

Sustainable Landscaping Cookbook

Resources, Tools and Opportunities In the Landscape Profession

Doctors Do It







Carpenters Do It



Almost All Professions Do It



But The Landscape Profession Does NOT.....



A Professional License and Having Oversite of our Operations

> Lawyers, Doctors, Plumbers, Carpenters, Teachers...... We are the only 'professionals' that do not

All other professions must show competency before they can do business

But not landscapers.....

Anyone can start a landscape business (all you need is a truck, mower, and a card)



Gary the Gardner Lawn Mowing Business Cell Phone #

Conquering Nature One Lawn at a Time!

But would go to a doctor if you did not know if he/she was licensed?



EVEN IF IT WAS CHEAPER!!!!

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

How about a level playing field?

How many companies have a business license?
How many are properly bonded?
How many are properly insured? (1 million min.)
How many pay fair wages?

- How many pay living wages & health benefits?
 - How many are getting paid under the table?
 - Not paying any taxes at all??

But are we in a race to the bottom?

Business Name

Slogan

Services Provided: Mowing Bagging Reel Mowing Weed Eating/Trimming Edging (with a weed eater) Etc., add or take out services as you have the ability

Contact Us! Phone number Email

We offer free estimates!

We want to be called landscape professionals

But with so many landscape amateurs, how can we differentiate ourselves from all the others???

The Path To Glory

PlantAmnesty

Why Johnny Can't Prune Part 3

The Maintenance Mentality

An arborist of my acquaintime attended a series of landange architecture classes, is one of which the instructor atopungingly referred to the maintenance mentality of ground erees. Boy, did has burn my bust, given the level of hubris a the landscape metrificeture profession. They must have heard the dudt over from the maintenance industry complaining that her overplarting and missisting of landscape material creater andscape that are doemed to self-destruct.

After the designer is long gone, the handreaper crews are bell responsible for maintaining the un-maintainable. How can landscape architects so earshy dismiss this chronic complaint about then profession? I imagine that their subconscients thoughts go something like, "I like my design and my customers like its so to heck with you and your complaints." Unfortunately, the maintenance mentality really does exist with an unconscious and unspoken maintain that goes something like. "I like it, and my customers like its so to heck with you and your complaints about shearing shrubs."

I know this from personal experience. One of the reasons I left civil service to start my own maintenance business was because neither the grounds srews nor the bosses of the Parks Department would adopt selective pruning.

Edge on viacation and come back to find the shrubs that i had so carefully un-sheared and pruned selectively had been on-sheared by the crew. They liked it, so to heak with anybody else. The grounds crew actively resisted fearning what our new horicollurishs had to teach us about weeding, matching, transplanting, shrub names, and how to prime. Why, why?

continues on page

Next Issue:

Exceptions to the rules: When is it okay to head or top trees?

and the state and a solution of

Plant Activist Update



Bone Meal, Hairy Potter, Bingo Bee and Katsura at Bin

Tree-Hugger Bingo, July 11

Once again, with the help of 65 extraordinary volumeers, PhartAmnesty's Seventh Annual Tree-Hugger Bingo was a huge success! Things went as amouthly that some of a hegan to get worried! Everyone had a great time. Cheoe an Case were a hoor as always, the eight costumed prize tunners added pizzazz to the festivities, the prizes were stupendrus, and the 25 different pots of chil, --seatood chili, het burnyour-mouth-out chili, pork and hominy chili, vegetanan chil weret chili, etc., etc., etc. You trame it, we had it! And don' forget the great salad (thank you, Shannon Dumn) and the efficience strawberry shortcake (thank you, Bonnie Lyons). A special thank you goes out to all the doners of the great

continues on page 4

Why a Path to Glory?

To find the path to the two things that our field needs and wants:

BETTER WAGES & MORE RESPECT

Landscapers take pride in what we do, not what we know



WHY, WHY, WHY??

To get better customers who are interested in quality work not just cost To get paid more for what we know, not just what we do as routine To be seen as professionals and not just businesses We need to show that we ARE professionals, want to be PAID like professionals and that hiring the best professional service will pay long term dividends for customers and the environment



What is available for the practitioner or company as **Recognition and Incentives**

SO.....

And what **Resources** are available for the company or individual to grow their knowledge? 80% of residents surveyed across 5 Puget Sound counties said they preferred to support environmentally minded businesses www.envirostars.com



business practices

A program that helps small businesses get better and get recognized for their continued efforts

The more proactive your efforts to reduce hazardous materials and waste and to incorporate green business best practices, the more benefits you can receive:

- Website listings and links
- Highlights in radio advertisements
- Profiles in local newspapers
- Achievement award nominations
- Promotion at community and trade events

There are more than **700 EnviroStars** businesses – From Seattle to Spokane



Certification Process

Step 1: EligibilityStep 2: ApplyStep 3: ConsultationStep 4: FinalizeProcess

Ratings System: 2 Star EnviroStar 3 Star EnviroStar 4 Star EnviroStar 5 Star EnviroStar



Washington State Sustainable Landscape Professional Certification

EPA-Sustainability is based on a simple principle: Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly on our natural environment.

Sustainability creates and maintains the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations



Washington State Sustainable Landscape Professional Certification

Offered by **WSNLA** and **WALP** to certify landscape professionals who work within Washington State, prove knowledge of and practice voluntary sustainable best landscape practices



The program promotes the certified sustainable landscape professional with a recognized credential that enhances employment as a landscape designer, landscape contractor, and landscape maintenanace professional

WALP

Washington Association of Landscape Professionals

Washington State Sustainable Landscape Professional Certification

Methods

- Publish best practices for sustainable landscape
- Administer a training program that prepares professionals for certification
- Offer professional accreditation recognized throughout Washington State
- Certify individuals who demonstrate knowledge of best landscape practices
- Renew certified individuals

BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS

- Soils Best Practice Standards
- Irrigation & Stormwater Best Practice standards
- Air Quality and Prevention of Noise Pollution Best Practice Standards
- Practice Standards for Habitat Protection, Creation, & Management
- Energy Management Best Practice Standards
- Sustainable Practice Standards for Plants
- Suggested Materials for Sustainable Landscaping
- Practices to Avoid in Sustainable Landscaping

Other Programs Available

Oregon Tilth Accreditation Society for Organic Urban Land Care (SOUL)







Salmon Safe – Corporate and University campuses can get certified www.salmonsafe.org



Sustainable Sites Initiative



American Society of Landscape Architects Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center United States Botanic Garden



Creation and implementation of clear and rigorous design, construction, operations and maintenance criteria





The Sustainable Sites Initiative envisions that sustainable land practices will enable natural and built systems to work together to protect and enhance the ability of landscapes to provide services such as climate regulation, clean air and water and improved quality of life



Sustainability is defined as land practices that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

- The goal of a sustainable site is to protect, restore, and enhance ecosystem services whenever possible through sustainable land development and management practices
- Global climate regulation
- Local climate regulation
- Air and water cleansing
- Water supply and regulation
- Erosion and sediment control
- Hazard mitigation
- Pollination
- Habitat functions
- Waste decomposition & treatment
- Human health and well being
- Food and renewable non food products
- Cultural benefits

Pesticide Free Places

Database of pesticide-free and pesticidereduced parks around King County If you work at a park or public place (i.e. school) and are pesticide free, get yourself some recognition!



Pesticide Free Places - Where kids and pets play worry-free




RAINWISE



Low Impact Development Natural Landscaping



Sustainable Landscaping Resources

KING COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE -Voucher Incentive Program Monetary assistance for products and equipment



Get reimbursed for purchasing items that helps cut use of pesticide products, reduces waste or reduces energy. King County is pretty flexible.



Helped pay for goat weed control on our property



Join a Professional Organization

WALP- Washington Association of Landscape Professionals

WSNLA – Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association

APLD – Association of Professional Landscape Designers

ISA – International Society of Arboriculture

WASLA - Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects



Grow Smart, Grow Safe



A guide to lawn and garden products

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yer Advanced" Brush Killer Plus RTU		7	0			•	fluaritop-P-butyl
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ide* Poison wy & Inuth Cities BA-32 ETU		10	0				MCPA, triclopyr, dicamba
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Stormwater Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW)

Detailed stormwater requirements

2012 manual is out, but still in draft form

Final should be in place by October 16th, 2012 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington













August 2012

ECOLOGY

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Seattle Public Utilities "ProIPM" website

- Sample maintenance guides and specs
- Post Construction Soil Management Guidelines
- Seattle's Green Stormwater Infrastructure requirements
- Irrigation tips and rebates
- IPM Fact Sheets

Maintenance guides and specs



Free hotline for home gardeners and gardening professionals



Your Garden. Our Expertise

