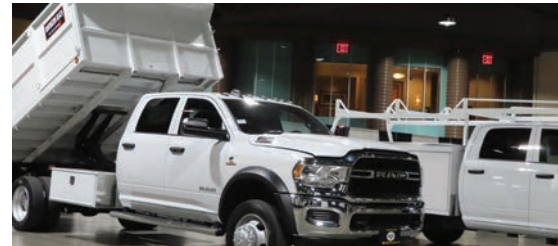


# LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR



## THE 2023 - ANAHEIM LANDSCAPE DESIGN • BUILD • MAINTAIN • SUPPLY EXPO SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> & 21<sup>ST</sup>



## IT'S TIME TO GO TO THE EXPO

PLUS

"FIRESCAPING" CALIFORNIA P.10

IDENTIFYING AND TREATING

TREE DISEASE, PEST, AND SOIL PROBLEMS P.14

THE PROS AND CONS OF OVERSEEDING P.18





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# The 2023 TLE Seminar Schedule Pre-Register Today

\*See Page 12 for Discount Information

## Wednesday September 20th 2023

**8:00 am**

### Employee Safety in the Landscape

Donald Bottger, Director of Venue Operations SD Convention Center

### How to Improve the Survival of Plants

Wei Zhang, Ph.D, Tree Diaper

### Water Feature Design

Yvonne English, Legends Design Studio

### Recognize Tree Problems

Kevin Sims, Educator, ISA Certified Arborist, Sims Tree Health Specialists

### Smart Controller Technology Update

Mark Pedicone, Operations Manager, Imperial Sprinkler Supply

### Creating Tree Protection Zones on Construction Sites

Erik Diaz, Landscape Supervisor at USC

**10:00 am**

### Poor Practices in Landscape Management

Donald Bottger, Director of Venue Operations SD Convention Center

### Organic Herbicides and Alternatives to Glyphosate in the Landscape

Karey Windbiel-Rojas, Associate Director for Urban and Community IPM

### Say Yes to Bamboo

Greg Wallace, Instant Jungle

### Central Irrig. Control and Flow Sensing to Save Water, Time, and Money

Jeff Drongowski, Technical Sales Representative at Calsense

### Landscape Lighting, Bidding, and Design

Steve Allen, Pool Corp

### Assessment on Different Battery Powered Tools

Erik Diaz, Landscape Supervisor at USC

### Aerial Rescue

Jose Mercado, Hispanic Arborist Association

**12:00 pm**

### Best Business Practices (Spanish)

Raul Rodriguez, Earth1Pro

### Commercial Maintenance

Adam Carr, Senior Manager, Landscape Operations for Irvine Company

### Management of Emerging Tree Pests in Southern California

Beatriz Nobua Behrmann, Ph.D. University of California Coop Extension

### CA Contractor License Laws, Don't End Up Holding the Bag!

Milene Apanian, Attorney

### Gas Fire Features in Landscape Design

Ken Love, Outdoor Living Educator, Sales Representative

### Methods and Tools to Manage Irrigation Water Windows

Doug Callison, Snr Prod. Sales Manager/Water Conservation, Rain Bird

### Proper Pruning

Jose Mercado, Hispanic Arborist Association

**2:00 pm**

### Landscape Lighting at The Roofless Church and Paul Tillich Park

Kathryn Toth, ILLI Board of Directors

### Field-Wiring Diagnosis

Craig Borland, Toro

### Getting Paid! California Mechanic's Lien Laws Simplified

Milene Apanian, Attorney

### Best Practices: Chemical Free Landscape Maintenance

Brandon Elrod, Certified Community Forester, Pacific Coast Arborists

### The Art of Designing Outdoor Rooms

Yvonne English, Legends Design Studio

### Rainwater Harvesting

Mike Garcia, Founder, EnviroScape LA

### Tree Selection, Planting, Training, and Initial Care

Susan Sims, Sims Tree Health Specialist



## Thursday September 21st 2023

**8:00 am**

### Drought, Heat, and Pest Resistant Landscape Trees for So. Cal

Janet Hartin, Educator, UC Cooperative Extension

### Successful Tree Planting Projects Require More Than Just Planting!

Wei Zhang, Ph.D, Tree Diaper

### Best Business Practices (Spanish)

Raul Rodriguez, Earth1Pro

### Species Invasions and Extinction

Glenn Rogers, RLA, Landscape Architect

### Weed Management in Turfgrass and Landscape

Heidi Burgess, Corteva Agriscience

### Reducing Irrigation Water Use Utilizing Sensors

Doug Callison, Snr Prod. Sales Manager/Water Conservation, Rain Bird

**10:00 am**

### What we Learned From Marketing Native Plants

Ann-Marie Benz, Horticulture Programs Manager, CNPS

### Using Compost to Conserve 1/3 of Your Water on Landscapes

Dan Noble, Executive Director of Association of Compost Producers

### Palms in the Landscape, Drought, and Water Conservation

M.L. Robinson, University of Nevada

### Customer and Vendor Relationships: Creating Winning Landscapes

Adam Carr, Senior Manager, Landscape Operations for Irvine Company

### Creating the Illusion of Space in Landscape Design

Pat Murphy, SMP's Vision Director

### Field-Wiring Diagnosis

Craig Borland, Toro

### Aerial Safety

Jose Mercado, Hispanic Arborist Association

**11:45 am**

### Upgrading your Tree Care Practices into a Community Forestry Strategy

Brandon Elrod, Certified Community Forester, Pacific Coast Arborists

### Discover More... A Plant Journey

Nicholas Staddon, Everde Growers

### Climbing Techniques

Jose Mercado, Hispanic Arborist Association

### Green Spaces for Tiny Places

Janice Gould, Responsive Drip Irrigation

### Plant Healthcare from the Soil Level

Wister Dorta, Arborjet

**1:30 pm**

### Palm Tree Problems that Aren't Really Problems

M.L. Robinson, University of Nevada

### Rainwater Only Landscaping

Dane Shota, Arborist

### Landscaping for Fire Protection

Douglas Kent, California Polytechnic University, Pomona

### Insect ID and Control

Susan Sims, Sims Tree Health Specialist

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\*Seminar times & topics are subject to change

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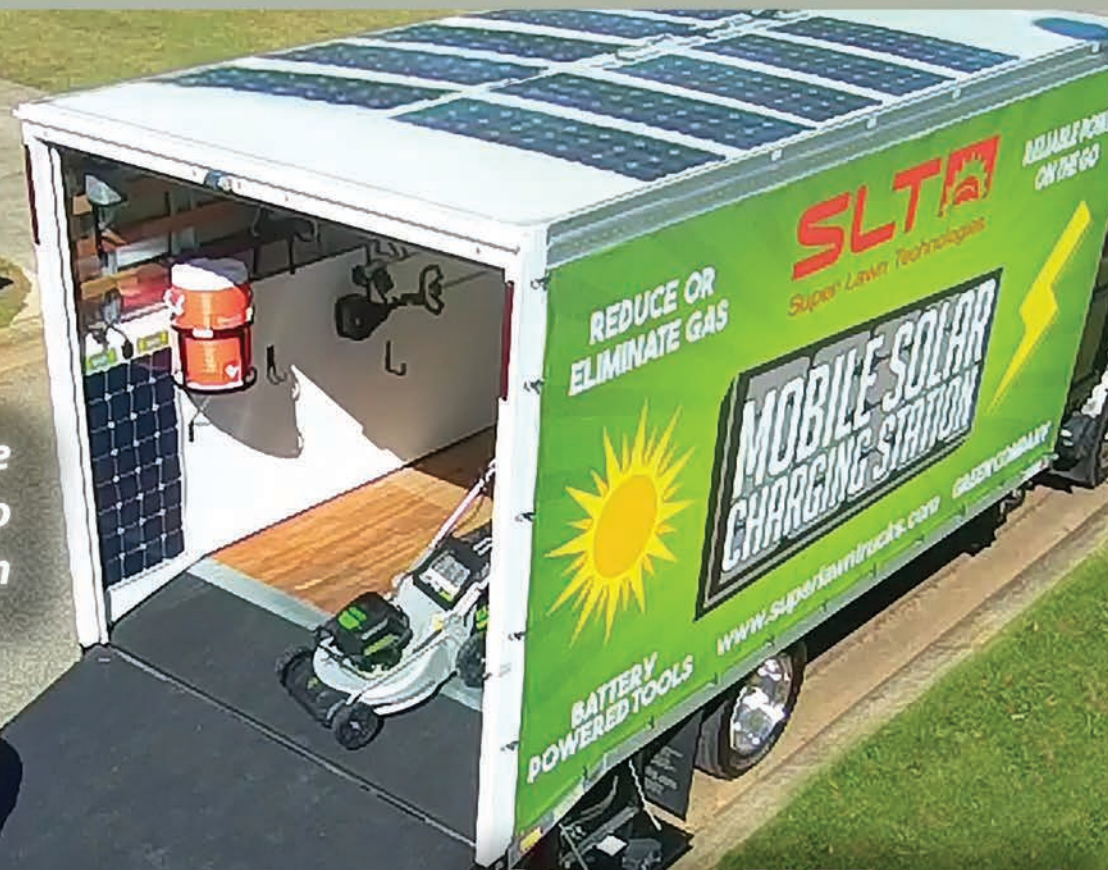


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Tony Bass, SLT Founder



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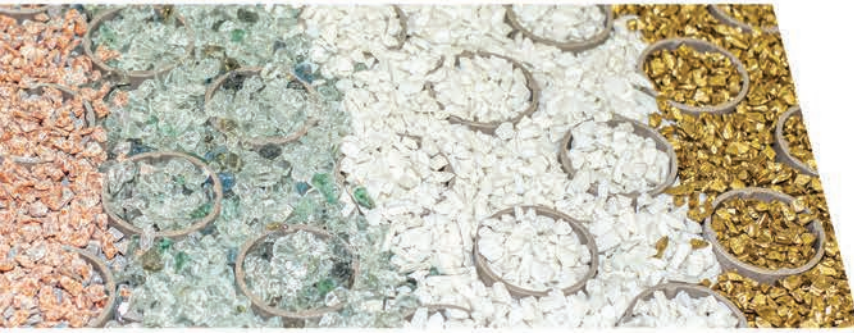
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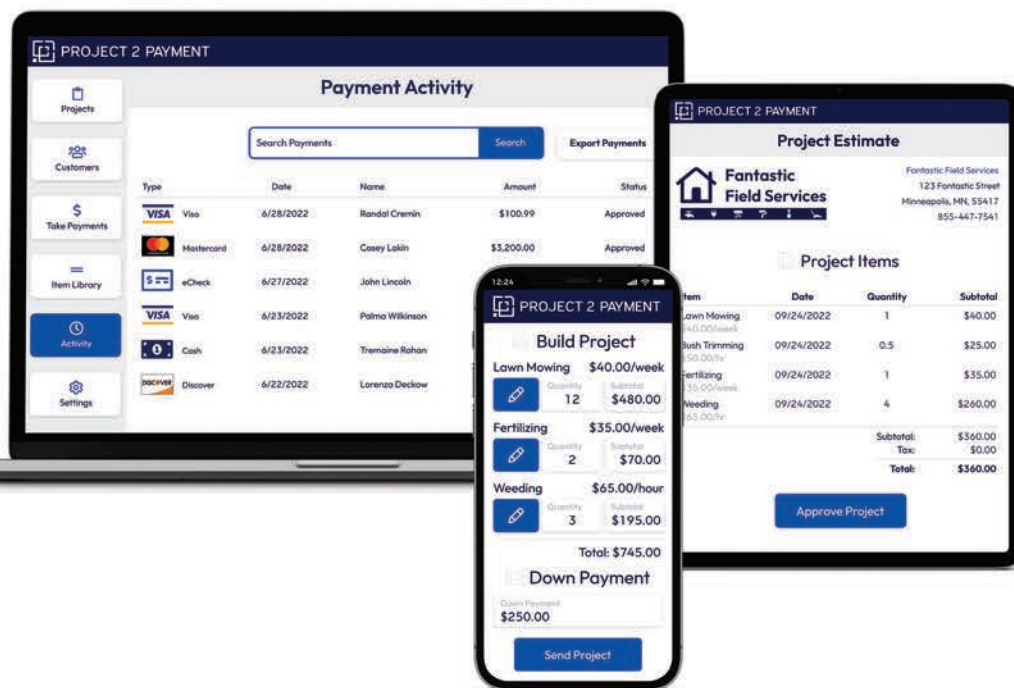


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# “Firescaping” California

by Douglas Kent, Douglas Kent & Associates

**Above** The Collins School of Hospitality, at Cal Poly Pomona, has taken dramatic steps to prevent wildfires from endangering its students, faculty, and assets. It has created fire-hardened structures, removed anything remotely flammable away from the structures, and created more than 70 feet of defensible space.

**Inset** Despite being situated in an Extra High Fire Hazard area, this home has a great chance of survival. Its driveway will attract emergency responders, the structure is fire-hardened, and the landscape is impeccably maintained and will be reluctant to ignite. Picture taken in the Marin Headlands.

**“W**hen aren’t we exceptionally flammable in California? When we get too little rain, alarm bells ring with too many fine fuels and impending danger.” Said Douglas Kent, author of a best-selling book about landscaping for fire protection, “When we get too much rain, alarm bells ring with too much fuel and impending danger. Anytime that wildland plants dry out, temperatures soar, and humidity plummets, California will be highly flammable.”

LC/DBM spoke with Kent in a recent interview about how we should be combatting fire, landscaping for prevention, types of environments that fire targets, and also his seminar.

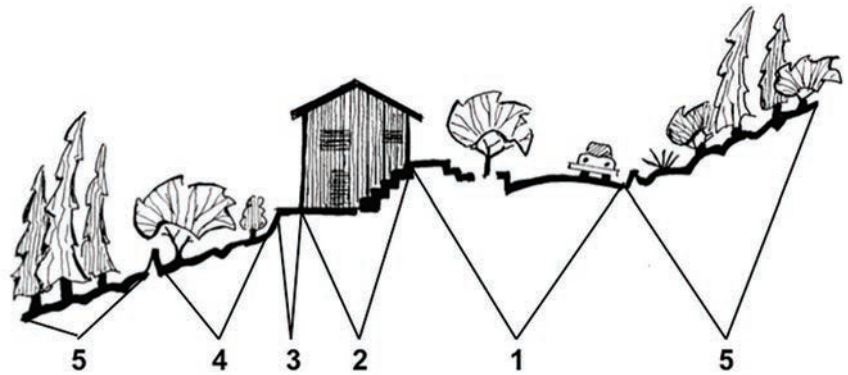
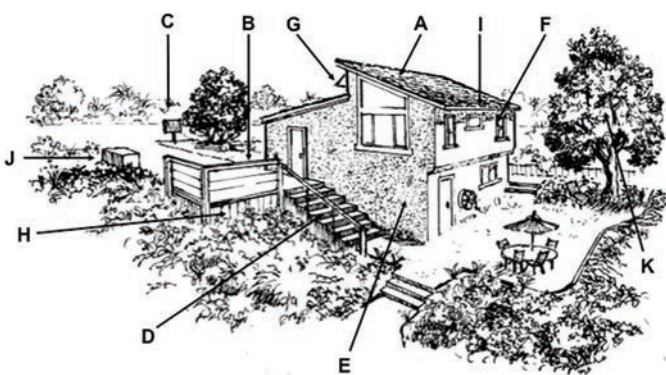
According to the CalFire Emergency Incidents Map as of publication, 3,370 wildfires are ongoing in the state totaling 21,743 acres burned.

In a New York Times article, roughly 22,000 acres have burned in California (as of July 20, 2023) compared to the average 120,000 acres by this point in the previous five years, according to CalFire. This was due to the wet winter and the cooler spring that kicked off the year. However, earlier in July, the Rabbit Fire burned more than 8,000 acres which led to evacuations in Riverside County.

There are two different landscapes when working on fire protection: wild and urban. While we do not know how the land managers in the wild are managing fuels, Kent has witnessed incredible efforts throughout the state in reducing urban and rural fuels in the last two months. It seems that while urbanized areas have the money, the know-how, and the moxie to aggressively go after flash fuels, there has been work around ignition sources, such as freeways and roads, and large properties, such as government and industrial buildings.

The Rabbit Fire is a hot topic in the news because of the west’s recent heat wave creating





dry vegetation. Kent said about combating and preventing fire risks, "Combat and prevention are very different. Do we need more money and resources to combat fire in the wildland? No. Wildfire is ancestral and beneficial. It favors native plants, native processes, and helps unwind the impacts of modern society. Wildfires can renew and regenerate the wildlands."

Since the Bel Air Fire in 1961, California ecologists have been studying urban fire behavior and strategies.

Roads, structures, and the first 30 feet of landscaping are the most impactful attributes for protection, that's it. Communities with more resources can enlarge that zone of protection through fuel reduction and landscape regeneration.

### Recommendations to Landscape Industry Professionals.

As landscape professionals, we should make sure that our clients can move in, out, and around their property with ease. Fleeing and fighting demand swiftness. This is critical, and not just during wildfires. As a project progresses landscape contractors should talk with the site manager about maintaining a structure that can withstand a firebrand attack. Your landscaping work

might be pointless if the structure cannot endure an assault from flying embers.

Keep anything remotely flammable away from a structure. Flame lengths double next to vertical and slick surfaces, such as walls. Small fires can turn large if allowed to burn up against buildings. Remember to also maintain the flammable features immediately around a building. Shade structures, play sets, furniture, and mulch should be used and maintained so that a firebrand will not ignite it. Remove the dead, dying, and diseased vegetation from all plants. These small bits are the kindling that enables a firebrand to grow into something much bigger.

As native Californians, we need to stop fighting fire. It's no use. We are in an ignitable and combustible state. That said, we need to create communities that ensure health, well-being, and protection from not just wildfires, but earthquakes and flooding too. Urban landscapes are much different than wild landscapes and we can evolve our practices to respect the needs of both.

On September 21st at 1:30 pm, Kent will be presenting a seminar at the Landscape Expo, Anaheim, sign up today before spaces fill. [LG/TLE](#)

Above Anaheim Hills is notoriously flammable, and yet this development has a good chance of survival. It has all the right characteristics, such as ignition resistant structures, great access, and well-maintained landscapes.

Bottom, Left This graphic shows the critical areas of a home that should be prioritized when creating a fire safe design. A. The Roof, B. Roof Access, C. Site Address, D. Entrances and Exits, E. Siding, F. Eaves, G. Air Vents, H. Underpinnings, I. Windows, J. Storage, ensuring firewood and recyclables are kept 30 ft. away and uphill from the house, K. Tree Limbs.

Bottom, Right Pictured are the fire areas of maintenance priorities, 1. Area of access, 2. Structure including under and around decks and any flammable wood or plastic components, 3. First five feet, 4. 30 of defensible space, 5. Care for outlying areas.



**Wednesday & Thursday**  
**September 20th & 21st**

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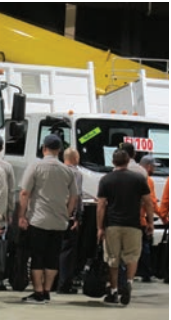


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Compacted Soil



Diplodia Tip Blight



Sudden Oak Death

# Identifying and Tree Disease, Pest,

**Above, Left** Compacted soil can be treated with excavation of the soil and then necessary amendments are added to promote growth.

**Above, Middle** Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra*), Ponderosa pine (*P. ponderosa*), Scots pine (*P. sylvestris*) and Mugo pine (*P. mugo*) are most affected by Diplodia tip especially when they are 30 years or older.

**Above, Right** SOD is the common name for the fatal tree disease Phytophthora that is like fungi and attacks roots in poorly drained or anaerobic soils. The California black oak, canyon live oak, and coast live oak are common targets.

**L**ong after the landscape has grown in, pests can come along so it's important to be able to identify, treat, and pay attention to how the plant or tree reacts after treatment.

LC/DBM recently spoke with Arborjet-Ecologel's Wister Dorta about the best ways to treat various problems found in the landscape.

## Chlorosis

Have you had leaves fade from green to paler shades or even yellow? If so, you may be battling chlorosis which can slow growth, cause leaf loss, and eventually death. This disease is often caused by deficiencies of iron and manganese, and is most typically found in oak, however, trees grown in poorly draining soils are also at risk of iron chlorosis.

To treat this, utilize trunk injection which will treat the tree directly and be the quickest way to improve the tree health. Soil application as a supplemental approach can also be helpful when they utilize humic acid, kelp, and micronutrients for accelerated root development that can make watering more efficient. Typically, it is best to treat the tree in the fall and spring.

## Soil Microbiotics

When landscape professionals come across stunted or spindly growth within a plant, they are most likely facing soil that lacks sufficient microbial levels. In order to treat this, Dorta recommends treating the soil with products that contain a variety of carbon and organic compounds that can feed the plant and increase growth of microorganisms. It is recommended to use this treatment in the spring and fall.

## Sudden Oak Death

Sudden Oak Death (SOD) is one of 59 species of Phytophthora that causes disease in plants. SOD is the common name for the fatal tree disease Phytophthora that is like fungi and attacks roots in poorly drained or anaerobic soils. The California black oak, canyon live oak, and coast live oak are examples of trees that can be found with this. When a tree is a host of SOD, leaves will appear drought stress and can turn dull green, yellow, red, or purple. Infected bark will be water soaked and feature reddish brown discoloration and a distinct odor. SOD resembles fungal infections but a diagnosis requires a lab test.

Dorta recommends a fungicide treat-





Chlorosis



Fire Blight



Soil Microbionics

# Treating and Soil Problems

by Wister Dorta, Arborjet - Ecogel

PHOTO CREDIT: ARBORJET - ECOGEL

ment, injection, and soil amendments for this disease. It is best treated in fall to prevent the risk of spreading.

## Compacted Soil

Compacted soil is especially common wherever clay and fine textured dirt is found. Compaction creates less room for air and water and can create a difficult environment for plantings to grow as it leads to fine root hairs. To identify this problem, look for declining health or death of shrubs and trees, less water, and difficult growing. When treating, landscape professionals must excavate the soil and then add the necessary amendments depending on the plant's needs then use a compost or liquid amendment to promote growth. Treatment is best in the spring or fall when there is more dormant growth.

## Diplodia Tip Blight

Trees such as Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra*), and Ponderosa pine (*P. ponderosa*), and to a lesser degree, Scots pine (*P. sylvestris*) and Mugo pine (*P. mugo*) are most affected by Diplodia tip especially when they are 30 years or older. This disease displays itself with tip browning in needle bundles. Left untreated, this can spread from

needles to the entire tree branch and lead to death. It is recommended to treat these trees in the late fall with a fungicide injection at a closer spacing interval.

## Fire Blight

Called fire blight, this dangerous bacterial disease targets shrubs and trees including pear, apple, and crabapple trees. This infectious disease displays itself with limb cankers, often dubbed a Shepherd's Crook as it droops. It is recommended that to treat fire blight, landscape professionals should be treated with water soluble power injection in the early spring with an additional treatment in fall.

Learn more at The Landscape Expo, Anaheim, with Dorta to discuss some options that have notable success to mitigate pests such as mites and borers with trunk injection while also setting up your soils to be healthier for your trees and plants on September 21st at 11:45 am.

"That's when it clicked, beautiful weather in combination with a diverse blend of what can be considered an exotic plant species profile created a field day for pests & disease. The pressure from drought continues to rise as a big topic and Manion's disease spiral is in full effect." **LC/TLE**

**Top, Left** Caused by deficiencies of iron and manganese, chlorosis can slow plant growth, cause leaf loss, and death. It is displayed by yellowing leaves.

**Above, Right** When a plant is lacking sufficient microbial levels, they are most likely experiencing spindly growth which can be treated by adding nutrients back to the soil like carbon and organic compounds.

**Bottom, Left** Fire blight, a vicious bacterial disease, displays itself as a Shepherd's Crook where the leaves and branches droop as it dies.



## IA Supports Tax Deduction Permanence

Irrigation Association (IA) joined the National Association of Wholesalers-Distributors and a cross section of over 160 business groups in asking Congress to make a 20 percent deduction for small and individual businesses permanent.

Section 199A deduction which was included in the Section 2254 deduction and the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, has led to the Section 1706 deduction being introduced to Senate establishes the deduction permanently.

The Business Organizations' Letter in support of the legislation states that the "legislation would provide certainty to the millions of S corporations, partnerships and sole proprietorships that rely on the Section 199A deduction to remain competitive both here and overseas... Making the Section 199A deduction permanent will help Main Street during this very difficult time, leading to higher economic growth and more employment."



## Irrigation Association Concerned Over AB 1573's Impact on Landscape Professionals

The Irrigation Association (IA) has expressed apprehension regarding California Assembly Bill 1573 in a letter submitted to state senators Dave Min and Kelly Sevarto. The bill's provisions restrict the use of "traditional

overhead sprinklers" and require the adoption of "water-efficient irrigation devices" in new or renovated landscapes. Nathan Bowen, Vice President of Advocacy and Public Affairs for the Irrigation Association, emphasized the association's concerns.

"While we support enhanced water conservation and efficient irrigation in California, this bill falls short of that goal," Bowen stated. "This bill enacts prescriptive product standards in legislation that are not based on solid science and real-world data."

The Irrigation Association's letter highlighted how the bill would bypass existing legislation and impose unreasonable mandates on local irrigation and landscaping. The IA emphasized the importance of collaborative and cross-sector development, citing the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance. They urged legislators to reconsider the provisions and engage with industry experts and stakeholders to find sustainable and effective solutions. <https://tinyurl.com/mvn9ehet>

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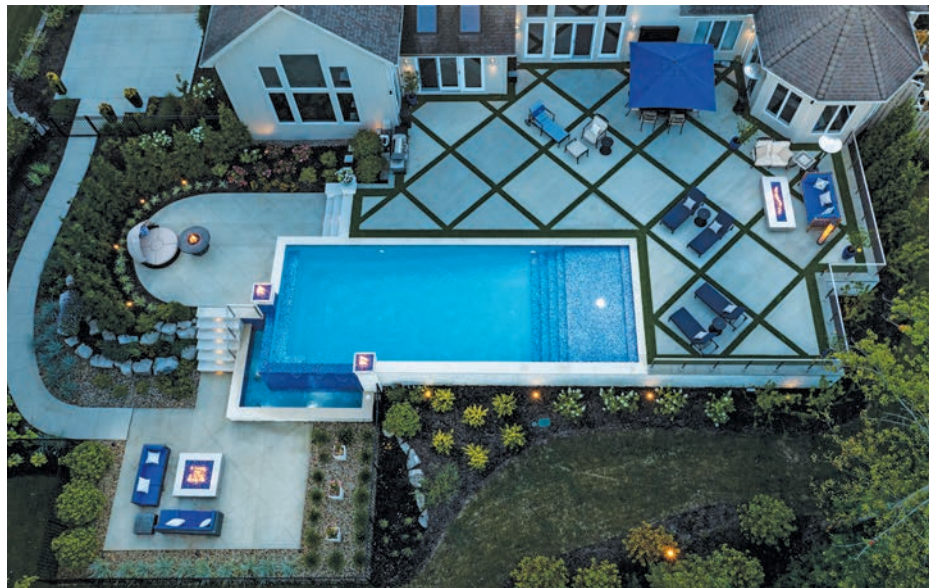
## Remodeling Market Holds Steady Despite Challenges

The NAHB/Westlake Royal RMI survey assesses the remodeling market based on five components rated as "good," "fair," or "poor" by remodelers. Each component is measured on a scale of 0 to 100, with a value above 50 indicating favorable conditions.

The Current Conditions Index, which averages three components measuring large, moderately-sized, and small remodeling projects, saw an increase of two points, reaching an average of 77. While large and small remodeling projects experienced slight improvements, moderately-sized projects declined by one point. In contrast, the Future Indicators Index dropped four points to 60 compared to the previous quarter. The rate of leads and inquiries remained steady at 59, while the backlog of remodeling jobs decreased by eight points to 61.

Despite higher prices and borrowing costs, demand for remodeling has remained strong. Remodelers have adapted to inflation and supply-side challenges, as noted by NAHB Remodelers Chair Alan Archuleta. The positive sentiment among remodelers reflects the resilience of the industry.

NAHB Chief Economist Robert Dietz highlighted several factors contributing to the ongoing demand for remodeling. The low inventory of homes on the market, aging housing stock, the rise of remote work, and homeowners' increased equity



have all fueled the need for remodeling projects.

The survey results provide valuable insights into the current state of the remodeling market and indicate a positive outlook for the industry. Despite rising prices, remodeling continues to be a priority for homeowners, driven by various factors influencing the housing market. As the industry navigates challenges, remodelers remain optimistic about the future.

<https://tinyurl.com/579brk95>





# The Pros and Cons of Overseeding with

# Overseeding



**O**verseeding, the practice of seeding cool-season turfgrass on top of an existing warm-season lawn, has been a common practice in many regions. It provides green, active grass growth during the cooler months when warm-season grasses go dormant. However, as water scarcity becomes a concern in various parts of the country, the debate over the benefits and drawbacks of overseeding has intensified, so Landscape Contractor magazine consulted with TLE exhibitor, Barenbrug USA, who is a grass seed research company and turf provider, about the benefits and drawbacks of overseeding.

## Pros of Overseeding

- **Aesthetically Pleasing:** The most apparent benefit of overseeding is the visual appeal. Cool-season grasses, such as ryegrass, create a lush, green lawn during the fall and winter months, enhancing the landscape's appearance.
- **Sports Field Enhancement:** Sports fields often undergo overseeding to maintain quality playing surfaces during the cooler seasons, ensuring better playability.
- **Playability & Safety:** Without overseeding, sports fields that continue to receive play may wear faster and more unevenly. In addition, ball roll may become more unpredictable, and surface hardness may become a concern if soil moisture drops considerably.
- **Erosion Control:** A green, actively growing lawn offers protection against erosion and can safeguard dormant Bermudagrass from damage due to heavy foot traffic or use. Bermudagrass may be slower to bounce back the following spring with high levels of traffic while forgoing overseed through the winter.
- **Improved Microclimate:** Overseeded lawns help cut down dust and create a desirable microclimate, contributing to a more pleasant outdoor experience. With continued carbon sequestration in the winter months, actively growing turfgrass can continue to improve soil structure and microbes that will further benefit bermudagrass the following growing season.

## Considering Sustainable Practices:

For those contemplating overseeding, implementing sustainable landscape management practices can help minimize the negative impact and make the process more environmentally friendly. Some recommendations include only overseeding areas that will be actively used and enjoyed during the cooler months, reducing mowing frequency in the coldest months to conserve water and energy, and employing smart irrigation controllers based on evapotranspiration rates to optimize water use. You may also want to consider reallocating water budgets from summer watering to support winter overseed growth and rotating overseeded areas every one to two years to allow the warm-season grass to recover and reinvigorate.

## Cons of Overseeding

- **Water Consumption:** Overseeding uses significantly more water compared to dormant Bermudagrass, impacting water conservation efforts in water-scarce regions.
- **Maintenance Expenses:** Regular mowing, fertilizing, and irrigation management are necessary for overseeded lawns, adding to ongoing maintenance costs.
- **Environmental Impact:** Overseeding contributes to environmental costs due to the use of fossil fuels and air pollution from lawn equipment and fertilizer manufacture. An alternative to possibly offset some of these impacts may be to utilize electric powered equipment and implement the use of organic, recycled fertilizer sources.
- **Disruption during Transition:** The overseeding process can be disruptive, requiring low mowing and frequent watering during germination, and restricting use for several weeks. Depending on the type of species used as the overseed, this disruption period may vary. Perennial plants require chemical removal whereas annual types may transition out naturally when temperatures rebound to a particular threshold.
- **Stress on Warm-Season Grass:** Overseeding stresses existing Bermudagrass and can set back its spring green-up, impacting its overall health.





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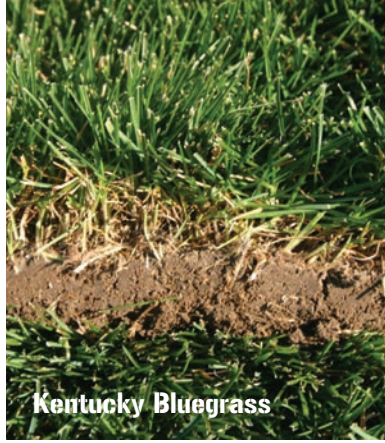


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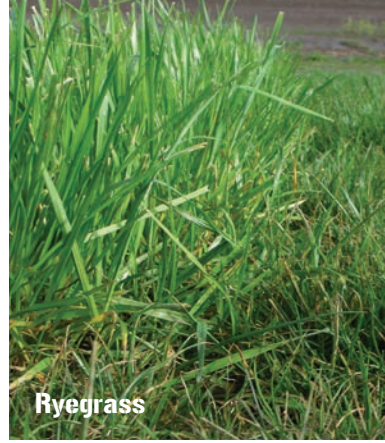




**Bermudagrass**



**Kentucky Bluegrass**



**Ryegrass**



**Tall Fescue**

**Turf Genetics**

If the pros outweigh the cons and overseeding is the route you decide to pursue for green cover over the winter, you can maximize the year round benefits turfgrass provides by implementing the newest genetics in both your warm season base and overseed products. New elite Bermudagrasses are extremely drought tolerant and can lessen the demand for watering during even the hottest times of the year. When selecting your overseed products, there are many options that vary in their own pros and cons. New genetics or specialized cultivars in perennial Ryegrass may be used to lessen the water demand in the winter, but will come at the expense of needing to be sprayed out when transitioning back to Bermuda, or risk further competition. Improved varieties of turf annuals, way beyond that of Gulf, can be easier to maintain in establishment and in the transitioning process, but will provide less performance benefits over the cooler seasons when compared to perennials. Other rarer options involve overseeding with other perennial

types like Tall fescue or Kentucky bluegrass in a cohabitation system between cool and warm-season plants. This method is more complex and best to reach out to local extension agents to verify the fit in your local climate and expectations for the turfgrass stand.

Overall, overseeding provides an attractive green lawn during cooler months or a safer sports field for athletes, but it comes at a cost. From monetary costs to water usage and maintenance requirements, the decision to overseed should weigh these factors. As water scarcity becomes a growing concern, making informed decisions about overseeding and implementing sustainable practices is crucial to strike a balance between aesthetics and environmental conservation. Embracing the most drought tolerant, modern varieties, shifting overseeding to only areas that truly need it, or even managing expectations with a slightly less lush lawn during winter can result in significant water savings and contribute to a more sustainable landscape. **LC/TLE**



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## NALP Partners with FEWA to Help Navigate the H-2B Visa Program



facilitate member access to FEWA's expertise.

According to their website, "For 20 years, the H-2 community has relied on FEWA staff for government agency relations, expertise and knowledge of the H-2 programs. FEWA staff helps to educate and keep employer and worker members informed and up to date on H-2 programs." The association is an active member in advocacy organizations for their 7,500 members.

In early June 2023, H-2B was added to the FY 24 base text funding bill to hopefully jumpstart funding for a permanent returning worker exemption. This partnership with FEWA will be a great way to offer landscape workers legal assistance.

"We receive questions and concerns about the H-2B program from members and prospective members on a near daily basis because of the complexity and uncertainty associated with the program," explained Andrew Bray Senior Vice President of NALP. "FEWA and NALP have been collaborating on our H-2B advocacy efforts for many years and this new partnership will only strengthen our collaboration while also offering their expertise to NALP members."

<https://tinyurl.com/NALP-FEWA>

<https://fewaglobal.org> <https://tinyurl.com/2p8ez7ft>

National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) has partnered with the Federation of Employers and Workers of America (FEWA), a nonprofit that was created to assist employers and workers with labor needs such as the H-2B visa program, to

## CARB Joins TLE as Electrical Equipment Deadline Approaches



The Landscape Expo, Anaheim is excited to announce that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will be exhibiting and presenting a seminar on Zero Emission Battery Equipment on Thursday, September 21st at 8am. The 2023 Landscape Expo is focused on providing attendees with all relevant information regarding the electric equipment transition. Calstart and American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA) will also be in attendance.

California will be enacting a ban on the sale of all gas-powered lawn equipment beginning in 2024 as stated in AB-1346.

## Electric Equipment Testing at TLE

Attendees can test electrical equipment at TLE inside the exhibit hall.



**Wed, Sept. 20th** 10:30 - 12:00  
 1:30 - 3:00



**Thurs, Sept. 21st** 10:00 - 12:00  
 1:00 - 2:30





## Fair and Open Competition Act Advances, Supported by ABC



The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) commends the passage of the Fair and Open Competition Act (FOCA) by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Accountability. The bill, known as H.R. 1209, aims

to safeguard federal and federally assisted construction contracts from anti-competitive and inflationary project labor agreements.

In support of FOCA, the ABC and a coalition of 26 construction and business organizations sent a letter to the committee. The bill, introduced by Oversight and Accountability Chairman James Comer and Senator Todd Young, promotes fair competition and equal opportunities for contractors across the United States.

Kristen Swearingen, ABC's vice president of legislative and political affairs, highlights the significance of FOCA in promoting fair competition and driving cost-effective construction projects, "FOCA would ensure that all of America's workers and qualified contractors are provided the opportunity to compete to build long-lasting, quality projects at the best price for hardworking taxpayers." <https://tinyurl.com/4ywjkjfr>

## PGMS Joins TLE as Exhibitors, Educators & Sponsors



Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS) is sponsoring the 2023 Landscape Expo's Happy Hour Reception.

PGMS works to advance grounds management through its School of Grounds Management, professional certification, and accreditation programs. Through these programs and educational opportunities, PGMS hopes to bring more respect to the grounds management profession and encourage beautiful landscapes.

The event will take place Wednesday, September 20th in Seminar Room 3. Past president of PGMS, Donald Botteger will be one of the seminar speakers for this year's Landscape Expo. He will be discussing Employee Safety in the Landscape and Poor Practices in Landscape Management. Employee Safety in the Landscape introduces the importance of safety within the work culture and how to prevent injuries within landscape operations. The Poor Practices in Landscape Management seminar challenges the unproductive practices of landscape management and explores better solutions. Landscape Expo Academy's webinars host a variety of PGMS professionals who give insight on a wide range of topics. To sign up for these seminars and register for the show visit

[TheLandscapeExpo.com](http://TheLandscapeExpo.com).

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