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Harvest Landscape Enterprises, Inc.

Newsletter

September 2011

Back To School isn't just for kids



*School supplies and
new lunch boxes...*

Our kids think they'll be done with learning once they grow up. We know better.

Times are changing quickly, perhaps faster than ever.

Technology we take for granted now -- cell phones, digital cameras and GPS navigation -- was the stuff of science fiction just a few years ago.

Here at Harvest, we work hard to keep ourselves up-to-date on the latest in landscape maintenance and industry standards.

Safety is a big part of our employees' ongoing training. Field workers attend regular workshops to learn new techniques and reinforce those from the past.

We also believe in staying on top of new technology, whether it's a water-saving irrigation device, a water harvesting system or new software that helps us work better out in the field.

A Poem as Lovely as a Tree...



This month's solemn memorial observances of Sept. 11 and the unveiling of memorial parks at the site of the World Trade Center and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, drew on some constant themes: patriotism, heroism, resilience, love and hope, all represented by trees. From the olive branch to the mighty oak, trees have historically symbolized deep and unwavering emotion. The strength and distinctive nature of the 400 Swamp White Oaks planted in New York -- with no two alike in size, shape or leaf color in the fall -- present a physical reminder that, like the trees, we are all living individuals. The 40 Sweet Gum trees planted where Flight 93

crashed to avert an attack on the White House represent the 40 passengers who sacrificed their own lives to protect others. Forty memorial groves are planned around the crash site, each with another 40 trees.

Trees represent many things to many people. Oaks stand for strength and courage, evergreens for immortality, birch for new beginnings.

Trees are often the single most valuable component of a landscape. That's why Harvest has a special tree division, with three certified/licensed arborists and four full-time tree crews, to keep our clients' trees healthy, beautiful and safe.

Poet Alfred Joyce Kilmer, who wrote the famous poem about trees, found something inspiring in the nature of these majestic and ageless giants. "Poems are made by fools like me," he wrote, "but only God can make a tree."

Clear Brush to Protect Your Property During Fire Season

The Santa Ana winds that bring hot, dry winds to Orange County from the desert are about to make their annual return. They turn dry brush into kindling, providing plentiful fuel for any spark to grow into an all-out fire.

Hillside communities, and those bordering on vast open spaces, need to pay particular attention to their landscaping and surrounding buffer areas during the fall.

Wildfires travel at an average speed of 14 miles per hour, according to the Orange County Fire Authority. The best way to stop them is to set up a clearing around your property. For information on protecting your home or community, contact Harvest, or click on the [OCFA tip sheet](#).



Foursome plus three: (l-r) Kim Cain, Glenda Reid and Laurie Clark (Progressive), Leslie Hogbin (Harvest), Dianne Callahan (LLS Exec. Dir.), Carol Griffin and Lisa Klasky (Progressive).

Our employees stay abreast on sustainable landscape practices, and we encourage them to work toward certification in a number of areas so that we always have a specialist on staff -- no matter what comes up.

The truth is, we are all continually learning in our work. That's what keeps our jobs interesting and ensures that we remain No. 1 in our industry.

Steven Schinhofen is President and CEO of Harvest Landscape Enterprises, Inc.

Golf Tourney Benefits Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Harvest took part in this month's charity golf tournament benefitting the Orange County Inland Empire Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Since 1949, LLS has been dedicated to curing leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma. It is now the world's largest nonprofit health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research and providing education and patient services. For more information, visit www.lls.org or contact the local chapter at 714-481-5600.



Go Team Harvest!

Harvest project managers were treated this week to a team-building outing at K1 Speed in Anaheim, where they raced the clock and each other in one of the finest kart-racing facilities in Orange County. At speeds of up to 40 miles per hour, they sped around hairpin turns and floored it in the straightaways. Our work at Harvest isn't all roses. Sometimes it's motor oil, grit and exhaust fumes. Listed below were the final results, but everyone was a winner: First Place, Steven Schinhofen; Second Place, Mike Murphy; Third Place, Felix Montano.

Fall Colors: Pick Flowers that Celebrate the Season



Summer's blooms are beginning to fade, and it's time to start thinking about planting some cool-season flowers. Here in Orange County, consider certain varieties of marigold, dianthus, delphiniums, pansies and snapdragons to make your garden pop with rich hues of red, orange and gold.

Try to create a combination that interests the eye with a variety of heights, textures and colors. Or, plant a block of the same color and variety to make a bold statement that fall is finally here.



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