

Showcase your expertise and creativity...

Landscape Alberta

2016 Landscape Awards

Early Bird Entry Deadline: October 21, 2016



Check out the 2015 winning projects at www.landscape-alberta.com!



Homescapes Complete Residential Landscaping, 2015 Award of Excellence Winner

Program Sponsors:



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Landscape Construction, Maintenance and Design entries that achieve Excellence Awards in the 2017 program are eligible for selection into the National Awards of Landscape Excellence.



Eligibility Rules

1. The Landscape Awards Program is only open to Active members of Landscape Alberta.
2. An entry fee must accompany each entry.
Early Bird Deadline October 21: \$80.00 per entry
Late Entry Deadline November 23: \$100.00 per entry
3. Any landscape project which the entrant has contracted and executed the major portion thereof, will be eligible (80% of the work will be considered a major portion).
4. A site cannot be entered in more than one (1) category.
5. No company may enter more than two (2) projects in any one (1) category.
6. Landscape construction projects must have been completed no more than three (3) years prior to the entry deadline.
7. Projects receiving a previous Landscape Construction Award cannot be re-entered in the Construction category.
8. A Maintenance category entry must have been maintained and under the care of the entrant for one (1) full growing season prior to entry.
9. Projects receiving a previous Maintenance Award cannot be re-entered by the same contractor. Maintenance Award sites may be re-entered by a different contractor after three (3) growing seasons.
10. Construction Award sites may later be entered in the Maintenance category, providing the current entrant has maintained it for one (1) growing season.
11. A Design category entry must have been 100% completed by the entrant. Landscape designs cannot be submitted if the project has been entered in another category in the same year.
12. Submit project descriptions in MS Word format.
13. Design category entries must be submitted in PDF format for it to be considered for the National Awards of Landscape Excellence.

Judging

1. Judging will be conducted by professionals in the fields of landscape architecture, contracting, education, horticultural services, etc.
2. Each project is evaluated on individual merit, independent of other entries, regardless of size or cost.
3. Top point scorer(s) may be selected for submission to the National Awards of Landscape Excellence.
4. The decisions of the judges are final.

Early Bird Deadline: October 21, 2016
Late Entry Deadline: November 23, 2016

Send all entries to: **Landscape Alberta**
200, 10331 - 178 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5S 1R5

For information, contact Kyla at kyla.hardon@landscape-alberta.com or 1-800-378-3198.

Entry Procedures

- One (1) entry form must be completed for each entry. Errors, misinformation or omissions may disqualify the entry.

Landscape Construction and Maintenance Categories:

- Submit no less than eight (8) and no more than fifteen (15) colour images on a CD or USB stick. *Entry will be returned for editing if more than 15 photos are submitted.*
- Videos may be included but are not required

Landscape Features Category:

- Submit no less than eight (8) and no more than fifteen (15) colour images on a CD or USB stick. *Entry will be returned for editing if more than 15 photos are submitted.*
- The landscape surrounding the feature must be completed so that the judges can evaluate the suitability and integration of the feature into its surroundings.

Landscape Design Category:

- Submit entry on a single sheet of paper, measuring not less than 24" x 18". Show all details.
- May be entered in colour or black and white.
- If computer-generated, please indicate software program used.
- Up to five (5) before photos may be included with design.
- "After" photos will not be judged. However, up to two (2) after photos may be included to be shown during the Awards presentation (*if applicable*).

Written Descriptions

- All entries must include a one (1) page electronic (MS Word) description of the project (500 words max).
- Do not include your company name in any part of the project description.
- Include the project's complexity, what you were hired to do, any challenges faced, the client's requests, etc.
- For Maintenance projects, state specifically what areas you did and did not maintain. e.g. patio area, shrub maintenance, pruning, turf, etc.
- Please include a digital copy of your description along with your photos.

General

- All material submitted, including CDs, images, design plans and text, once received, become the sole property of Landscape Alberta.
- Entrants must grant permission for the Association to use the images, in an appropriate manner, for program promotion or Association publications (print and online).
- Those entries which meet the award criteria will receive an award and will be recognized in Association publications.
- A representative of the member company submitting the entry must sign the entry form for each submission, which will indicate that their client has given permission for photographs of their property to be published.



Photography Requirements and Tips

- All images must be submitted on a CD or USB stick.
- Choose only the best images for award submission.
- For Construction and Maintenance categories, include 8 - 15 images. For the Design category, no more than 5 before and 2 after photos should be included.
- Choose the highest quality resolution on your camera to produce the best image. Only high resolution images can be used in our publications.
- Do not include panoramic photos as they distort the image.
- Do not make changes to the original image size and do not make major adjustments to the image with photo editing software.
- Photos submitted should be the ones that you would be proud to display for your most discerning clients.
- Submit photos taken during the summer or early fall. Lawns should be green and if photos are taken in the autumn season, some leaves must be retained on trees and shrubs.
- Take photos from a variety of angles and points of interest.
- Include close up photos of the beds, edges, shrubs, etc. that you maintain so the judges can evaluate work.
- Do not submit photos that are out of focus, too dark (underexposed), or too light (overexposed).
- Photos are best taken during early morning or later in the day, or with an overcast sky.
- Distracting objects should be removed before photographs are taken. Hoses lying across walkways, stray tools, litter, etc., have no place in a successful entry photo.
- Include before, during and after photos of your work as it helps the judges to see your whole project.

Helpful Hints

- The judges determine the quality of materials (both plant and hardscape), complexity, completeness of installation, workmanship, and horticultural correctness in the project, using only the photographs and the written description submitted with each entry. Remember, first impressions count both for judges and for future clients.
- Plant material should be properly selected and well-adapted to the site.
- Sweep mulch that has spilled onto hard surfaces.
- Make sure plant material is well-pruned and free of insects or disease. Remove all tags and flagging.
- Remove all weeds from shrub beds.
- Candid pictures of people using the landscape can show use and demonstrate scale.
- Photos that portray compatibility of materials and show textural qualities are helpful.
- Elevated/overhead shots taken from a normal vantage point (i.e. from a deck, upstairs window, etc.) can be helpful.
- Include before, during and after photos of your work as it helps the judges see your whole project.
- Do not show your company name and/or logo in any photos.

File Naming

Proper file naming is very important, especially if you are submitting more than one entry on a single CD or USB stick.

Example: Company name, project name, image number
(You may abbreviate your company name)



Landscape Alberta: 2016 Landscape Awards Entry Form

(Separate entry form required for each project submitted)

All information must be clearly typed or printed. Please sign below where indicated by the x

Name of entrant (Member Company) _____

Name of contact person _____ Business Tel _____

Address _____ City _____

Prov _____ Postal Code _____ Email _____

Name of project * _____

***Please PRINT the project name as you wish it to appear on the award plaque, the Landscape Alberta website, and in other publications**

Location/address of project _____ City _____

Client name (PRINT) _____

Project designer (Design category only) _____

I verify that the information provided on this form is accurate and that I have read and agree to abide by all the rules and procedures. By submitting this entry application I expressly indicate that I have obtained consent from my client to disclose their name and to have such personal information disclosed in relation to the program, including the publication of photographs of their property.

X Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____

Please indicate here if you do not wish to publish the name of your client. DO NOT DISCLOSE MY CLIENT'S NAME

Picture # to be used for media and plaque _____

Permission to use Digital Photos:

I understand that upon submitting the digital photos accompanying this application, I am granting permission to Landscape Alberta Nursery Trades Association for the use of these photos in Association publications and program promotion (print and online). I certify that the information provided on this application form is complete and true to the best of my knowledge.

X Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____

+ Photographer's signature (if other than applicant) _____ Date _____

ENTRY CATEGORIES

Two (2) entries per category permitted

Early Bird Deadline: October 21, 2016

Late Entry Deadline: November 23, 2016

CONSTRUCTION CATEGORIES

- Residential Landscape Construction
 - a) Under \$50,000
 - b) Over \$50,000
- Commercial Landscape Construction
 - a) Under \$100,000
 - b) \$100,000 - \$500,000
 - c) Over \$500,000
- Landscape Features - Residential
i.e. patios, gazebos, ponds, waterfalls
- Landscape Features - Commercial
i.e. patios, ponds, waterfalls, entrance gates
- Green Roof / Green Wall

MAINTENANCE CATEGORIES

- Maintenance – Residential
- Maintenance – Multi-Unit Residential
i.e. condominiums, apartments
- Maintenance – Commercial
i.e. office building, shopping centre, public building,
entrance gates, storm ponds

DESIGN CATEGORIES

- Residential Landscape Design

Landscape Alberta administration reserves the right to re-categorize any entry to ensure a project is accurately judged.

2016 Landscape Awards

What the judges look for - Category marks out of 100 points



CONSTRUCTION - Residential/Commercial

CONSTRUCTION QUALITY. 50 Pts.

Grade Contouring—Consistent with surrounding terrain; smooth, gradual transition of landscape area; proper drainage/slope

Boulders— 1/3 to 1/2 of boulder/rock buried, match surfaces where boulders/rocks meet in groups.

Dry Streambeds—Follows a natural drainage path; materials suit the surrounding landscape.

Paving (brick, stone, tile, etc.)—Proper grading, high quality finish, neat and clean, consistent with industry standards.

Decking and Benches—High quality materials with a good foundation and adequate structural strength, good construction detail.

Fences—Plumb, not warped, suitable attributes for site (material, height, etc.); gates properly placed, latched.

Walkways—Plumb, good joints, no cracks, free of hazards; materials installed with industry standards.

Walls—Proper materials and installation to meet purpose (industry standards); clean, even lines; functional and attractive.

Water Features—Quality of installation; no sign of leaks/water loss, no equipment showing needlessly, flow suits size of feature.

Fire Pit/BBQ—Proper materials and installation; adequate distance from any flammable structure and plants.

Irrigation Systems—Head-to-head spacing, properly installed, easy access to valves.

Lighting System— Wiring properly buried and neatly installed.

Sod— Proper installation (note seams, edges); smooth, even grade.

Trees—Planted straight and at proper depth, no excess soil mounded at base, properly staked (where required), tags removed.

QUALITY OF PLANTS. 25 PTS.

Trees/Shrubs—Healthy appearance, no obvious damage or disease.

Mulch—Appropriate amount added around trees/shrubs/planting beds; minimal potential for mulch to spill onto walkways.

Plant Ground Covers—Adequate plantings for coverage, proper placement and healthy appearance, appropriate plant choice.

Beds of Color—Healthy appearance, appropriate spacing for mature size of plants.

Turf—Healthy appearance and color, even texture across turf area.

DEGREE OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY. 15 Pts.

Grades, water drainage, site access, environmental factors, client requirements, etc.

OVERALL IMPRESSION. 10 Pts.

Does the project have a WOW factor? Has the contractor worked to ensure this project appears to its best advantage? Has unattractive debris and construction equipment been removed? Is there a sense that the contractor is proud of this project?

MAINTENANCE - Residential/Commercial

TURF AREA. 30 Pts

Healthy appearance; no evidence of uneven fertilizer application. Free of litter. Tolerable level of weed presence in turf; no evidence of uncontrolled pest infestation.

Mowed evenly; no evidence of mechanical damage from maintenance equipment. Edges of turf appear clean and/or uniform. Wells around trees free of weeds and debris.

Maintenance equipment/tools removed from site.

TREES, SHRUBS & FLOWERS. 30 Pts.

Trees and shrubs—Healthy appearance; no evidence of uncontrolled pest infestation; properly pruned and not interfering with pedestrian or auto traffic; properly staked or supported (if necessary); tree wells free of debris and weeds; no evidence of mechanical damage from maintenance equipment.

Hedges—Properly shaped, healthy appearance.

Plant Ground Covers—Healthy appearance, edged neatly off of walks and away from buildings and trees.

Beds of Color—Thoughtfully selected annuals, well planted, healthy appearance and aesthetically pleasing.

HARD LANDSCAPE AREAS. 30 Pts.

Dry Ground Cover—Evenly raked, no bare spots; cleared from patios, walks and drives.

Dry Stream Beds—No weeds or debris, no washouts (bare areas).

Waterfalls—No leaks or excessive water loss; neat and clean.

Walkways, Roads and Parking Areas—Free of weeds, debris and hazards.

Irrigation Systems—Evidence of full water coverage on all turf and/or planted areas. Sprinkler heads, bubblers and/or emitters maintained at the proper height and position.

OVERALL IMPRESSION. 10 Pts.

First impression of the overall appearance? Neat and tidy? Healthy and green?

RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE DESIGN

ORIGINALITY, CREATIVITY and EFFECTIVENESS OF DESIGN ELEMENTS. 45 Pts.

Does the design stand out from run-of-the mill designs? Is there function, accent, balance composition: including integration of plants and hardscape.

SOLUTIONS TO SITE PROBLEMS. 15 Pts.

Has the designer incorporated solutions to site problems in a practical manner?

PLANTS. 20 Pts.

Are the plant choices appropriate for the growing zone, lot size, light conditions, spacing, grouping, colour and texture?

CLIENT REQUESTS. 10 Pts.

Has the designer taken into consideration the clients needs, desires and instructions?

PLAN PRESENTATION. 10 pts.

Easy to read and understand. Complete list of plants and a professional finish.

RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE FEATURES

CONSTRUCTION QUALITY. 50 Pts.

Does the feature demonstrate a high standard of workmanship and materials?

Consider only the criteria specific to the feature in this project:

Grade Contouring—Consistent with surrounding terrain; smooth, gradual transition of landscape area; proper drainage/slope

Boulders— 1/3 to 1/2 of boulder/rock buried, match surfaces where boulders/rocks meet in groups.

Dry Streambeds—Follows a natural drainage path; materials suit the surrounding landscape.

Paving (brick, stone, tile, etc.)—Proper grading, high quality finish, neat and clean, consistent with industry standards.

Decking and Seating—High quality materials with a good foundation and adequate structural strength, good construction detail.

Fences—Plumb, not warped, suitable attributes for site (material, height, etc.); gates properly placed, latched.

Walkways—Plumb, good joints, no cracks, free of hazards; materials installed with industry standards.

Walls—Proper materials and installation to meet purpose (industry standards); clean, even lines; functional and attractive.

Water Features—Quality of installation; no sign of leaks/water loss, no equipment showing needlessly, flow suits size of feature.

Fire Pit/BBQ—Proper materials and installation; adequate distance from any flammable structure and plants.

Irrigation Systems—Head-to-head spacing, properly installed, easy access to valves.

Lighting System— Wiring properly buried, fixtures and transformers neatly installed.

Sod— Proper installation (note seams, edges); smooth, even grade.

Trees—Planted straight and at proper depth, no excess soil mounded at base, properly staked (where required), tags removed.

DEGREE OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY. 20 Pts.

Consider—Steep grade, water drainage, site access, environmental factors, etc.

Does it meet a special request of the client?

Does it demonstrate particular expertise with material or technique?

OVERALL IMPRESSION. 10 Pts.

First look—Does the feature have a WOW factor?

Does it fit in with its surroundings? Does it function as advertised?

Imagine yourself as the owner of this property - are you satisfied with this feature?

Total points earned out of 80 will be calculated as a percentage of 100%

Green Roof / Green Wall Award Entries – General Information

A Green Roof/Green Wall may be installed:

- using a recognized/approved modular system (i.e. trays) which includes drainage layer, filter cloth, growing media and plants
- by placing each component separately
- by using a combination of these two methods.

A Green Roof/Green Wall project is the development of a contained green space on a roof/wall structure (not on the ground surface). The category does not include using free-standing containers or planters.

A project shall be considered as Green Roof or Green Wall when it is an extension of an existing roof/wall and includes industry-recognized/approved:

- waterproofing system
- root repellent system
- drainage system
- filter cloth

The project must also include appropriate plant material.

Note: any features of the project that can be directly attributed to design (rather than execution) are not included in the criteria for a Construction category (e.g. storm water management, energy education features, etc.).

CONSTRUCTION - Green Wall

CONSTRUCTION QUALITY. 65 Pts.

Does the installation show a high standard of workmanship and materials?

Consider these criteria for features present in the project:

Consistent grade

Grid / trays aligned

Seams not visible - unsightly fabric or plastic not visible

Plants installed in consistent apparent layout (rows, patterns)

Plants installed correctly in growing media

Are the plant materials of a high standard of quality?

Healthy appearance - no obvious damage or disease

Adequate plantings for coverage - appropriate spacing for mature size of plants

DEGREE OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY. 20 Pts.

Access issues - street closures, restricted work times; challenges to reach height

Challenges due to wall size - e.g. soil volume

Innovative solutions - were obstacles overcome?

How were environmental challenges addressed?

Any use or fabrication of special equipment to undertake the installation?

OVERALL IMPRESSION. 15 Pts.

First look - Does the finished project have a WOW factor?

Has the contractor worked to ensure this project appears to its best advantage? Is there unattractive debris or construction equipment present? Do you sense that the contractor is proud of this project?

CONSTRUCTION - Green Roof

CONSTRUCTION QUALITY. 65 Pts.

Does the installation show a high standard of workmanship and materials?

Consider these criteria for features present in the project:

Consistent grade

Grid / Trays aligned

Seams not visible - unsightly fabric or plastic not visible

Plants installed in consistent apparent layout (rows, patterns)

Plants installed at correct height in growing media

Are the plant materials of a high standard of quality?

Healthy appearance - no obvious damage or disease

Adequate plantings for coverage - appropriate spacing for mature size of plants

DEGREE OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY. 20 Pts.

Access issues - street closures, restricted work times; challenges to reach height

Slope of roof - is roof flat, sloped, multi-terraced?

Challenges due to roof size - e.g. soil volume

Innovative solutions - were obstacles overcome?

How were environmental challenges addressed?

Any use or fabrication of special equipment to undertake the installation?

OVERALL IMPRESSION. 15 Pts.

First look - Does the finished project have a WOW factor?

Has the contractor worked to ensure this project appears to its best advantage? Is there unattractive debris or construction equipment present? Do you sense that the contractor is proud of this project?

Landscape Awards Payment Form

Payment must accompany entry form(s).

<p><i>Early Bird Deadline: October 21, 2016</i> Early Bird Entry Fee: \$80.00 x Number of entries: _____ = _____</p> <p><i>Late Entry Deadline: November 23, 2016</i> Late Entry Fee: \$100.00 x Number of entries: _____ = _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">GST# 107595530 5 % GST: _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">TOTAL: _____</p>

Credit Card Information:

VISA

MASTERCARD

CHEQUE

AMOUNT \$ _____

CARD # _____

EXPIRY DATE _____

NAME ON CARD _____

COMPANY _____

SIGNATURE _____

EMAIL _____

Mailing Address:

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