

The Aesthetics, Inclusions & Movements of Water

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



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The President's Message

by APLD CA President - Martin G. Carrion van Rijn

Greetings,

I hope this message finds you all well, inspired by the beauty that surrounds us in our shared passion for landscape design. As the President of our chapter, I'm continually reminded of the incredible talent, dedication, and creativity each member brings to APLD and your communities.

Today, allow me to reflect on a cornerstone of APLD - volunteering at the chapter and district levels. Volunteering is at the heart of our organization, and through this, we harness our collective power for positive change. It's my sincere hope that each member considers the value brought by our district and chapter boards, dedicating time, skills, and energy to APLD's progression, educational events, outreach, and advocacy.

Our chapters and districts, the backbone of our association, provide vital connections for members to network, learn, and share ideas. Furthermore, volunteering offers a unique opportunity to connect, find inspiration, gain perspectives, and enhance professional growth.

Moreover, participation contributes to our field's advancement. As landscape designers, we're not merely creators of beauty but stewards of the environment and advocates for sustainable design. Your active involvement shapes the future of landscape design.

In California, it is essential to continue advocating for our right to practice. The recent involvement with Assembly Bill AB1573 highlights our commitment to make our voices heard. It underscores the critical need for continuous engagement in our areas of expertise. To learn more read the Advocacy Corner article, in this issue.

My service on various boards has been both a learning curve and an inspiration. The scale of issues, the necessary work for positive impact, and limited engagement makes me realize that we need help. We can't do it alone; the core, although fearless and relentless, they too welcome help. This situation may seem unsustainable unless we increase volunteers. Step up, get engaged in what we are striving for, have a positive impact in our industry and in your practice. Whether seasoned or new, your contribution is valued and needed.

There are numerous ways to get involved, such as joining the Advocacy committee, to writing an article for CLD, or help to organize an event. One can also join a district or the chapter board, take ownership of what APLD stands for. As we embark on this journey together, let us remember that APLD is only as strong as its members. Your dedication, passion, and commitment are the pillars that enable us to achieve greatness.

Thank you for your unwavering support and for being an essential part of APLD's inspiring journey. Together, we will continue to build, grow, and positively impact our industry. Together we flourish!

With deep gratitude and appreciation to all, enjoy the Newsletter,

Martin G. Carrion van Rijn APLD CA President 2023

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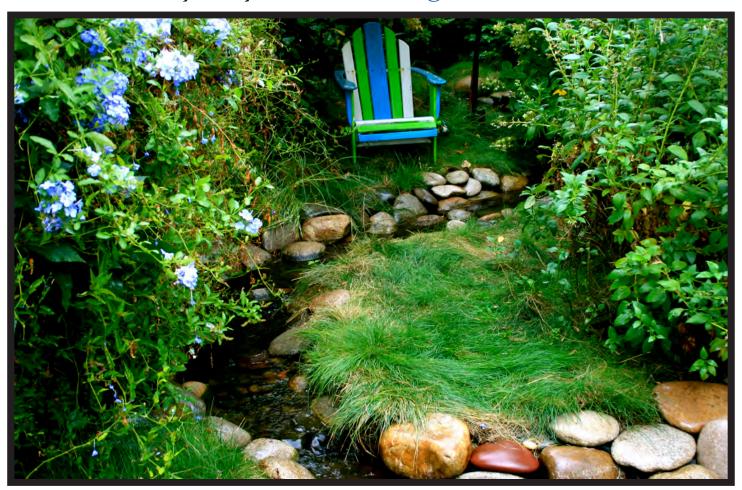
<u>Julie Molinare</u> & <u>Leesa Martling</u>

Sacramento District Rep Soleil Tranquilli, San Diego District Rep Joel Berlin, CPLD



Water Features: Every Change of Season

by Gary Kernick, Change of Seasons



When my daughter was six, we moved to a new house. I told her the side yard outside her bedroom window could be her garden, and we could landscape it however she wanted. I wasn't prepared for her to say she wanted a creek! After a moment, I thought, why not? So, a serpentine creek was created and furnished with Adirondack chairs and Native No Mow meadow grass. The babbling sounds could be enjoyed in the house. It was a great place to read a book. Callie and friends made boats to race downstream.

Inevitably, a water feature becomes the focal point of the garden. People love the sounds, the sparkling water, and watching birds and other wildlife come for a drink. I recommend installing an auto-fill float and a timer to keep the water clean and reduce maintenance. Gary is the contractor and owner of Change of Seasons. Click here to visit his website.





THE ADVOCACY CORNER

by Cheryl Buckwalter, Advocacy Chair













hat's Happening Now and Looking Forward to Advocacy in 2024.

We're sliding into the fourth quarter of 2023 and will plan for APLD CA Advocacy in 2024. I will be stepping out of the Chair position to make way for new leadership. Our essential work cannot continue without member participation, so please consider your interests and areas of expertise relative to these priority categories identified in 2021 by the Task Force -- Environment, Education, Legislation, DEI, and Outreach.

One category could be the perfect fit for you to take a leadership role. Having individual leaders for each category opens the door for a team or perhaps co-chair approach to our roles as APLD CA advocates. Together, the priorities for Advocacy 2024 can be developed and shared.

Here are some of the latest activities that I anticipate to be priorities for 2024:

Two of our highest priorities – Legislation and Environment, include our rights as professional landscape design practitioners and our continued commitment to the watershed approach to landscaping and biodiversity.

AB 1573 Water conservation: landscape design: model ordinance. (2023-2024) Author Assemblymember Friedman, bill sponsored by the California Native Plant Society

On July 3, the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee noted that the Sponsor (CNPS) rejected our request to be included in the DWR working group of stakeholders because landscape designers are limited to working on a small scope of work only for single-family residential homes, which is not a part of this bill.

This bill applies to new or renovated nonresidential landscapes, which fall within the scope of landscape architects already part of the working group.

We believe landscape designers are being discriminated against, even though we are integral to the California landscape workforce. We have a wide range of influence on creating waterefficient, biodiverse landscapes, educating clients, and collaborating for positive outcomes.

AB 1573 must require inclusion rather than exclusion, and a full-court press is needed to tackle the current and ongoing challenges we face.

We anticipate that if the author and sponsor successfully pass AB 1573, **similar legislation will be forthcoming that directly addresses residential landscapes**. Thus, landscape designers should be included in the advisory process and in the DWR working group now.

Here is a link to view AB 1573. The recording of the APLD CA Advocacy Training that was provided to our chapter in 2021 by Environmental & Energy Consultants, still pertinent today, will be available on the APLDCA.org website soon.

MWELO

If passed, AB 1573 will require the MWELO to be revised, so APLD CA representation on the MWELO LSAG is critical. Here is an excerpt from AB 1573 as of July 10, 2023:

This bill would require the updated model ordinance to include provisions that require that 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.

The bill would require the updated model ordinance to include provisions that require that all new or renovated nonresidential areas install plants that meet specified criteria, and that prohibit the inclusion of nonfunctional turf in nonresidential landscape projects after January 1, 2026. The bill would make other clarifying changes to the updated model ordinance.

The bill would require the department (DWR), no later than July 1, 2024, to convene a working group composed of a broad range of stakeholders with expertise in horticulture and native plants, as specified, to develop a strategic plan with measurable milestones to reach at target by January 1, 2035, that all new and renovated nonresidential areas install in the project footprint not less than 75% native plants.

Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC)

I attended, via webcast, the August 11, 2023, LATC meeting. On the agenda was a discussion and possible action on the 2022-2024 Strategic Plan Objectives, one of which is to:

Update the LATC Website to Clarify LATC's Roles and Responsibilities and Explain the Difference Between Regulated and Unregulated Professions Listed on Various Online Platforms and Educate Consumers on Requirements and Permitted Practice of Licensed and Unlicensed Professionals.

Outreach and Education

The <u>Advocacy section</u> of the <u>apldca.org</u> website are dynamic, and the Outreach section is the perfect platform to showcase activities, resources, collaborations, and opportunities..

Slow the Burn Symposium Follow-up

An educational video is being created by Sarah Sutton, of EcosDesign Studio, in follow-up to the Slow the Burn Symposium.

Sarah's presentation provides:

- An overview of landscape design requirements for Defensible Space in Zones 0 – 2 and examples
- Considerations for choosing plants for use in fire-resistant landscapes
- Plant selection and resources for Northern and Southern California

Stay Tuned

This short video will be on the <u>apldca.orq</u> website in early September.

In closing, please give thoughtful consideration to how you can support and be involved In Advocacy in 2024.

Contact either me or Martin, and let's talk about your interests.

Cheryl Buckwalter APLD CA Advocacy Chair

advocacy@apldca.org

Martin Carrion van Rijn APLD CA President president@apldca.org

4TH OF JULY 2015 SAND SCULPTURE COMPETITION

Buckwalter Family at La Selva Beach, California



The message then is still the message today, every drop counts, conserve and use water wise



C



Healthy Pots, Healthy Planet

By Karen Hunt

Since the beginning of the year, the Healthy Pots, Healthy Planet Committee has been working on several key activities that will provide a basis for conversations with plant container manufacturers about alternatives to single-use plastic horticultural pots. Much of the work has involved researching where the industry is today and emerging solutions that concerted industry and informed public pressure can support. This "State of the Pot" report is due to be completed in time for the APLD Conference in November. It will be updated annually and included on the HPHP Website.

Another key activity is to begin defining the qualities we, as designers would like to see in more sustainable pot options. We drafted and distributed a survey to start gathering that information. Survey results are still being compiled and will be displayed soon on the HPHP website. Generally speaking, designers would like to see pots made of natural/biodegradable materials; be made of highly durable material that will hold up for the plant, soil, and water with a sufficient lifespan for storage and transportation.

Availability in various sizes is important, especially 1- and 5- gallon containers, and the containers were expected to be harmless to the plants, moisture-retentive, and able to keep the soil temps just right. Good drainage and the ability to provide root development were also important. Other essential characteristics included that the pots be widely available and reusable.

With financial support from the CA Chapter, the DC-MD-VA Chapter, and APLD National, we've been working with a contractor to significantly increase the HPHP Website's functionality. These upgrades will allow us to show plant container manufacturers the breadth and depth of support for alternative pots.

Marie Chieppo, an APLD designer, educator, and a much-in-demand speaker and writer from Massachusetts, has been doing extensive outreach to growers to learn about alternative pots they are trialing and outreach to pot manufacturers. She has also been key in spreading the word about our Initiative during interviews and speaking engagements.

Lastly, we are now beginning to reach out to various organizations, companies, and trade associations to educate them on the HPHP Initiative and get their sign-on. We want to begin contacting our Sponsors, APLD CA Partners, and associations like the CLCA.

If you are interested in helping with this activity, please contact Karen Hunt at karen@hunt106.net or by calling 650-302-5379.

Teachable Moments: A Collection

by Cheryl Buckwalter, Sacramento District Advocacy Chair

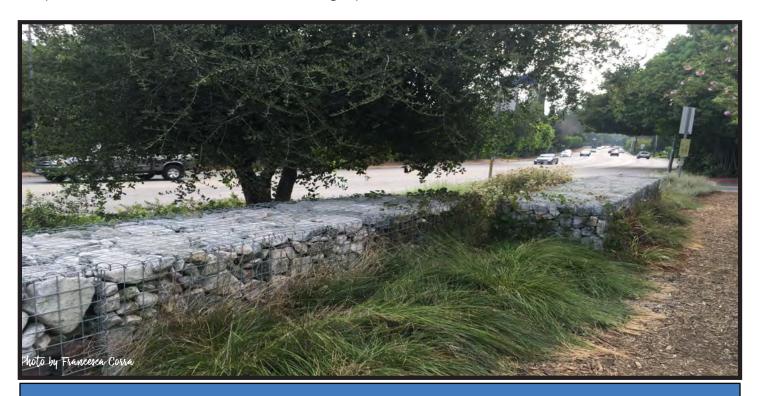
We are landscape designers, consultants, and educators, right? Even if we are not in a classroom, per se, we are always educating people, especially our clients, and learning from the experience as well. So, I asked members to share one of their most surprising, ridiculous, humorous, thought-provoking, head-scratching, etc., questions they have been asked and how they responded to make it a teachable moment. Here are a few:

Solei Tranquilli, Tranquill Gardens

Consulting at a bungalow in the older part of town., first-time homeowners are 20-something, highly educated professionals with a dog, a cute baby, and an ancient overrun landscape. We are in the middle of a long, hot, droughty summer, so I asked if they are deep watering the old tree dominating the tiny front lawn. It is a 50-foot tree with signs of massive dieback from the end of limbs and branches, and honestly, I'm thinking in my head that we should not be standing too close. They assured me it was well watered, so I asked how. The wife demonstrates this by turning on the hose full bore and watering the trunk up and down to chest height until it turns dark. I took a deep breath and demonstrated how to achieve "deep watering." I provided some resources, such as the <u>Sacramento Tree Foundation</u> and the International Society of Arboriculture's <u>Trees Are Good</u>. [End]

Francesca Corra, CPLD, Dirt Diva Designs

Several years ago, when I was on the board of and designing projects for Studio City Beautification, we were building a gabion wall. This was on an unused piece of city property that was highly visible on a busy, curvy street. Not one but three people called to ask when we were taking the stones out of the cages. After I told them that the stones were wild and were not allowed to be set free, I waited for a few beats... and then explained the concept of the walls and the reasons for selecting them. First, the neighbors had requested some barrier between the path and the street; no car would crash and get past that wall.



Second, it would require zero maintenance over the years, which has been true. In the event of an earthquake, it would remain standing. After the plants grew, there were no more questions, only compliments. I tehomeowner classes on behalf of G3 for the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). One question that comes up frequently is about mosquitoes. People worry that if they build a rain garden or creek bed, it will become a breeding ground for mosquitoes. My response is that the water drains fairly quickly if prepped and constructed correctly. As designers, if we don't go out while it is still raining, we will most likely miss the money shot when we try to catch it full of water. [End]

Chery Buckyalter, Landscape Liaisons

Some years ago, one of my designs (front, back, and side yards) was being installed by a landscape company that I had a long-time relationship with, and they had earned the River-Friendly Green Gardener Qualification, so I did not have reservations about suggesting them to my client for this project. While I saw work in progress a couple of times and expressed that I was available for questions, especially if the contractor proposed changes, alas, I was not contacted and had not seen the project when finished.

About a year and a half later, my client and I met. One of the first things said, "Is this how you envisioned the landscape? Look at the plants. So many are not doing well." Of course, this was not what I envisioned, I thought to myself! After asking some questions, checking soil moisture, number and placement of emitters, etc. Then, I went to the valves.

The plan, plant list, and project notes all included hydrozones, listing the plants in each one, designating them as low water-use plants, moderate water-use plants, and the trees, each zone being on its own valve. Did that happen? No. For example, in one area of the yard, ALL plants and trees were on th same valve. Disappointing. The good news is that the client was open to having the most necessary corrections done right away.





continue Teachable Moments

The good news is that the client was open to having the most necessary corrections done right away. We have maintained a wonderful friend/client relationship over the years, walking about the garden from time to time looking at what may need to be replaced (primarily due to age at this point), freshened up ... and she shares garden projects that reflect her style and personality. This was indeed a teachable moment for me. [End]

Teachable Mowents
is a collection of articles and photos
provided
by
Landscape Designers

Soleil Tranquilli Tranquill Gardens

Francesca Corra Dirt Diva Designs

Cheryl Buckwalter Landscape Liaisons



Landscape Water Resources

by Cheryl Buckwalter, Advocacy Chair

henever there is an irrigation-related question, especially one that has me scratching my head, I reach out to Lori Palmquist, and I imagine many of you do too! Since this issue of the CLD is about water, my mind goes to irrigation. So, I called Lori to ask what water-related resources she would recommend because learning is an ongoing process for us as professional landscape designers.

First, however, I want to share a few of Lori's own masterpieces that she didn't include on her list. If you know Lori, then I think you'd agree that she is the best-of-the-best and an over-the-top, exceptional



Lori D. Palmquist, CID, CIC, CLIA, CLWM, QWEL Instructor Recording <u>Beyond the Drought</u> videos

irrigation educator, designer, and consultant. She is also a humble, kind, and generous soul, so I want to thank Lori for her leadership and passion for everything related to irrigation and landscape water-use efficiency.

Here's a few of Lori's resources on my list.
Irrigation Mastery Online School
https://www.loripalmquist.com

Puddle-Stompers website https://puddle-stompers.com

WaterWonk WUCOLS Searchable Database https://waterwonk.us

Lori's Landscape Water Resources.

How Much Water app (WaterWonk) https://waterwonk.us/how-much/

Valley Water Scheduler https://www.valleywaterscheduler.com/

WELO Calculator (WaterWonk) https://waterwonk.us/welo/

Tons of quenching irrigation resources https://puddle-stompers.com/learning/resources.php

U.S. Drought Monitor, University of Nebraska, Lincoln https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/MapArchive.aspx

Rainwater harvesting courses (affordable on-demand online classes)

https://urbanfarm.lpages.co/water-harvesting-in-depth/

Greywater Reuse and Rainwater Harvesting Education https://greywateraction.org/

Watershed Approach to Landscape Design http://apldca.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/G3-APLD-CA-Watershed-Approach.pdf

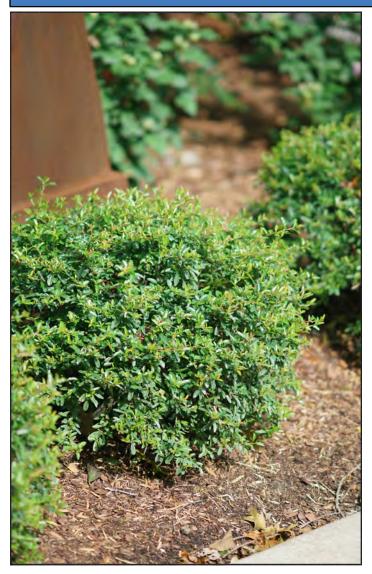
EPA WaterSense Smart Controller List https://www.epa.gov/watersense/watersense-labeled-controllers

Hunter University (free online classes and certificates) https://www.hunterindustries.com/online-training

Rain Bird Academy (free online classes and certificates) https://rainbirdservices.com/rain-bird-academy/

The Best Low-Water Plants at UC Davis





proven Winners® ColorChoice® shrubs among the best low-water plants at UC Davis

Grand Haven, MI, May 9, 2022 - According to the U.S. Drought Monitor map published by the National Drought Mitigation Center, most states, Midwest to West, continue to experience severe to extreme drought conditions with no end in sight. This could be bad news for landscapers.

Fortunately, projects like the **Iniversity of California Landscape Plant Irrigation Trials** are giving the horticulture and landscaping industry data they can use to identify plants that can withstand minimal irrigation over a sustained period. In the UC Landscape Plant Irrigation Trials, UC Davis horticulturists evaluate landscape plants with the potential to be good performers in low-water use landscapes.

Cultivars are provided by growers and breeders who want to evaluate their varieties for low-water use in hot California gardens. Over the course of the trials, plants are evaluated for overall appearance, flowering time and duration, and pest or disease problems on their lowest irrigation treatment. Those that perform best earn a Blue Ribbon™ designation.

To earn the Blue Ribbon[™], the plant has to stand out in the garden, look good most of the year, and require minimal pruning. In the latest trials, three of the seven plants that maintained these high standards of aesthetic quality were Proven Winners® ColorChoice® varieties. Comments about these varieties taken from the 2018-2020 Trial Results report include:

Buddleia x 'SMNBDBT' Pugster Blue®

"Pugster Blue performed beautifully in the Davis heat and received high marks for overall appearance throughout the season on all treatments, earning it our Blue Ribbon™ award for very good performance on low water."

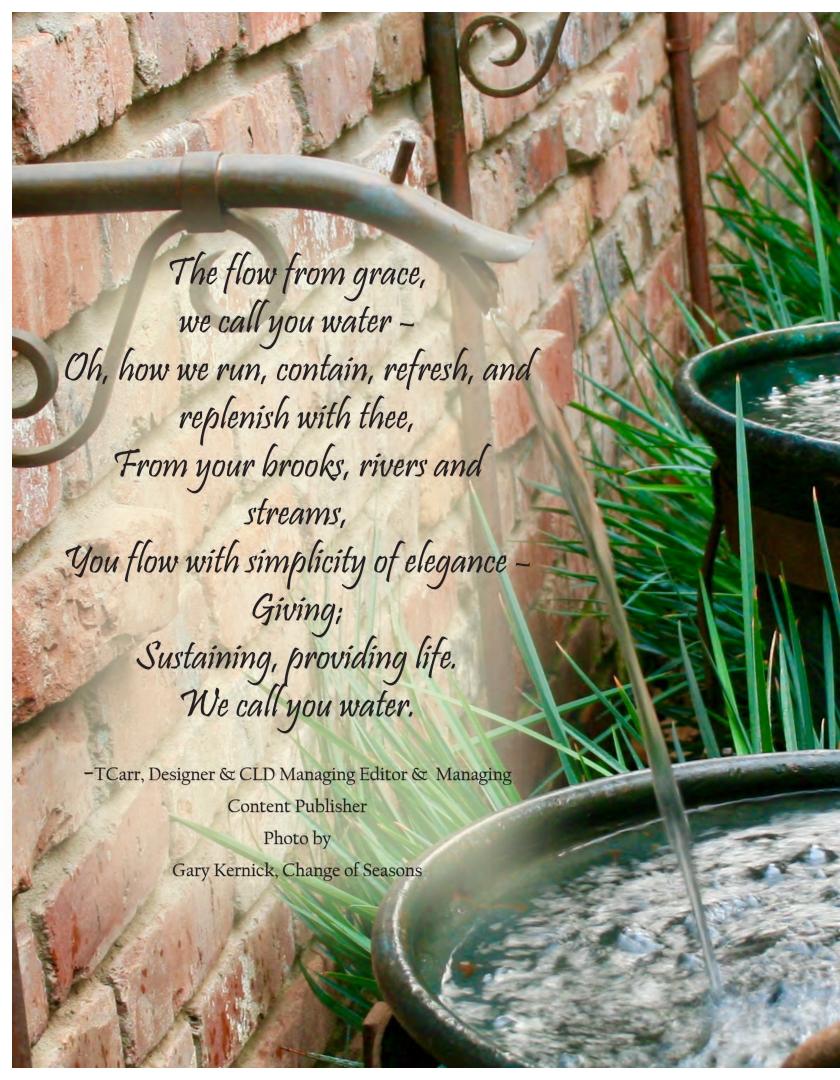
<u>Hypericum kalmianum 'Deppe' Sunny Boulevard®</u>

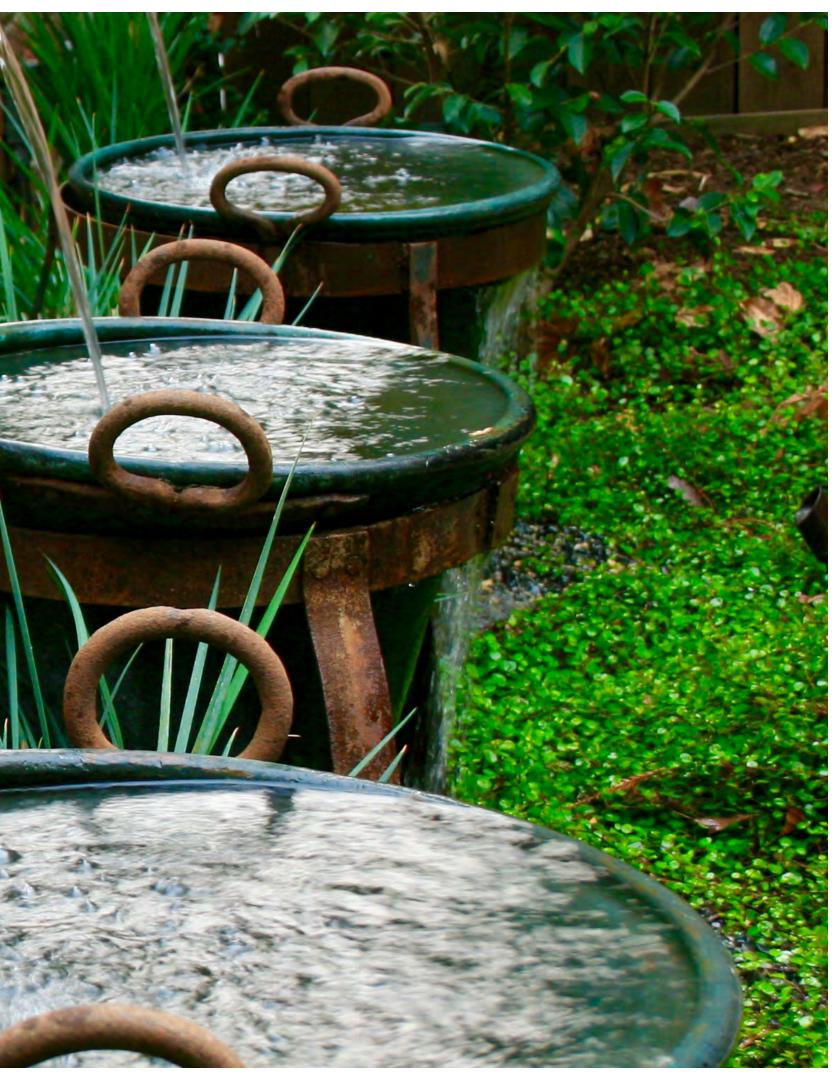
"Sunny Boulevard forms a tidy little mounded deciduous shrub with small, bright green strap-shaped leaves that emerged in early May. In Davis, this burst into bloom with bright yellow flowers that continued through July and were very attractive to pollinators."

×Pyracomeles 'NCXP1' Juke Box®

"Juke Box®, an intergeneric hybrid of Pyracantha and Osteomeles, is a small, evergreen shrub with shiny green leaves. The overall appearance and foliage health were consistently very good in Davis, though the occasional plant developed a non-uniform shape which would be easily corrected with minor pruning."

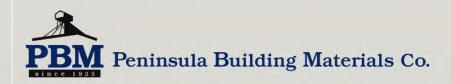
A great showing for Proven Winners® ColorChoice® cultivars as Spring Meadow Nursery continues to evaluate these types of water-wise shrubs for inclusion in its catalog. For more information about these Blue Ribbon™ plants, or any of the 300+ Proven Winners® cultivars, <u>contact an account manager</u> at Spring Meadow Nursery or go to <u>SpringMeadowNursery.com</u>. Visit our <u>Landscaper Solutions</u> webpage for the full copy of this article, plus <u>more helpful information that will help you build your landscaping business</u>.





by Gold Sponsor





1550 Parkside Drive, Suite 110 Walnut Creek, CA 94597 (877) 282-0522 www.pbm1923.com

n behalf of Peninsula Building Materials, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the APLD members for taking the time to attend our 100-Year Celebration held on Saturday, April 29 at our Mountain View Masonry Showroom. We hope you enjoyed a nod to our past with the 1920s-era vehicle, newspaper boy, and of course, our pizza.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all of our partners who have contributed and collaborated with PBM over the years. We are so deeply grateful for your loyalty and encouragement. We depend on your support and feedback to better serve you. Born from this collaboration, we are happy to announce that our Walnut Creek Showroom is now open. Our new East Bay Showroom is available for industry professionals only and allows you to compare colors, browse products, pick up brochures, and more. Click here to see our website for more information.

For 100 years now, we continue to deliver on the promise our founders built PBM, to deliver quality products with outstanding service. As we celebrate our past, we continue to build relationships with valuable contributors within the APLD. We invite you to visit our website to learn more details of our history and take a look at the images from the celebration. You can access the photos by visiting our website at pbm-history. We hope that these pictures will help you relive the memories of our 100-Year Celebration.

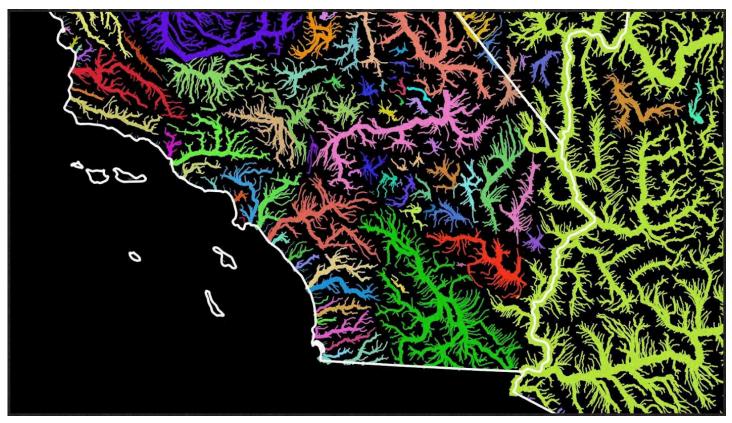
California Landscape Design





We Are All Watersheds

by Shawn Maestretti, <u>Studio Petrichor</u> Principal, Architect, Contractor



A watershed channels rainfall and snowmelt into water bodies through its land area. Ridges and outlets define it. Daily, we encounter roadway watersheds, rainfall in our homes, and water drainage. In urban areas like the Los Angeles River Watershed, water collects pollutants and flows into the Pacific Ocean.

Realizing that our unconscious lifestyles have impacted the oceans we love is disheartening. Though not entirely our fault, we must address this issue. The proverb "It may not be our fault, but it is our responsibility" comes to mind. Humans, comprising 55-78% water, are walking watersheds. We absorb and release water, influencing its movement. However, our society has lost its deep connection to water, essential for our survival. We have unconsciously undermined its healing properties.

The magnitude of this situation can bring tears, which are part of our healing process. Emotional tears release stress hormones, offering relief. "Water, in its various forms, holds the key to healing — tears, sweat, and the sea," as Isak Dinesen said.

All elements and beings are interconnected within watersheds. We can redirect our energies by learning from the elements. Trusting our breath (air), grounding ourselves to the Earth, igniting our inner fire, and embodying the strength of water allow us to reflect on ourselves.

Conscious water use, preparing the soil, and inviting its presence to embody the mighty watershed. We are all watersheds—let the flow begin!

WUCOLS IV Update Underway

by
David W. Fujino, Ph.D.

Executive Director, CA Center for Urban Horticulture
Co-Director, UC Nursery & Floriculture Alliance

ater conservation is an essential consideration in the design and management of California landscapes. Effective strategies that increase water use efficiency must be identified and implemented. One key strategy when landscaping is to group plants with similar water requirements. Supplying only the amount of water needed to maintain landscape health and appearance can prevent unnecessary applications that exceed plant needs. Doing so, however, requires some knowledge of plant water needs.

The Water Use Classifications for Landscape Species (WUCOLS) IV, last updated in 2014, evaluates the irrigation water needs for over 3,500 taxa (taxonomic plant groups) used in California landscapes.

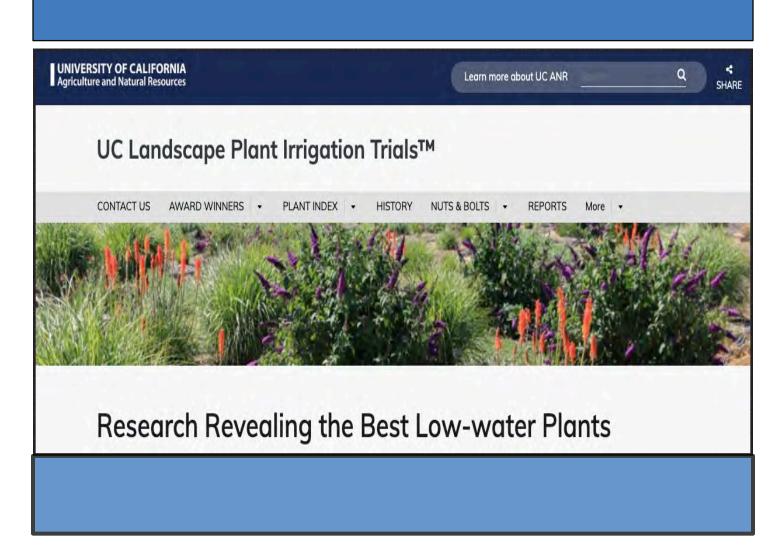
In partnership with the California horticultural industry and the Department of Water Resources, the California Center for Urban Horticulture (CCUH) will begin the process of updating the WUCOLS IV Plant Searchable Database. Volunteers from the horticultural industry, academia, government agencies, and NGO's (non-government organizations) will meet to review and provide plant water use recommendations for up to 1,700 new entries (taxa).

Representatives will be from 6 different California (CA) climate zones and will ensure that the same plant growing in multiple CA regions will be assigned a water use factor that accounts for climatic differences. Online technology, such as ZOOM or Microsoft Teams, will be utilized for the meeting venue and meeting facilitation by a CCUH representative for reviewing proposed taxa and assigning water use ratings/PF's (plant factors). The Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) requires using WUCOLS as a resource for plant factors used in water budget calculations.

Upon completion of the review process for all new taxa, data will be reviewed (for accuracy) and formatted for uploading to the existing database administered by the CCUH. Before uploading data, a cursory review of the existing database will be conducted to ensure database capability. The database will undergo review and beta testing before going live online. Google Analytics will be employed periodically for measuring user impact.

Project Overview:

- o Scope: Review and update taxa without PF assignment, commercial availability/relevance, and provide plant water use recommendations for up to 1,700 new entries (taxa); does not include photos and cultural information.
- o Start date: July 2023
- o Duration: Estimated 17 months
- o Review Format: Six regional teams meet online via Zoom technology.
- o Requested Support: Volunteers from the horticulture industry, academia, and NGOs with extensive botanical and plant performance knowledge (6 8 professionals per region)
- o Contact Information: Dave Fujino: dwfuino@ucdavis.edu





University of California Landscape Plant Irrigation TrialsTM (UC LPITTM)

Open House Event

Tuesday, September 19 @ UC Davis

Thursday, September 21, @ UC Irvine

Time:

To be determined. However, events usually take place in the morning. Give about 1 to 1.5 hours to evaluate plants. See the link below to be added to the invitation list when the registration opens approximately 6 weeks before the event.

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.

This Open House gives landscape and horticultural industry professionals and educators the opportunity to see new plants in their 2nd year and share their opinions and preferences by rating a representative sample of the plants in the field undergoing irrigation treatments.

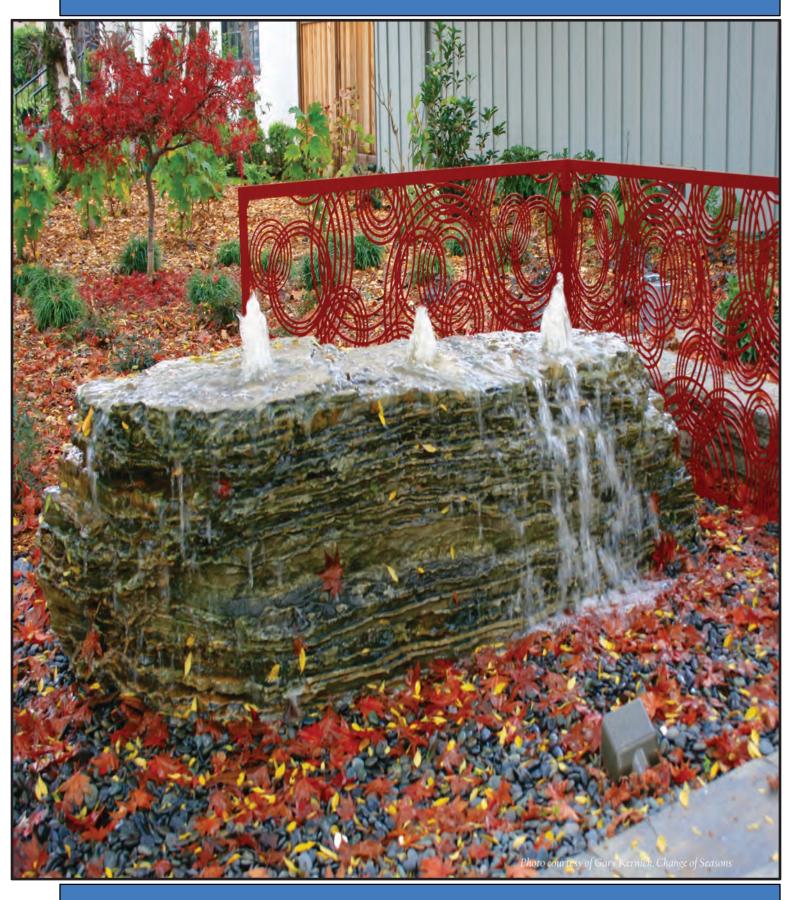
Please note:

Events are not open to the public.

To read more about the project at https://ucanr.edu/sites/UCLPIT/

If you would like to be invited to either of these events, sign-up by clicking the link below https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=40612

Questions: Contact Jared Sisneroz at iasisneroz@ucdavis.edu



Contributors

From Articles to Photos

Martin G. Carrion van Rijn,

Cheryl Buckwalter, Francesca Corra, Gary Kernick, Shawn Maestretti, & Soleil Tranquilli,

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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.

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For more information about our Sponsors or sponsoring Please contact

Julie Molinare

sponsorship@apldca.org

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

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Managing Editor & Managing Content Publisher **Traci Carr**

newsletter@apldca.org

