



San Luis Obispo Chapter  
California Landscape Contractors Association  
Representing the Landscaping & Irrigation Industry



Volume 33, Issue 3  
July 2023

## Submit your landscapes to the Annual Beautification Awards!

The CLCA SLO chapter awards encompass categories covering residential and commercial landscape construction, maintenance, and design/build, along with hardscape, outdoor lighting, and sustainable landscaping. This is one of the chapter's biggest events.

[Submit your best projects](#) from this past year! We are offering a discount on the entry fees to help maximize your number of entries – pay to enter two projects and get the third free (what a deal!). The **entry fee for each project is \$150** and to qualify for this discount must be **received on or before Monday, July 31, 2023**. That's right, we've extended this deal an extra month! So, what are you waiting for? Sign up today! (more info on page 4)

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[www.clcaslo.org](http://www.clcaslo.org)



2022 Small Commercial Maintenance Award, Landscape Development, Inc.

## 2023 CLCA SLO Chapter Officers

President	Brandon West	805 West Landscape	<a href="mailto:805west1@gmail.com">805west1@gmail.com</a>	805.975.4761
Immediate Past President	Matt Hames	SiteOne Landscape Supply	<a href="mailto:mhames@siteone.com">mhames@siteone.com</a>	805.550.2949
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Treasurer	Mike Kneeskern	SiteOne Landscape Supply	<a href="mailto:mkneeskern@siteone.com">mkneeskern@siteone.com</a>	805.464.1393
Associate Member Rep	Gina Hall	SCP / Horizon Landscapes	<a href="mailto:gina.hall@poolcorp.com">gina.hall@poolcorp.com</a>	-

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## CLCA SLO Past President's

<b>2020-22</b> Matt Hames Landscape Development, Inc.	<b>2011</b> Aaron Huxley Hunter Industries	<b>2004</b> John Doyle J Doyle Landscaping	<b>1995</b> Danté D'Alfonso D'Alfonso's Landscape
<b>2016-19</b> Evan Moffitt SiteOne LS Supply	<b>2009-10</b> Erik Wolting All Seasons Gardening & Landscaping	<b>2002-03</b> Pat Connelly St. Francis Landscape	<b>1994</b> Duane Morris Duane Morris Landscape
<b>2014-15</b> Mike Kneeskern SiteOne LS Supply	<b>2007-08</b> Jim Trask California Water Shapes	<b>1998-2001</b> Bruce Courter Day Star Enterprises, Inc.	<b>1993</b> John Ruggiero Arcadian Gardens
<b>2012-13</b> David Brown Mari Landscaping	<b>2005-06</b> Erik Wolting All Seasons Gardening & Landscaping	<b>1996-98</b> Lloyd Gracey Pacific Coast Landscapes	<b>1991-92</b> Bruce Courter Day Star Enterprises, Inc.

## President's Message



Hello fellow CLCA SLO members! Can you believe the year's already half-over? Things are heating up, both in north county, and in the landscape industry as a whole. We're just a few weeks away from our 2023 Beautification Awards judging, and I personally am really excited to see what amazing projects everyone submits.

Recently, our chapter has been focusing on how we can best serve you, our local contractors. Our team is putting in a lot of effort on making our events fun for everyone. Do you know anyone who might be interested in joining our CLCA SLO chapter? If so, I encourage you to bring them to the Beautification Awards Ceremony on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

I also want to encourage everyone to reach out to our current Chapter Officers, and let us know what the most important member benefit is. What could we do to make your membership with this great association the best it could be? We're open for ideas, and want to hear from you! See you all at the Beautification Awards, and have a great month!



**CLCA SAN LUIS OBISPO CHAPTER**

**2023 SLOXPRESS ADVERTISING RATES**

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\*\* Ad fees for partial years are prorated to end of year (see cost per newsletter)

**DEADLINE for ads: 15th of the month prior to publication**

START DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Make checks payable to: CLCA SLO (copy [mkneeskern@siteone.com](mailto:mkneeskern@siteone.com) on submittal)**

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# Beautification Awards: What you Need to Know



As discussed on the first page, this is one of the chapter's biggest events, and we can't put it on without your support and participation. Our team has the location set up, the award sponsors locked in, and are cooking up some delicious dinner ideas for the event. Our judges are scheduled to visit and they can't wait for the list of projects to go see.

[Submit your best projects](#) from this past year! Projects will be judged by two members of alternate CLCA chapters (one from the north and one from the south), and they're both excited to see what's going on around SLO & SB counties. They will be looking at the skill and quality of workmanship of every aspect of your project, so don't forget to spruce up your projects for final presentation.

**Judging will take place on Friday and Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.** Please be sure that there is no signage, vehicles, or employees with your company name or logo on-site during the judging days.

Awards will be presented at a **gala banquet on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the SLO Botanical Gardens.** The evening will start at 6 pm with a cocktail reception and dinner to follow. Please visit the [CLCA website](#) to RSVP and **register for the event by Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, or with **Ian Parker** at [ian@madronelandscapes.com](mailto:ian@madronelandscapes.com) or (805) 234-5797. Cash, Check, or Card will be accepted at the door.

Not sure where your projects best fit? Here's a list of the award categories and descriptions available.

Categories	Description
1 <b>Small Residential</b>	Single-family residence with landscaping cost under \$25,000.
2 <b>Medium Residential</b>	Single-family residence with landscaping cost \$25,001 - \$75,000.
3 <b>Large Residential</b>	Single-family residence with landscaping cost \$75,001- \$150,000.
4 <b>Residential Estates</b>	Single-family residence with landscaping cost exceeding \$150,001.
5 <b>Small Commercial</b>	Any type of building or structure used for business or manufacturing; including apartments, condos, and model homes, with landscaping costs less than \$60,000.
6 <b>Medium Commercial</b>	Any type of building or structure used for business or manufacturing; including apartments, condos, and model homes, with landscaping costs more than \$60,001-\$150,000.
7 <b>Large Commercial</b>	Any type of building or structure used for business or manufacturing; including apartments, condos, and model homes, with landscaping costs exceeding \$150,001.
8 <b>Sustainable Landscape</b>	Water conservation through creative landscaping (Commercial or Landscape Residential).
9 <b>Hardscape</b>	Creative or best use of construction materials (Concrete, wood, masonry, etc.) Must be constructed by the applicant's company.
10 <b>Small Residential Maintenance</b>	Landscape maintenance on single family residential property started prior to June 1, 2022, with less than 7,000 SF of total landscape area.
11 <b>Large Residential Maintenance</b>	Landscape maintenance on single family residential property started prior to June 1, 2022, with more than 7,000 SF of total landscape area.
12 <b>Small Commercial Maintenance</b>	Landscape maintenance on commercial property started prior to June 1, 2022, with less than 7,000 SF of total landscape area.
13 <b>Large Commercial Maintenance</b>	Landscape maintenance on commercial property started prior to June 1, 2022, with more than 7,000 SF of total landscape area.
14 <b>Landscape Lighting</b>	Any landscape lighting project of any size.

Still interested in becoming a sponsor? [Download the sponsorship application](#) today!

# Legislation Update: Priority Bills You Need to Know

Update provided by **Paul Wait**, VP Legislation CLCA SLO Chapter

## State Budget Update

The State of California's General Fund budget deficit increased to \$33 billion per Governor Newsom and his Department of Finance. The Legislative Analyst's Office came out and said that the governor's revenue numbers were "plausible but unlikely" and the budget deficit will likely approach \$40 billion for the state. If we go into a recession, the deficit could grow considerably more, perhaps as high as \$50 billion.



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## Priority Bill Issues

CLCA is currently tracking 118 legislative bills as of June 26th, 2023. On July 14<sup>th</sup>, the state legislature starts their summer recess and will reconvene August 14<sup>th</sup>.

### *SB 220 Corporate Income and Franchise Taxes*



California's corporate tax rate is 8.84% under current law. SB 220 would raise rates to 10.99% – the highest rate in the nation beginning January 1, 2024. The California Chamber of Commerce has designated SB 220 as a "JOB KILLER" bill. CLCA is taking an Oppose 2 position against this bill.

### *AB 1572 Potable Water Irrigation Restrictions*



As currently amended, this bill prohibits the use of potable water to irrigate nonfunctional turf on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties other than a cemetery. The bill would authorize a public water system, city, county, or city and county to enforce these provisions. CLCA is taking an Oppose 2 position against this bill.

### *AB 1573 Water Conservation: Landscape Design: Model Ordinance*



Makes changes to various provisions in the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO). The bill would require the use of at least 75% of local native plants excluding edibles or any area irrigated with recycled water. It would prohibit non-functional turf in nonresidential landscapes after January 1, 2026. CLCA is taking an Oppose 2 position against this bill.

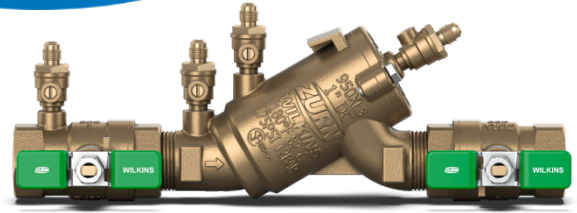
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Have something worth sharing? Send it our way! Reach out to our VP of Legislation, **Paul Wait**, at [paul.wait@zurn.com](mailto:paul.wait@zurn.com) directly and keep an eye out for the update on future newsletters.

**Associate Member Spotlight: Zurn Wilkins**



Zurn Industries manufactures Wilkins water control and water safety products in Paso Robles, CA. The local factory employs over 170 SLO County residents. It has been producing backflow preventers, pressure reducing valves and many other water-control products since 1977.



The new Zurn Wilkins 975XL3 series small backflow preventer line stands out in today's market, thanks to its compact size and innovative design.

With the shortest lay length of any all-bronze backflow preventer on the market today, the 975XL3 series offers easier drop-in installation for contractors and greater design flexibility for irrigation designers. Its fast-test test-cocks positioned on the centerline allow for seamless accessibility and fewer space restrictions.

The 975XL3 series also features Zurn's EZSwap® check technology with top access from a single chamber, which can help contractors save up to 75% of labor time in repairs. Well-equipped for landscape irrigation systems, the 975XL3 series offers protection from back-siphonage and backpressure of contaminated water into the potable water supply.

Due to its long lifecycle and lasting durability, the fully approved 975XL3 series is a smart choice for retrofit and new applications. For more information and a quick video on this new product, watch this video: [Zurn Wilkins 900XL3 Series Small Backflow Preventer](#)

Your company could be highlighted in a future issue of the CLCA SLO Newsletter! Interested in learning more about how to be featured? Contact our membership chair **Ian Parker** at (805) 234-5797 or via email at [ian@madronelandscape.com](mailto:ian@madronelandscape.com).

**Thank you to the following companies for their generous support of the CLCA SLO Chapter.**  
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