your APLD CA chapter and district boards are putting together for your professional growth and benefit.

Enjoy the Newsletter, Sincerely,

Martin G. Carrion van Rijn



APLD 2023

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THE ADVOCACY CORNER

by Cheryl Buckwalter, Advocacy Chair



Introduced Legislation

AB 1573 Water conservation: landscape design: model ordinance. (2023-2024)
Assemblymember Friedman

Bill Sponsored by the California Native Plant Society

This article includes excerpts from:

- The March 23, 2023, amended bill.
- APLD CA's proposed amendments.
- Amendments as of May 9, 2023.

AB 1573 would apply to all new or rehabilitated nonresidential areas.

March 23, 2023, amended bill:

- This bill would revise the legislative findings and declarations to state that the model ordinance furthers the state's goal to conserve biodiversity and provide for climate resilience consistent with state drought efforts to eliminate the use of irrigation of nonfunctional turf.

- Require the updated model ordinance to include these provisions:

O Plants included in a landscape design plan be selected based on their adaptability to climatic, geological, and topographical conditions of the project site, as specified.

O All new or renovated nonresidential areas install plants that meet specified criteria, and prohibit the inclusion of nonfunctional turf after January 1, 2026.

O Include exemptions relative to ecological restoration projects and mined-land reclamation projects that do not require permanent irrigation, existing plant collections as part of botanical gardens and arboreturns open to the public, and cemeteries (exempt from parts of the ordinance).

O Require that all new or renovated nonresidential areas install plants in the plant area that, taken together, have an average WUCOLS plant factor of 0.3, and require that not less than 75 percent (75%) of those plants be local native plants, excluding edibles and areas using recycled water.

APLD CA Chapter's Position

While we support AB 1573 in principle, our position is to oppose AB 1573 unless amended. APLD California advocates for landscapes that increase biodiversity, improve climate resiliency, save water, increase the use of California native plants, and include native plants in fire-resilient landscaping.

The following are priorities and proposed amendments by APLD CA:

- Include provisions that require the use of native and non-native plants in landscape designs.
- Eliminate the word "local" or better define it, and reduce the percentage of the California native plants that would be required to be local, enabling the use of selections, cultivars, and hybrids, from plant communities in other parts of the state that are equally appropriate. As important as it is to support local floral, local natives may not always be the best choice for a number of reasons.
- Utilize the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Calscape database, or comparable science-based source, to search for and select native plants, rather than having the UC Berkeley Jepson eFlora database as the sole source.
- California natives have different requirements than plant material widely used by the industry today. At a minimum, MWELO would need to be revised relative to compost, irrigation, and maintenance. Look to science- and research-based data and industry experts for recommendations.
- Convene stakeholder work group(s) to determine a phased-approach and timeline of effective dates to implement new and rehabilitated landscape projects. The objective is to increase the amount of landscaped area planted with native and non-native low water-use plants, but not totally eliminate other WUCOLS plant water-use factors.
- Include provisions for workforce education, information, and resources for the design, installation, maintenance, and management of water efficient, biodiverse, and climate resilient landscapes with native and non-native plants.
- Areas where nonfunctional turf was removed, encourage replanting with native and non-native low water-use plants. Discourage use of synthetic.

(Note: We initially included a provision to prohibit the use of synthetic turf; however, we were informed by the author's staff that, to date, the failure rate of bills that include this prohibition is high, so synthetic turf would not be included in the bill. To at least make some progress in this regard, we included that its use is discouraged.)

- Include how the provisions of this bill will be enforced.

Amendments as of May 9, 2023, excerpts of amendments submitted to the Committee on Appropriations by Assemblymember Friedman: (Amendments are in italicized text.)

- Definitions of "Community space", "Functional turf", and "Recreational use area" were added.
- Local native plants that evolved in and can be found naturally within the Jepson region, where the landscape site or project is located, as defined and updated by the University of California Berkeley *Jepson eFlora*, and found in the *California Native Plant Society's Calscape database*.
- Include provisions for *property owners and managers to implement landscape maintenance practices that foster long-term landscape water conservation*.
- *Prohibit the use of traditional overhead sprinklers on all new and rehabilitated landscapes and require that new and rehabilitated landscapes use only water efficient irrigation devices.*
- *Require that, beginning January 1, 2026, all new or renovated nonresidential areas install not less than 25 percent local native plants, excluding edibles and areas using recycled water.*
- *"... beginning January 1, 2030, ... install in the plant area not less than 50 percent local native plants..."*
- *"... beginning January 1, 2035, ... install not less than 75 percent local native plants..."*
- Note: The text to "Prohibit the inclusion of nonfunctional turf in nonresidential landscape projects after January 1, 2026", is unchanged.

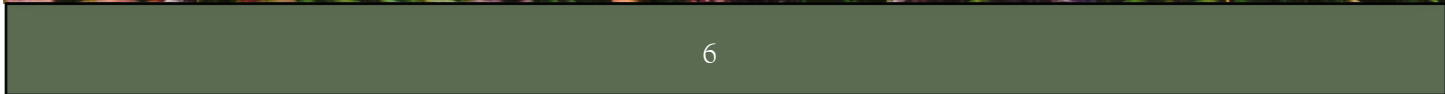
Updates will be provided as available.



MASSIVE TREE DAMAGE IN 2023 STORMS

by Soleil Tranquilli, Sacramento District President

Photos courtesy of Soleil Tranquilli, Tranquill Gardens



A Established neighborhoods such as the “Fab 40s” in downtown Sacramento are home to the area’s oldest and largest tree canopies. Residents of tree-lined streets contend with Fall drops of large-leaved species, such as the London Plane Tree that can acclimate several feet deep through the season. Slow decomposition and sheer volume create pressing maintenance issues for residents; landscape designers are often drafted for design solutions to manage the leaf mass. Understandably, clients often balk at suggesting adding new trees to their landscapes, especially after the massively destructive storms of Winter 2022-23.

So many new gaps in the canopy may bring troubling effects that will become painfully obvious in Sacramento’s 100°+ F week-long infernos: Shade loss, newly exposed shade gardens in a summer arid climate, increased temps from reflective hard surfaces and habitat loss. There are so many studies about the value of mature neighborhood trees. Such as the canopy cooling effect, trees reduce flooding, slowing traffic on tree-lined streets, and help to reduce crime in areas where canopies are in abundance.

What’s Trending

- Radical topping.
- Improper limb pruning and tree removals; poor problem-solving by uneducated homeowners, landscapers, and clean-up crews.
- Alarming rise in perceived “no maintenance” landscapes such as artificial turf installations and entire rock ‘mulch’ landscapes.
- Decisions to seal off large swaths of neighborhood soil with hardscapes will have potentially devastating consequences.
- The long-term health of existing trees, water percolation, city cooling, and increased localized flooding are all urban and suburban problems that will be compounded if we don’t keep layering trees back into our neighborhoods.

How do we handle a very real and rational client’s fear of trees? So many stories/visuals of overhead tree damage have caused trauma and fear of trees. Not to mention the persistent fear of costly underground root damage to foundations, utility pipes, sidewalks, and other hardscapes.

Complaints about the messiness of trees. Is it any wonder that homeowners choose anti-tree scapes such as rock mulches, pavers, concrete, and artificial turf? The point. How will this affect how we practice landscape design going forward? How can we make a difference?

Advocacy. How do we help educate people about tree value, proper selection, placement, and care and consider Intrinsic value as vertical wildlife habitat? Can we partner with local groups such as Sacramento Tree Foundation for client-appropriate literature, workshops, arborists, urban forestry programs, and more?

Opportunities in the Challenge

- Layer in small size native trees such as Elderberry; Redbud.
- Smaller trees for more human scale near seat areas and inhabited spots.
- Smaller trees for more resilient canopy layering.
- In desert regions fast, growing Chilopsis and Cercidiums for quick effect.
- Plant new trees with better education and planning for proper maintenance.
- Choose more climate-appropriate trees (Talamy: Choose Oaks over Maples for resilience)
- Layering Edible/Medicinal trees where appropriate, especially on a small scale: Dwarf citrus, Elderberry, Feijoa, Pomegranate, Mesquite
- Varying species in new layers for biodiversity

Remember each choice, help people fall in love with trees all over again, it is an ancient relationship that goes back to our days of field and forage.





Redwoods
by Platinum Sponsor

Humboldt™



That beautiful redwood pergola, deck, or fence you might be considering for a client's landscape design project started in the forests of northern California along a narrow strip of the Pacific coastline. The Redwood region encompasses approximately 2.2 million acres in a mix of industrial and non-industrial timberlands, parks, reserves, and conservation lands. The trees are well-known for their size, some may grow as tall as 300 feet, and other unique characteristics.

Redwood trees get their name from the dark red color of their exterior bark and interior heartwood, both of which contain natural tannins, not unlike the tannins found in red wine. These tannins impart resistance to termites and decay, making redwoods a long-lived tree species. Redwoods may live for some 2,000 years. Redwoods are further unique in that they may sprout in two different ways: from seed or from felled or downed trees where the root stock is otherwise intact.

Redwood bark is thick and resists burning, protecting the wood fiber and the tree itself during forest fires.

As a building material, redwood lumber and timbers, particularly heartwood grades, offer many of the same characteristics as the trees themselves, including beauty, strength, stability, natural durability and fire resistance. In fact, redwood decking and siding comply with Chapter 7A of the California Building Code, Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure.

Native to California, redwood is an ideal building material throughout the state due to its low carbon footprint. This in contrast to tropical hardwood species which are harvested thousands of miles away, contributing to disappearing rainforest habitat in South America and Southeast Asia.

Additionally, much of the commercially available redwood lumber is certified to the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC® C013133), the most stringent measure of sustainable forestry in the world.

Whether planting redwood trees or recommending a new redwood outdoor structure, your clients will marvel at the beauty of redwood and how it seamlessly complements their natural environment.

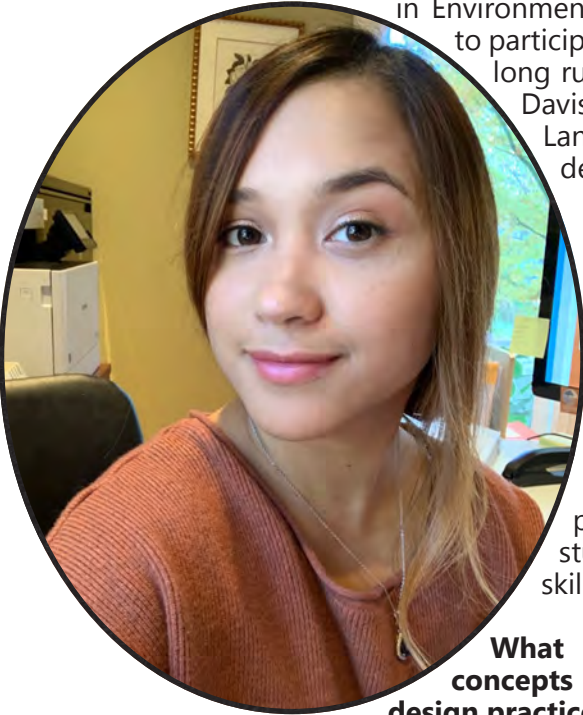
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Photos Courtesy of Humboldt Sawmill

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

I heard about APLD from Modesto Junior College, where I'm majoring in Environmental Horticulture Science. I decided to participate because it will benefit me in the long run, especially while I transfer to UC Davis next year to get my Bachelor's in Landscape Architecture. I am delighted to be here.



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

As a student and part-time landscape designer, I want to gain more knowledge in the landscape design industry to enhance my talent and get more vision as I Learn. I would also like to meet professional landscape designers or students to help out and share my skills.

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

A permeable hardscape is more eco-friendly than an impervious one. A permeable surface allows water to soak into the soil underneath. Instead of rolling off the surface and causing polluted runoff, much water will seep into the ground. My favorites are pea gravel, river rock, decomposed granite, and pervious concrete.

What is your favorite landscape design style, and why?

My favorite landscape design is Tuscan/Mediterranean, Woodland, and sometimes Japanese Garden. I love Mediterranean design because it has iconic planting like lavender, rosemary, and Italian cypress with the warm colors of terra cotta urns, natural stone, and bold flowers that stand out against the bright sunshine. Growing your herbs or vegetables symbolizes Tuscany's connection to the earth. And an arbor or pergola is the perfect structure to sit and observe your masterpiece.

Do you have a favorite landscape design book or website you would like to share?

One of my favorite landscape design books is California Home Landscaping, which is widespread and makes the Californian home landscape more attractive and functional. The second one is the New Sunset Western Garden Book 9th Edition. They continue to serve me well, and I often read them.

Getting to
New Mexico



Student Member
Lindsey Va

I learned about APLD through the owner...
He explained how wonderful...
connecting many upco...
I hope to gain connections through...
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broaden my horizon i

A couple of environmentally sustainable c...
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My favorite landscape design style is t...
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I love the lush plants a

My favorite design we...
Piet Udolf W...
to get inspiration on his planting

to Know Members



er, Sacramento *Vasquez*

owner of the website Plant Master.
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New Member, Bay Area

Varun Gupta

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

I think I first learned about APLD in grad school, studying landscape architecture. I believe a professor of mine mentioned it while encouraging us to sign up for ASLA student memberships. Now that I am a professional and am being paid to do what I love, I figure it's an appropriate time to join an organization where I can meet fellow designers and foster my career.

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

I hope to gain knowledge and inspiration from the works of others in this field. I hope to grow my network and make lasting professional relationships. And lastly, I hope to become a more creative and more influential landscape designer.

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

I love this question - stormwater management and native species! Every single design I create has an inherent focus on slowing and managing water on site. Also, my plant palettes are heavily influenced by species native to the bioregion where the project is being built.



What is your favorite landscape design style and why?

Hmmm, does 'naturalistic' landscape design count, or is that too vague? I prefer materials like stone and wood over concrete and metal. Also, I am not a big fan of traditional, manicured garden styles.

Do you have a favorite landscape design book or website you would like to share?

Living Land: The Gardens of Blasen Landscape Architecture
I purchased this book at the 2021 ASLA conference in Nashville and fell in love with the photos of their work. It inspired me enough to leave DC and move to San Francisco this past year!

New Member, Emerging Professional, Bay Area

Kate Nowell

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

I first learned about APLD as a Landscape Architecture student at Merritt College. Knowing that many Merritt alumni are APLD members and hearing from colleagues that the APLD's online groups are a valuable resource, I became a member.

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

As an APLD member, I hope to take part in continuing education and promote the landscape design profession.

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

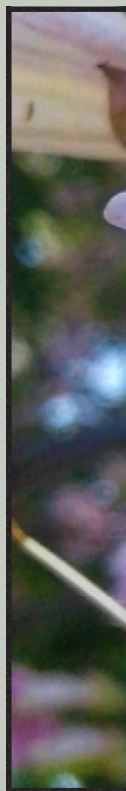
I only design with plants that are waterwise, using Mediterranean climate-appropriate material and CA natives.

What is your favorite landscape design style and why?

My favorite landscape design style is the California landscape style that we as designers are developing right now. This design style is rigorously environmentally focused and creates places outdoors that reflect our regional cultural, geographic, and architectural influences.

Do you have a favorite landscape design book or website you would like to share?

If you know The Ruth Bancroft Garden or not, don't miss, The Bold Dry Garden – a beautiful book about the work of dry garden design pioneer Ruth Bancroft.



Returning Member, Allied Professional, Bay Area *Christine Wiseman*

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

I have been a member and found I was not taking advantage of its benefits. Now I feel I may have more time for some of the meetings and presentations, especially now that a lot is done virtually.

What do you hope to gain through your membership with APLD? I would like to continue learning about new trends in the field, networking, and being more visible to potential clients.

What environmentally sustainable concepts do you apply to your landscape design practice? We use sustainable garden care practices, chemical-free and clean energy tools. Our designs are Bay Friendly (in practice but are not certified with the program), leaning toward low water use and encouraging habitat for local wildlife and site-appropriate plantings.

What is your favorite landscape design style and why?

I love many styles, but what seems to attract most of our clients is the use of mixed Mediterranean plantings with relatively low water and low maintenance.

Do you have a favorite landscape design book or website you would like to share?

I use [Houzz.com](https://www.houzz.com) a lot as a tool with my clients, looking for inspiration, reading articles and learning about current trends.



Trees That Withstand the Storm

Article by, Gold Sponsor



California has recently seen unpredictable and stormy weather, causing major damage to landscapes and the urban canopy throughout our state. When we look at trees that tend to fare better in winter storms, there are some common characteristics that can indicate resilience:

-Broad but shallow or fibrous root systems anchor into the soil better. Not many trees have a true taproot.

-Trees with finer canopies or that are winter-deciduous experience a reduced wind sail effect.

-A rounded or domed habit allows winds to go over, and not through, the canopy.

-Trees of lower stature are less susceptible to heavy winds. Low and broad is an advantage.

-Strong branch connections.

-A heavy trunk.

Keep in mind that location/exposure, soil type, and pruning style/habits also play a role in a tree's resilience. Given that, here are a few trees with lower failure potential.

Platanus racemosa is a CA native with a good network of small, anchoring roots. It is deciduous in winter.

Quercus agrifolia keeps the wind at bay with its low, rounded/domed canopy. It has a good, broad root system, especially when planted in an area without restrictions (i.e., one on a hillside will arguably have a better root system than one planted along a sidewalk).

Schinus molle has a thinner canopy that allows air to move through. It grows low and broad and produces an incredibly fibrous root system.

Pistacia chinensis has a fairly fine root system that reaches 3-5' down, further than most. It is deciduous and smaller in stature. Even when fully foliated, it has a fine canopy.

Quercus virginiana has an extensive and fibrous root system about 2-3' deep. Winds go over its domed, haystack-like shape.

Although evergreen, these trees do get a little thin and can be semi-deciduous depending on how cold or windy the winter is.



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History of Spring Meadow Nursery by Proven Winners®



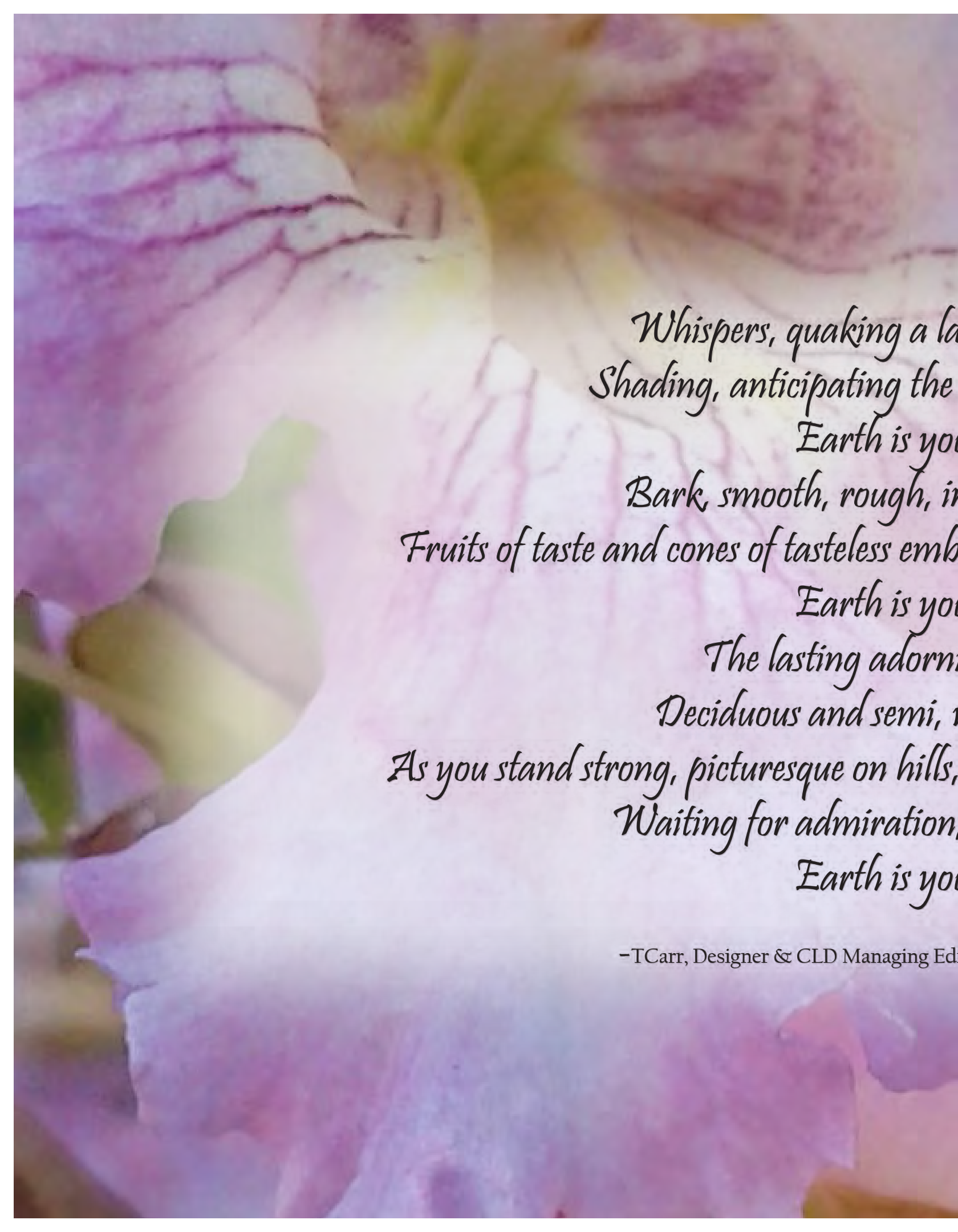


Founded in 1981 by Dale and Liz Deppe, Spring Meadow Nursery began with an assortment of around 25 deciduous shrub varieties distributed via an inventory list mailed to approximately 100 growers. By 1988, they had expanded their collection to over 100 evergreen and deciduous shrub varieties. Having gained a reputation as a source for new shrubs, they sent their first multi-page catalog to over 700 growers.

Fast forward to 1999, the new ColorChoice® program of *"new and superior"* shrubs was introduced in the Spring Meadow catalog.

Then in 2004, Spring Meadow joined the founding members of the Proven Winners® brand of annuals to become Proven Winners® ColorChoice® shrubs - the exclusive licensee to select, develop, distribute, and market shrubs for the brand. Spring Meadow is now part of the Proven Winners® cooperative as one of five licensed propagators who produce superior Proven Winners® garden and landscape plants for distribution throughout the United States and Canada.

Still known for innovation and superior plant breeding, Spring Meadow searches the world to find and select exceptional woody ornamentals for the Proven Winners® ColorChoice® brand. These unique and innovative plants are grown from materials bred by a network of top international and in-house breeders. This process translates into shrubs that are more resistant to disease and pests, have better heat and humidity tolerance, and boast the broadest geographic range of superior garden performance.



Whispers, quaking a la
Shading, anticipating the

Earth is you

Bark, smooth, rough, in

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Earth is you

The lasting adornm


Deciduous and semi, v

As you stand strong, picturesque on hills,

Waiting for admiration,

Earth is you

-TCarr, Designer & CLD Managing Ed.



*language all your own,
the sun, the rain, the clouds,
your throne.*

*intriguing to the touch,
embrace, blooming flowers scenting space,
your throne.*

*ring of evergreen,
i, what do you mean-
hills, valleys, tops of ocean floors - you rest,
on, the change in seasons,
your throne.*

Editor & Managing Content Publisher

Tree Health and Maintenance

by Gold Sponsor



Trees are a long-term investment and need to be treated with care. Ensure healthy growth with routine maintenance visits. Originally published July 7, 2022.

Trees need to be protected to stay healthy and strong. Ensure you take the necessary steps to keep installed trees healthy for years to come. This is also an opportunity for you to create residual business.

Planting

Go through the prep work needed before planting, including calling your local utilities DIG line to check all utilities in the planting area are clearly marked prior to beginning work. Ensure you are planting species likely to thrive in your customers' geography. Check USDA zones before having customers commit to certain plants. Check there will be enough room for its full canopy and mature root system. Avoid being close to utility lines, foundations, and the roof of the home. Planting too deep is a common problem, so ensure you follow the correct planting procedure for the soil and tree type.

Don't forget to water. Newly planted trees should be watered immediately, and the root ball should be fully saturated. Be careful, as too much watering can cause root rot, and not enough water can stunt growth or even kill the tree. Monitor with local rainfall to be sure the balance is kept. New trees require two gallons of water per caliper inch diameter per day until the roots are established. Water regularly for a minimum of six months, giving enough time for roots to penetrate the soil. Check clients' mature trees as well during maintenance visits, as they need at least one inch of water a week.

Applications

Test your soil before planting to understand how to properly amend the soil. The test results will guide you to all the products you may need to balance soil acidity, fertility, and macro and micronutrients. Select a product that helps cover the proper deficiencies to start your new plantings off right. Recognize that trees share the soil with other landscaping, such as flower beds and turf, which all compete for the nutrients. Ensure you balance the needs of the turf and landscaping with the needs of the tree.

Consider using a soil optimizer –like LESCO CarbonPro-G. This will increase beneficial microbial populations, increase nutrient uptake, increase nutrient utilization efficiency, increase root mass, reduce water requirements, and mitigates environmental stressors. Apply 2-5 pounds per caliper inch around the base of the tree or incorporate into the planting mix/soil.

Another product to consider when using LESCO® CarbonPro-G is Mirimichi Green's Nutri-Tree & Shrub, a liquid fertilizer that gets absorbed through both the roots and the leaves. Apply the Carbon Pro G and the Nutri-Tree & Shrub at installation, then 1-4 times per year, depending on tree conditions.

Care Considerations

Proper mulching can help reduce soil moisture loss, control weeds, and insulate soil from extreme temperatures. If overapplied, this could have a negative impact on the tree. Mulch should not exceed a few inches in depth and room should be left around the base of the tree for proper air circulation. Proper pruning improves tree structure and should be done when seasonally appropriate for the tree species. Deadwood can hold trees back from growing. Major pruning should be done in the winter when the tree is dormant, as ideally the tree should not have leaves.

During the summertime, you can focus on clearing out smaller areas, like crossing, dead, or damaged branches. Provide regular checkups for your customers and have them reach out if they notice any signs of decline. Spotting disease early is crucial to tree health, so communicate what disease might look like to your customers. They should keep an eye out for discolored leaves, cankers, split bark, or insect activity. If any damage is seen during a maintenance visit, you may need to apply fungicides, insecticides, injectables like Arborjet, and/or fix structural damage with corrective pruning.

Avoiding Pests and Diseases

There are many pests that can cause damage and disease to your clients' trees. For long term prevention, develop an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program. Monitor trees regularly for pests. Early detection is key for control. When planting trees, select species that are locally resistant to insects and diseases.

SiteOne has Your Back

Whether you have a question or need products for the job ahead, SiteOne has you covered. Our associates are ready to help, and our branches are fully stocked. Shop SiteOne.com or your local branch today.



Photos Courtesy of SiteOne



Don't Let Storm Damage
&
Poor Pruning Give You A Bad Attitude About Trees!

by

Marcia Scott

Marcia Scott Jimenez Landscape Designs

Photo courtesy of Soleil Traversi

Trees are giant assets in our landscapes, we need to do our part to preserve their presence in our world. These giants are some of the most valuable plants for wildlife habitat. They offer us respite from the sun, protection from the wind and rain, and they smell great! Our job is to create a healthy landscape for them and help them through rough patches - like vandalism, drought, or our wild California Winter 2023 weather. We need to nurture our trees and adjust our attitudes to see trees not as inconvenient and scary but as essential to our lives on the planet.

Storm damage from rain, snow, and wind impacts trees' health. However, unless you see a tree on the verge of falling over, don't panic! Many trees will recover quickly. If you believe the tree damage may pose a risk to human safety, you need to contact a certified arborist to assess the situation. Otherwise, a reputable, licensed, and insured tree service should be able to help with any pruning that large trees might require after storm damage.

Poorly pruned trees are more than an eye-sore. Bad pruning can actually deteriorate a tree's health and make it more susceptible to storm damage. Is the tree salvageable, and should the tree be saved? If you suspect that a tree might be suffering from poor pruning, contact an arborist to advise on the corrective measures that can be used to aid its recovery. As with most things, when rescuing a badly pruned tree, the impact of that tree's recovery will take time. The long-term damage of bad pruning is often not seen until after an impactful storm event occurs. Your arborist should be able to assess this.

Considering the client's vision for moving forward is imperative for a successful salvaging project on a tree. Educating a client about the value of that specific tree can help. As designers, remembering the 'right plant' means choosing a tree for the 'right place' is also a best practice and preventing future damage and tree failures.

Trees are essential to us: they are our past and our present, and let's hope trees are in our future for as long as we can imagine.



Photo courtesy of Soleil Tranquilli



Photo courtesy of Soleil Tranquilli

Featured Events



MWELO Training & Roundtable for Landscape Designers

May 17, 2023, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

As this issue of the *California Landscape Design* is hot off the press, so to speak, this MWELO Training and Roundtable program is taking place. Thanks to the generous support of the APLD CA Chapter and our sponsors, this program was offered free of charge to our members. This program was designed to be a unique opportunity for us as Landscape Designers to learn about the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) from one of the best of the best -- Kim O'Cain, author of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) MWELO Guidebook.

Kim has over twenty years of experience developing and implementing water conservation programs, policies, and outreach to public agencies and businesses. Before starting her consulting firm in 2017, [O'Cain Consulting, Inc.](#), Kim managed the City of Santa Monica's water conservation unit and co-wrote the local water efficient landscape ordinance and standards. She performed plan checks and inspections in addition to developing and implementing a variety of rebates, including sustainable landscape retrofits, and taught sustainable landscaping courses.

This type of training is important for all of us. Regardless of whether we have experience developing MWELO-compliant plans or not, there's always more to learn. Ours is a dynamic profession, and as APLD members, we actively participate in continuing education that strengthens our creativity, knowledge, and skills. Attendees earned 4 APLD CEUs.

It's vital that we remain abreast of California legislation that may support and impact us as practitioners. The MWELO is adopted, and possibly updated, every three years, so it's not simply something that to review once and never need to look at it again. The intent of MWELO, in part, is to promote the conservation and efficient use of water while conserving biodiversity and increasing climate resiliency – all important factors to us as APLD CA members and design professionals. Understanding MWELO and using these best practices can help to bolster our businesses and elevate the services we offer our clients.

This four-hour program included the basics of what every designer needs to know about MWELO's history, intent, benefits, applicability, and pathways for compliance; best practices for submitting plans; MWELO projects by APLD CA members; and a discussion about member successes and challenges working with plan reviewers, clients, and others. A recording of the training portion of the program will be available soon.

University of California Landscape Plant Irrigation Trials™

Location: UC Davis | Time: 8 a.m to 11 a.m. | Date: June 22 & September 19

About the events: UC LPIT™ seeks to improve urban water-use efficiency by evaluating landscape plant performance on three irrigation treatments corresponding to the Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOLS) High, Moderate, and Low categories of water need. Plants are irrigated during their first summer after planting. Treatments are imposed during the second growing season where researchers collect growth and quality ratings. These Open House events allow landscape and horticultural industry professionals and educators the opportunity to see new plants in their 2nd year and share your opinions and preferences by rating a representative sample of the plants in the field undergoing irrigation treatments. (Events are not open to the public.) To read more about the project [click here](#) & if you would like to receive an invitation to this event [click here](#). Contact Jared Sisneroz at jasisneroz@ucdavis.edu.

The image shows a screenshot of the UC Landscape Plant Irrigation Trials website. The top navigation bar includes the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources logo, a search bar with the text "Learn more about UC ANR", and a "SHARE" button. The main heading is "UC Landscape Plant Irrigation Trials™". Below the heading is a navigation menu with links for "CONTACT US", "AWARD WINNERS", "PLANT INDEX", "HISTORY", "NUTS & BOLTS", "REPORTS", and "More". The main content area features a large photograph of a garden trial site. The site is filled with various plants, including tall orange and purple flowers, and is organized into rows. In the background, there are three white pop-up tents and several people, including a man in a light blue shirt and a woman in a green shirt, who appear to be participating in the trial. The bottom right corner of the photograph has a credit: "Photo courtesy of Jeni Webber and Associates | Lee Anne White Photographer".

2023 Call for Entries Open
DESIGN FUTURIST AWARD

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Your
Solution

Carlin Atkinson

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DESIGN FUTURIST AWARD: CALL FOR ENTRIES

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Show us Your Solutions

Growing for Biodiversity
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Garden Futurist
Sustainable Gardening

Great ideas spread through the community. The Award calls for garden designs that are easily replicable, modest in size, or designed for intimate neighborhood community use.

DEADLINE JULY 26, 2023

<https://pacifichorticulture.org/design-futurist/>

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Photo courtesy of Humboldt

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Photo courtesy of Soleil Tranquilli



The Elemental Series Defined

Summer 2023 Publication - Elemental Series: Water

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

California Landscape Design



Association of
Professional
Landscape
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California Chapter

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Photo by Soleil Tranquilli, Tranquill Gardens

The Next Issue: *Summer*