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As we approach our "new normal," are you the glass is half full or half empty type?

Great news for the glass is half full crowd—if using freeway traffic as a measuring stick, it looks like we are well on our way back to normal and then some. I was hoping, however, that more people would stay home or work from home permanently! Oh well. I did enjoy getting from Oceanside to La Jolla in about 30 minutes while it lasted. Since traffic is back to its new normal, I've decided to stay in one lane and stop guessing which one is the magical pathway; the stress is not worth arriving 30 seconds earlier, and I think I'd rather be safe than sorry. That's something the past year has driven home deeply, and it's a good reminder that the glass is half full. If seeing more people out in public and on the road again is a tradeoff to putting the pandemic in the rear-view mirror, I'll take that any day.

Now it's time to adapt and overcome again. I'll be a little cautious and patient as I sense pent up anxiety for all of us – both the half full and half empty crowds alike. Like the rest of you, I can't wait to do my end-zone dance when all of this is just a memory.

Speaking of memories - BIG THANKS go out to all

who sponsored or participated in the 2021 annual CLCA SD Golf Tournament. MEGA THANKS to Janet, Amy, Larry, Rick, Melissa, and all the volunteers who did the heavy lifting. You guys are amazing.

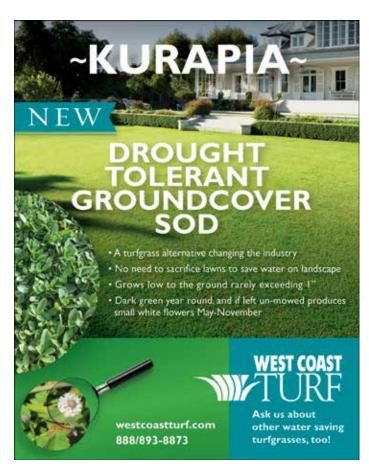
Now, as we reach the halfway point of the year, it seems to be incredibly busy out there. It does appear that the seemingly never-ending drought could cause us all more pain if we're not really careful. But once again, for the glass is half full crowd, that's just more opportunities in disguise.

As we move forward, my hope is we take all our worst mistakes and best victories and combine the knowledge gained, then apply it wisely to the new normal that is here now.

Last but certainly not least, it looks like to finish off the year we may even be able to meet somewhere soon! I can't wait—that will really make the new normal official!

Best always, Willie.

PS. Regardless of whether your glass is half full or half empty, please check out and participate in the upcoming events. To be the best chapter in the state we need all members to help in any way they can.





## **CLCA Legislative Update**

Submitted by CLCA President-Elect, Megan Rios, Rios Design Studio LLC

Bills that have passed the assembly have gone to the Senate and Senate Bills that have passed have gone to the Assembly.

### OPPOSED BILLS KILLED

Both houses' Appropriations Committees completed processing their "suspense" files and several CLCA Priority 2 oppose bills were held in committee. We can score this an advocacy win for CLCA as these bills were actively lobbied.

**AB 95 (Low):** 10-day bereavement leave mandate. **AB 1119 (Wicks)**: This bill expands the list of protected characteristics under the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to include "family responsibilities."

**SB** 304 (Archuleta): Increases the amount of authorized work, which exempts an individual from licensure requirements from \$500 to \$1000.

### NEW PRIORITY BILL ISSUES

AB 1400 (Kalra): Guaranteed Health Care for All

AB 1400 is a massive expansion of California governmental control over healthcare and the state's economy. It would eliminate the private insurance and choice-based healthcare options by creating a new staterun health care system that would be extremely expensive. The Cal-Chamber estimates that it will cost California more than \$400 billion, which will ultimately be funded by taxpayers, and will delay access to providers, diminish quality of healthcare, and eliminate jobs in California.

### SB 727 (Leyva-D): Contractor Liability

This bill extends the joint liability of a direct contractor on a private construction project to include civil penalties and liquidated damages associated with unpaid wages, fringe benefits, or contributions to labor trust funds. Under existing law, that joint liability is limited to the unpaid amounts only.

CLCA: Oppose 2

# Previous Action Revisit AB 1003 (Gonzalez)

The CLCA Legislative Committee voted at the last meeting on 4/22 to oppose AB 1003. This bill would have made employer theft of wages in an aggregate mount greater than \$950 from one or more employees, punishable as grand theft. This penalty applied even if the employer acted in good faith and made an honest mistake. Many business organizations were in opposition and the CalChamber had listed AB 1003 as a "job killer" bill for 2021.

CLCA: Watch

### SB 297 (Durazo)

The CLCA Legislative Committee voted at the 2/25/21 meeting to oppose SB 297 because of its unreasonable and heavy-handed approach to penalizing contractors who violate the "Dig Safe Act". In response to concerns from CLCA and other opponents, the author amended the bill to uniformly apply to excavators and operators and made it so penalties are only imposed when violations of the Dig Safe Act happen knowingly and willfully and when damage happens to specified hazardous pipelines resulting in harmful gas or liquids escaping into the environment. The new language and changes are set forth below.

This bill would enact the Wade Kilpatrick Gas Safety and Workforce Adequacy Act of 2021. The bill would prescribe new penalties applicable to excavators that fail to provide notice to a gas corporation of the need to locate and mark subsurface installations, or that commence excavation before a gas corporation marks subsurface installations, and then damage a subsurface installation. In this regard, the bill would authorize the imposition of a civil penalty of up to \$100,000, \$100,000. and if the excavator is a contractor, the bill would further authorize the suspension or revocation of the contractor's license by the Contractors€™ State License Board. The bill would condition the application of these penalties on the excavator having had previous penalties, previous failures to provide notice, or previous instances of beginning excavation before subsurface installations are marked, as specified. a civil penalty of up to \$100,000 to be imposed on an operator or excavator, as described above, who knowingly and willfully violates provisions relating excavations and subsurface installations and subsequently damages a gas or hazardous liquid pipeline subsurface installation and the damage results in the escape of any flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid.

SB 297, as amended above, was voted off the Senate Floor on a 36-0 bipartisan vote.

Recommendation: Watch

Interested in getting involved or learning more about what CLCA is doing on the legislative front? Reach out to CLCA State Director of Legislation, Jay Martinez, at (916) 549-8895.

Connect, Learn, & Grow with CLCA!

Not a Member? Join at clca.org/join

The Offshoot is the official publication of the San Diego Chapter of CLCA. Opinions expressed within the context of this publication are not necessarily those of the CLCA or its members.

The Offshoot is designed and printed by Eyescapes, P.O. Box 242, Beaumont, CA 92223. Email: Bronwyn@eyescapes.net, phone: (949) 466-1222.



### August 10

San Diego Chapter General Meeting. All welcome. Due to health guidelines, this will be a virtual meeting. To attend, email amy@conradpr.com for the Zoom link.

### August 19

San Diego Chapter Educational Seminar, 2 p.m. Topic: In-line Drip Tubing Best Practices and Design. All welcome.

Due to health guidelines, this will be a virtual seminar.

## August 19

RCP Educational Event, 5:30 p.m. Topic: How to be a Responsible Company – Incorporating Corporate Social Responsibility into **Your Business.** All welcome. *More info on page 6*.

## September 11

San Diego Chapter Beautification Awards. Bernardo Winery: 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte, San Diego.

## September 14

San Diego Chapter General Meeting. All welcome. Due to health guidelines, this will be a virtual meeting. To attend, email amy@conradpr.com for the Zoom link.

## September 16

San Diego Chapter Educational Seminar, 2 p.m. Topic: Newest Trends in Irrigation and Irrigation Controls. All welcome.

Due to health guidelines, this will be a virtual seminar.

### October 12

San Diego Chapter General Meeting. All welcome. Due to health guidelines, this will be a virtual meeting. To attend, email amy@conradpr.com for the Zoom link.

## October 21

San Diego Chapter Educational Seminar, 2 p.m. Topic: Rock and Hardscape Design Basics. All welcome.

Due to health guidelines, this will be a virtual seminar.

## November 3-6

CLCA Convention in Ka'anapali, Maui, Hawaii. Learn more at www.clca.org/convention

## December 9

San Diego Chapter Holiday Party. More info TBD.

## 2021 San Diego Chapter **Board of Directors**

### **President**

Willie Valdez, Free Flow Products (760) 500-9863 • willie@freeflowproducts.com

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# ASLA RCP BLOCK & BRICK, INC.



# **INVITES ASLA AND CLCA** TO OUR ENCINITAS STORE Thursday, August 19, 2021

## **GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Brett Allen, ASLA Van Dyke & Associates

Warren S. Gorowitz, CLIA, EMSL Hunter Industries Director of Corporate Social Responsibility

## PRESENTATION:

How to be a Responsible Company - Incorporating Corporate Social Responsibility into Your Business



## **ENCINITAS STORE**

577 N. Vulcan Avenue Encinitas, CA 92024

- 5:30pm Networking
- **Buffet Dinner & Tournament**
- 7:00pm Program
- 8:00pm Free Raffle Drawing

To Ensure Proper Food Count, Please RSVP By Friday, August 13, 2021 to Gina Adams (619)247-6594 or tadams31@cox.net

**David Diehl** 

**Product Consultant** Licensed P.C.A.

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# **Add Wireless Flow Monitoring** to Hydrawise® Smart Irrigation Systems

Contractors will never have to tunnel under or cut through a sidewalk to install a flow sensor again! Designed for use with Hydrawise smart irrigation systems, the new Wireless HC Flow Meter communication kit maximizes time, material, and labor savings for any new installation or retrofit project.

### No More Wires or Trenching

When asphalt, concrete, or other hardscape materials are in the way, this kit is the ideal solution to deliver highly reliable flow data that maximizes water savings and protects landscapes.

- Wireless communication kit for use with any HC Flow Meter and Hydrawise enabled HC, HPC, Pro-HC, and HCC controller
- · Sends station-level flow rates and totals wirelessly from the sensor to the controller, without the need to run wire or dig trenches
- Battery-operated transmitter connects to the HC Flow Meter to detect and communicate flow rates and totals
- Receiver is powered by the host controller and transfers flow data from the sensor/transmitter to the controller and cloud software



• Provides 500' line-of-sight communication from transmitter to receiver

Simplify flow meter installations for Hydrawise systems with this innovative and affordable kit.

The Wireless HC Flow Meter is available now. Learn more at www. hunterindustries.com/irrigationproduct/sensors/hc-flow-meter

# Join the 2022 Chapter Board of Directors!

The San Diego Chapter is considering potential Chapter Officers for the 2022 CLCA year. If you're interested in joining the board and making a difference, please reach out to Chapter President Willie Valdez at (760) 500-9863.



## **Heat Illness Prevention**

The Dog Days of Summer are upon us and with them comes another concern for California's employers: Heat Illness Prevention. California was the first state in the nation to put protections in place when Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger enacted heat-illness prevention laws in 2005 and since then other states have followed suit.

### **Industries & Warning Signs**

Agriculture is usually the first industry that comes to mind when discussing Heat Illness Prevention Programs (HIPP's). Peak harvest seasons usually coincide with the warmest time of the year. This short window brings high production demands along with the opportunity for working extended hours. This combination can be especially dangerous and the reason why many of the incidents reported in the media come from the agricultural industry.

Other industries that the order applies to are: construction, landscaping, oil and gas extraction, transportation or delivery of agricultural products, and construction or other heavy material (except for employment that consists of operating an air conditioned vehicle and does not include loading and unloading).

Direct exposure to the elements and working in locations without climate controls increase the risk of heat illness. Like agriculture, the construction and landscaping industries usually see an increase in their workload during the warmer times of the year placing workers at risk. There are two types of heat illness you should be aware of:

**Heat Exhaustion:** Heat exhaustion happens when a person cannot sweat enough to cool their body. This is usually the result of not drinking enough fluids during hot temperatures.

**Heatstroke:** Heatstroke is the result of untreated heat exhaustion and is a serious medical emergency. You should seek immediate medical treatment.

Early symptoms of heat illness can include dizziness, nausea/vomiting, confusion, cramps, red dry skin, elevated heart rate and convulsions or fainting. If early signs are not detected and proper treatment is administered, it can lead to brain damage as well as damage to other organs or death.

CLCA's mission is to serve and protect the interests of its members, promote professionalism, and advance public awareness of the landscape industry. Learn more at www.clca.org

### Requirements

If you have any employees that perform work in any of the industries listed, or if you have moved operations outdoors as a result of COVID-19, you are required to take the following four steps to prevent heat illness:

- Training: all employees and supervisors must be trained about heat illness prevention.
- Water: employers must provide enough fresh water so that each employee can drink at least 1 quart per hour and encourage them to do so.
- Shade: employers must provide access to shade and encourage employees to take cool-down rest in the shade for at least 5 minutes.
- Planning: employers must develop and implement written procedures for complying with the Cal/ OSHA Heat Illness Prevention Standard.

In recent years, violations related to Heat Illness Prevention have been one of Cal/OSHA's top 5 most cited. CEA can help employers comply with OSHA requirements and keep their employees safe. They offer a HIPP Toolkit to help you build your own Heat Illness Prevention Plan. In addition, they offer onsite training for your workforce in both English and Spanish to help keep your employees safe and your company out of trouble.

With business returning to normal you can be sure that Cal/OSHA will be conducting jobsite inspections at jobsites to make sure employers are complying with California's regulations. Making sure your HIPP is up to date will help you be prepared for the summer heat and keep your employees safe.

This article was excerpted from CEA's blog at www.employers.org.

## San Diego Chapter **Member Milestones**

Congratulations to the following companies for reaching membership milestones this month.

23 Year Member Ciro's Landscaping

18 Year Member Abundant Life Landscape Maintenance

15 Year Member Mariposa Landscape

9 Year Member SD County Water Auth. 7 Year Members

MSE Landscape Professionals LaBahn's Landscaping Free Flow Products

6 Year Member Nick Martin Landscape Architect

> 1 Year Member Organic Earth



## Coverages Included in Package

- · General Liability · Business Auto
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- Landscape Maintenance
- Landscape Construction
- Synthetic Turf Installers
- · Irrigation System Installation & Repair
- Arborists/Tree Trimming
- Hydro Seeding
- Nurseries and Nursery product sales
- Greenhouses
- · Pond Installation & Repair
- Weed Control
- Landscape concrete curbing/paving
- Habitat Restoration Services
- · Excavation with limited ornamental planting/tree and fencing work
- Landscapers with incidental snow plowing and/or street cleaning
- Landscapers with ancillary pool work such as decorative tile, rock, decking and limited plumbing work
- Landscape Consultants & Architects (except Errors & Omissions)

## **Program Highlights**

- Tract home or multi-unit developments Not Excluded
- · Cranes, boom trucks and bucket trucks eligible
- New ventures OK with 3 years experience in the industry
- Multiple premium finance plans
- Flexible deposits and installment plans

## Services Included

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- LCIS Business Services (legal, HR, safety and more)

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# **Stormwater Management: Ponding and Erosion Solutions**



Ensure your clients have stormwater management systems in place for the spring storm season. Prepare them with these stormwater management techniques and tools.

The ideal property should create maximum outdoor space usability while properly managing water flow and preventing flooding issues. If clients don't have a well-maintained system, take the opportunity to build one. Prevention is important to protect customer assets from stormwater damage, especially during the rainy spring season when flooding is prevalent. An inadequate stormwater system can cause serious harm to the client's property and local water supplies.

### **Initial Landscape Review**

Before breaking ground, make sure to account for any problem areas on the property, ideally observing the landscape after a large storm. Note how the water flows through the vard and where it meets other surfaces to remedy any issues. Ponding effects should last 24 hours at most; if they're lasting longer, you will need to install drainage. You'll also need to ensure all utilities are clearly marked and potential pollutant sites are assessed and protected from spreading, such as septic systems.

#### **Ponding and Soil Erosion**

While runoff is a common problem, soil erosion is another widely seen stormwater issue. This can look like barren ground or soil swept away from house foundations and tree roots. Resolve erosion immediately as it only gets worse with time. Erosion can happen nearly anywhere on a client's property, but two common locations are around the driveways and in landscape beds.

If your client's land has varied topography, adding terracing or a retaining wall lined with gravel or mulch to sloped areas protects the land and keeps the soil in place. The wall can be used as a multi-use feature, such as a bench or planter bed. Mulch can be added to all plant beds to protect bare soil and slow runoff.

Choosing regional, low-growing vegetation for landscape beds slows down runoff, removes sediments, and has less rain impact on soil. Additionally, native vegetation minimizes potential for mosquitoes, stabilizes slopes with the plants' structure, and improves soil infiltration.

Check to ensure that the current flora on the property doesn't have root damage and there are no ponding effects. If a flowerbed is continuously wet and flooded, install drains to avoid damage to the yard and home. Round catch basins like the NDS Spee-D Drain Basin have a sump area to collect debris before

Continued on next page...

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# **Stormwater Management: Ponding and Erosion Solutions**

...Continued from previous page

entering the drainage piping to protect water flow. If the installation area is not high traffic, catch basins with an atrium are ideal as they better block debris like mulch from clogging pipes. Flat basins work well in low spots in the yard where there is ponding and can redirect water in high traffic areas. These basins could be connected to French drains, a Flo-Well system, emitters, or a combination of these options.

If you have a client with a driveway that is often flooded or that has runoff draining into the street, this could not only damage their property and the roads, but can also carry pollutants into natural water sources nearby. There are options to alleviate this issue and will depend on the client's land, budget, and preferences.

For driveways and patios with a gentle slope, you can install a trench drain to collect runoff during storms. This will avoid puddling and protect the client's assets. Trench drains can lead to emitters or a Flo-Well system, but either way, the piping should have catch basins with sumps to allow the smaller debris that gets through to settle for removal. Consider asking your customer to switch to permeable paver stones or turf blocks for their driveway as an upsell. These materials help stormwater infiltrate the ground.

### **Stormwater Management Best Practices**

Keep a pulse on the climate and soil type in your area. Rainfall levels indicate what drainage is needed and the kind of soil will tell you how the water will be absorbed. Depending on soil type and compaction levels, you may need to add more management techniques to the system you're building.



Remember the rule of thumb: store, slow, spread, sink. Storing water is a great way to reduce demand for irrigation. Slowing down and spreading runoff prevents erosion, flash flooding, and other issues. Sinking (or infiltrating) the stormwater is one of the best things you can do for the environment as it aids aquifers in addition to helping the landscape thrive.

Plan a maintenance routine with your client to ensure that the drainage system stays efficient.

### Benefits to Stormwater Management

Drainage is highly beneficial to homeowners as it protects their assets; maintenance is more affordable than fixing the damage erosion can cause. Ecologically, it helps the environment as well, positively affecting groundwater recharge, creating habitats, improving aesthetics, and rerouting water to areas with higher soil infiltration.

This article was originally published on Site One Landscape Supply's website at www.siteone.com.



With advocacy, action on upcoming events, and a Company/HR information portal, CLCA is taking action to help you survive the coronavirus pandemic. Find the most up-to-date information at www.clca.org/covid

# **CLCA San Diego Chapter Life Members**

Thank you to the following Life Members for their continued support of the association.

Jerrie Beard Steve George Tom Heaviland Stephen Jacobs

Alfred Lehmann John Mohns Randy Newhard Daniel Olson

Kim Rusing Steven Smith William Schnetz Mark Schroeder

Gary Weems Keith Wilhite Glenn Wilhite

# 25+ Year CLCA San Diego Chapter Members

Thanks to the following Chapter Members for their continued support for over 25 years.

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