



ALCA
Contract with Landscape Experts

34th Annual Arizona Excellence in Landscaping Awards Application

Market To Your Clients

Let them know how their landscape contractor did in 2009!

Recognize Your Employees

By allowing them to accept awards for their hard work, dedication and outstanding landscape projects!

Industry Recognition

Be a leader of the pack and compete with the best!



Recipients of awards will be recognized on
November 20, 2010 at The Buttes Marriott, Tempe, AZ

Photo: 2009 Presidential Award Winner—Enchanted Garden Landscape, Inc.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. ALL ENTRANTS MUST BE AN ALCA MEMBER.

Company Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Contact Name _____ E-mail: _____

Project being entered (Exactly as it should appear on award plaque) _____

Date of Installation or Maintenance Contract Began (Month/Year) _____ Completion Date _____

Contract price for Total Installation or Annual Maintenance _____

Joint Entry: (If Applicable) **Joint Entrants must also be an ALCA member.*

Company Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

A fee of \$150 per entry must accompany this form.

DEADLINE JUNE 28, 2010

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ made payable to ALCA.

Please charge my VISA MasterCard AMEX Total amount charged \$ _____

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Cardholder Name _____

DEFINITION OF AWARDS

Presidential Award: May be given to a project which demonstrates the highest levels of excellence and creativity. The project must first win an Award of Excellence to be considered for a Presidential Award.

Xeriscape Award: A project which demonstrates outstanding use of Xeriscape principles may be considered for this award. Projects must first win an Award of Excellence to be considered for this award.

Best Maintenance Practice Award: This award reflects and recognizes the precise efforts of gardening, arbor care, turf care and irrigation practices. Projects must first win an Award of Excellence to be considered for this award.

Category of Awards: Award of Excellence (First Place), Award of Distinction (Second Place) and Judges Award (Third Place) will be determined based on a point system.

Award of Excellence: Awards may be given to projects, which demonstrate outstanding levels of workmanship and creativity. Entries must receive a 90% score or above and have the highest score of all projects entered in that category to qualify for an Award of Excellence. **Only one Award of Excellence will be given per category.**

Award of Distinction: Awards may be given to projects, which demonstrate superior levels of workmanship and creativity. Entries must receive an 80% score or above to qualify for an Award of Distinction. **Only one Award of Distinction will be given per category.**

Judges Award: Awards may be given to projects, which demonstrate distinguished levels of workmanship and creativity. Entries must receive a 70% score or above and have the highest score of all projects entered in that category to qualify. More than one Judges Award may be given in each category.

CHECK OFF LIST

- Fill out company, project name and contact information.**
 - ◆ Must be an ALCA member to participate. If a designer/architect submits an entry, he/she must have a joint entry with the installation contractor who must also be an ALCA member.
- Check one entry category. One application per project.**
 - ◆ Any previously ALCA award winning installation project may not be submitted unless it is submitted for a redesign, heritage or maintenance category.
 - ◆ Projects entered in the maintenance category must have been under contract for at least one year prior to date of entry.
 - ◆ Include cost of pool/spa installation if property owner made payment directly to you.
 - ◆ **Entrants may not submit their own home, relative's home or their business property.**
- Check off work performed for this entry.**
 - ◆ Check pool/spa under "Your Company" if property owner made payment directly to you.
- Take up to but no more than 20 digital photos of your installation, renovation or maintenance project.**
 - ◆ Included in the 20 are at least 2 night photos if you installed lighting.
 - ◆ Renovations Projects: Five (5) additional photos of "before" pictures are required.
 - ◆ Irrigation Installation or Maintenance: Four (4) additional photos are required to include shots of irrigation controller with view of wiring, back flow prevention device, valves in valve box, pop up spray heads or rotors in action.
 - ◆ Low Voltage Lighting Installation Only: Require 20 photos: (5-10) must be daytime shots showing fixture installation. One (1) photo should be of a wire connection (wire nut or distribution hub). Two (2) photos of transformers—place a torpedo level on top for transformer to show levelness. Open door and show wire compartment. No less than 10 night photos. **No other means of illumination may be used during night shots. No temporary flood lights or camera flash.**
 - ◆ Special Water Feature Installation Only: Require up to but no more than 20 photos: (5-10) must be construction photos showing liner, base, pump assembly, plumbing & skimmer. Ten (10) finished pictures should include night shots if lighting was installed.
- Submit photos on a CD. Do Not crop, manipulate or submit photos on a DVD or in a PowerPoint or in any other type of presentation program.**
 - ◆ The minimum resolution acceptable is that of an 8-megapixel camera.
 - ◆ A variety of portrait and landscape orientation images are needed.
 - ◆ Before burning your CDs, rename your image files using an abbreviated version of the project name and number them 01, 02, 03, etc., to reflect the order in which you wish the judges to view them. Use leading zeros on your numbering so files stay in order.
- Write a one line description corresponding to the photos.**
 - ◆ For low voltage lighting category include the following: number of fixtures, number of feet of wire and sized used, number of runs, number of transformers and size, special lamps, lens, filters, mounting techniques. Indicate how system is controlled, used Halogen or LED or both, installation challenges.
- Include a page printout of the thumbnails from the photos on the CD.**
 - ◆ Select 5 photos on the thumbnail printout for the award's presentation should your project win. Number these 1 through 5.
 - ◆ Indicate which one out of the twenty photos will be placed on the award plaques.
- Include a 150 word description of the project.**
 - ◆ Description should relate to the 5 numbered photos selected for the award's presentation.
 - ◆ **Do no use your company name in the description.**
- Attach a signed release for owner/representative of project and photographer.**
- On a separate 8 1/2" x 11" sheet, attach a plan with property lines, shade in landscaped areas.**
- Submit application by June 28, 2010 along with \$150 to ALCA office.**

PROJECT CATEGORY
CHECK ONE PROJECT CATEGORY BELOW
Must have a separate application for each entry

Single Family Residential Installation

If a designer/architect submits an entry, he/she must have a joint entry with the installation contractor.

- 1. Under \$25,000
- 2. \$25,001 to \$50,000
- 3. \$50,001 to \$75,000
- 4. \$75,001 to \$125,000
- 5. \$125,001 to \$175,000
- 6. \$175,001 to \$250,000
- 7. \$250,001 to \$350,000
- 8. \$350,001 to \$500,000
- 9. Over \$500,000

Model Homes Installation

Landscape construction of 2 or more homes or family units located in a single subdivision.

- 10. Under \$100,000
- 11. Over \$100,000

Interiorscape Installation

Commercial or residential projects.

- 12. Interiorscape Installation

Small Garden Installation

Defined area no more than 500 sq. ft. Looking for a vignette—decorative design, special garden area, water feature area or entertainment area.

- 13. Small Garden Installation

Special Water Feature Installation

Creative use of water feature enhancing landscape.

- 14. Residential Installation
- 15. Commercial Installation

Heritage Installation

Residential, commercial, industrial or public works project which was installed 5 years prior to the date of entry.

- 16. Heritage Installation

Humanitarian Installation

Project in which the entrant donated 50% or more of the labor cost of the project. No application fee required.

- 17. Humanitarian Installation

Low Voltage Lighting Installation

- 18. Residential Installation Under \$10,000
- 19. Residential Installation \$10,000 or above
- 20. Commercial Installation Under \$10,000
- 21. Commercial Installation \$10,000 or above

Commercial Installation

If a designer/architect submits an entry, he/she must have a joint entry with the installation contractor.

- 22. Under \$50,000
- 23. \$50,001 to \$100,000
- 24. \$100,001 to \$175,000
- 25. \$175,001 to \$250,000
- 26. \$250,001 to \$350,000
- 27. \$350,001 to \$500,000
- 28. \$500,001 to \$1,000,000
- 29. Over \$1,000,000

Renovation (Redesign)

Project which involves renovation. Must have 40% of the original job remaining. Five (5) digital photos prior to the renovation is required.

- 30. Commercial Redesign
- 31. Residential Redesign Under \$50,000
- 32. Residential Redesign \$50,001 to \$150,000
- 33. Residential Redesign \$150,001 to \$350,000
- 34. Residential Redesign Over \$350,000

Residential Maintenance

Must be currently maintained by the entrant and have been under contract for 1 year or more.

- 35. Residential Maintenance

Interiorscape Maintenance

Must be currently maintained by the entrant and have been under contract for 1 year or more.

- 36. Interiorscape Maintenance

Commercial Maintenance

Must be currently maintained by the entrant and have been under contract for 1 year or more.

- 37. Under \$25,000
- 38. \$25,001 to \$50,000
- 39. \$50,001 to \$150,000
- 40. \$150,001 to \$250,000
- 41. \$250,001 to \$350,000
- 42. \$350,001 to \$500,000
- 43. Over \$500,000

WORK PERFORMED

Place a check mark (X) under installation, renovation or maintenance work performed in your contract by your company. These are the items you will be judged on. The project description and digital photos should reflect those items checked. In the second column, check all work performed by "Others".

INSTALLATION/RENOVATION ENTRY

<i>Check work completed</i>	<i>Your Company</i>	<i>Others/Existing</i>	<i>Score</i>
Grading	_____	_____	_____
Patio/Walkway/Driveway Surfaces- <i>-pavers, tile, flagstone, concrete & aggregate</i>	_____	_____	_____
Granite/Rip Rap Areas	_____	_____	_____
Boulders	_____	_____	_____
Water Features	_____	_____	_____
Irrigation systems	_____	_____	_____
Planting	_____	_____	_____
Beds of Color- <i>Annuals, Perennials & Pots</i>	_____	_____	_____
Pot arrangements/sculptures	_____	_____	_____
Pool/Spa	_____	_____	_____
Design	_____	_____	_____
Lighting	_____	_____	_____
Walls—retaining, seat, screen	_____	_____	_____
Artificial Turf	_____	_____	_____
Sod/Turf	_____	_____	_____
Bar B Q	_____	_____	_____
Fire Pit	_____	_____	_____
Ramada/Gazebo	_____	_____	_____
Hardscapes/Other—define	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

MAINTENANCE ENTRY

<i>Check work completed</i>	<i>Your Company</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Score</i>
Trees (above 12 feet)	_____	_____	_____
Trees (below 12 feet)	_____	_____	_____
Shrubs	_____	_____	_____
Live Ground Covers	_____	_____	_____
Cacti and Succulents	_____	_____	_____
Turf	_____	_____	_____
Beds of Color- <i>Annuals, Perennials & Pots</i>	_____	_____	_____
Granite/Rip Rap Areas	_____	_____	_____
Dry Stream Beds	_____	_____	_____
Water Falls	_____	_____	_____
Roads	_____	_____	_____
Parking Areas	_____	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____	_____

LOW VOLTAGE LIGHTING INSTALLATION ENTRY

<i>Check work completed</i>	<i>Your Company</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Score</i>
Transformer Installation	_____	_____	_____
Wire & Wire Connections	_____	_____	_____
Fixture Installations	_____	_____	_____
Design	_____	_____	_____
Control System Installation- <i>Timers, photos cells, remote</i>	_____	_____	_____

PHOTO DESCRIPTIONS

Provide up to but no more than 20 digital photos on a CD of what you installed, renovated or maintained. Make sure the following descriptions correspond with your numbered photos.

01. _____
02. _____
03. _____
04. _____
05. _____
06. _____
07. _____
08. _____
09. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

Five (5) additional “before” photos are required for renovation entries. Explain special challenges of the installation.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Four (4) additional photos are required if you checked Irrigation Systems for installation or maintenance. Include photos of irrigation controller, back flow prevention device, valves in valve box and pop up spray heads or rotors in action.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

PHOTO AND OWNER RELEASE

- ◆ The Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association (ALCA) publishes photographs of outstanding projects in its regular publications and marketing materials. Not only do these photographs serve to inspire others in the green industry, but they recognize your hard work. All photos become the property of ALCA and may be used in publications and for public relations activities. Applicants and the professional photographer must sign a copyright release to ALCA for the use of the photos.

SIGNED RELEASE OF OWNER/REPRESENTATIVE AND PHOTOGRAPHER

You must have owner approval for an on-site visit. After the initial judging, the highest scoring projects will be subject to an on-site visit.

Signature of Release/Owner:

Name of Project/Owner: _____

Address: _____

Directions: _____

Access to Project: (provide gate access or instructions and best time of day to visit)

I (we) _____ agree to give the Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association (ALCA) permission to visit the property and release the entry material to ALCA for media use and other purposes ALCA deems appropriate. If you wish your name to be kept confidential, please check here _____ and "private residence" will replace your name.

X _____
Signature of Property Owner

Date

Copyright Release of Digital Photos:

I (we) _____ understand that upon submitting this application to the Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association (ALCA), the digital photos become the property of ALCA. I (we) agree to give ALCA permission to use the digital photos in award recognition or any other promotional activity that ALCA is involved with. I (we) certify that the information provided on this application form is complete and true to the best of my (our) knowledge.

X _____
Applicant's Authorized Signature

Date

X _____
Photographer's Authorized Signature
(If other than applicant)

Date

ENTRY WILL NOT BE JUDGED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES.

CONSTRUCTION JUDGING GUIDELINES

1. **Rough Grade Contouring**—Consistent with surrounding terrain.
2. **Finish Grade**—Smooth gradual transition of landscaped area, complete drainage of all excess water.
3. **Boulders**—Bury 1/3 to 1/2 of boulder/rock, match surfaces where boulders/rocks meet in groups.
4. **Dry Streambeds**—Follow natural drainage paths and be of great enough depth to facilitate the flow of water.
5. **Granite**—Adequate depths to cover all soil.
6. **Paving (Brick, Tile, etc.)**—Proper grading, high quality finish, neat and clean, and consistent with industry standards.
7. **Decking and Benches**—High quality materials with a good foundation and adequate structural strength, good construction detail.
8. **Fences**—Plumb, not warped, gates swing freely, latched properly.
9. **Walkways**—Plumb, good joints, no cracks, free of hazard.
10. **Walls**—Even mortar joints, not warped, neat and clean overall appearance.
11. **Water Features**—No leaks, no excessive water loss, flow consistent with size of feature.
12. **Fire Pit/BBQ**—Adequate distance from any flammable structure and plants.
13. **Ramada**—Sound structure, level, quality workmanship.
14. **Irrigation Systems**—Head-to-head spacing, no exposed lines, properly buried, easy access to valves and controller, use of proper backflow device.
15. **Lighting System**—All wiring properly buried, fixtures and transformers neatly installed, proper ratio of fixtures to wattage.
16. **Trees/Shrubs**—No excessive soil on top of root system. Good healthy appearance, correct placement and properly staked (nursery stakes removed).
17. **Plant Ground Covers**—Adequate coverage, proper placement and healthy appearance.
18. **Cacti/Succulents**—Sufficient lighting, properly braced, sharp spined plants located away from high traffic areas, on separate water valve from all other plants.
19. **Beds of Color**—Good coverage and healthy appearance.
20. **Turf**—Smooth even grade with good physical appearance, even texture, proper drainage and good green color.
21. **Headers (Brick, Concrete, etc.)**—Good tight lamination, proper staking, neat appearance.

MAINTENANCE JUDGING GUIDELINES

1. **General Appearance**—overall neat appearance, areas outside of regularly maintained areas to be free of weeds, unattractive debris and erosion.
2. **Trees above 12 feet**—Properly pruned and supported, if necessary. No mower, weed eater or mechanical damage.
3. **Trees less than 12 feet**—Properly pruned, out of the path of pedestrians and auto traffic. Properly staked or supported. No mower, weed eater or mechanical damage.
4. **Shrubs**—Properly pruned, free of insects, with a healthy vigorous appearance. No Shearing.
5. **Plant Ground covers**—Healthy appearance, edged neatly off of walks and away from buildings, trees and shrubbery.
6. **Cacti/Succulents**—Good healthy appearance, free of insect and/or animal damage.
7. **Turf**—Green and lush in appearance, weed free, mowed evenly, edged uniformly. Wells around trees shall be weed and debris free.
8. **Beds of Color**—Thoughtfully selected, well planted, of a healthy appearance and aesthetically pleasing.
9. **Dry Ground Cover**—Evenly raked, no bare spots, cleared from patios, walks and drives.
10. **Dry Stream Beds**—Weed free, no washouts, free of granite fill.
11. **Waterfalls**—No leaks, neat and clean.
12. **Walkways, Roads and Parking Areas**—Free of debris and hazards. No plants blocking line of sight.
13. **Irrigation Systems**—Evidence of full water coverage on all turf and/or planter areas. Sprinkler heads, bubblers and/or emitters maintained at the proper height and position. Free of leakage and problem spots.

LOW VOLTAGE LIGHTING GUIDELINES

1. **Transformers**—Hung level and plugged in or hard wired. Check GFI
2. **Wires**—Neat, buried and labeled. Use conduit. Methods must be acceptable based on wire size, wattage load & distance.
3. **Control Systems**—must be to code and UL approved.
4. **Connections**—Must be completed using approved connectors, no electrical tape or dry splice.
5. **Path Lights**—Must be installed perpendicular to the ground. Up and accent lights should have no hot spots or glare.
6. **General low voltage lighting practices** should be followed.