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## Harvest Landscape Enterprises, Inc.

Newsletter

Winter 2013

### Rivers of Change in the Southland



*The L.A. River used to be best known for spectacular car chases in movies and TV shows...*

Dry for much of the year, and lined with concrete, the "river" was an ideal spot for Hollywood to stage high-speed chases that ended in literal blazes of glory.

No one thought much about the river as a waterway after it was channelized in the 1930s and '40s.

But restoration efforts and the successful journey of a determined kayaker who paddled from one point to the other changed the official definition of the channel to what it is today: an actual waterway, suitable for wildlife and recreation.

Orange County is undergoing a similar effort to protect and restore its streams and the Santa Ana River so that man and nature can coexist.

Orange County Coastkeeper has done a lot over the years to educate people

### Harvest Project Honored for Significant Water Savings

One of Harvest Landscape's projects has been recognized by State Assemblywoman Diane Harkey as a model for other communities to follow. Ocean Ranch at Bear Brand received a Certificate of Recognition from Harkey, commending the community for taking on a landscape renovation project that will save 50 percent or more in water.

"Your project's efforts to conserve water and adopt sustainable landscape maintenance practices make it a model for other communities to follow in Southern California," stated the California State Assembly Certificate of Recognition.

Since 2008, the community has reduced its water use by 40 percent. Harvest worked with Monarch Environmental to develop a plan specific to the property's needs. The work entailed identifying areas best suited for water savings, removing old plant material, repairing and upgrading the irrigation system, and replanting slopes with California friendly plants that require less water. Eventually, the community should see a water savings of more than 50 percent, with a return on investment anticipated in as little as five years, said Howard Revier of the Ocean Ranch at Bear Brand Landscape Committee. "My hat's off to Harvest and Monarch," Revier said. "They're real experts."



Ocean Ranch at Bear Brand representatives Janice Wolf, Joanne Verde, Daryl Jacob and Howard Revier join Merit Property Management Community Manager Tina Rodrigues, Monarch Environmental founder Matt Davenport and Harvest Landscape Enterprises President Steven Schinhofen at the entrance to the community.

### Team Harvest: One of O.C.'s Best-Trained Workforces



about the importance of our waterways.

I have worked with Coastkeeper for many years and have been impressed with their mission to preserve the region's marine habitats and watersheds through education, advocacy, restoration, research and enforcement.

This month, I was appointed as a member of the organization's Board of Directors.

Those of you who know me have heard me speak -- probably more than once -- about the need to conserve water.

We've saved our clients millions of gallons of water each year.

Along those same lines, it's important to protect our water resources from destruction and contamination, which happens pretty easily in urban areas where runoff and "progress" can be a problem.

Harvest has worked with Coastkeeper on landscape projects that not only save water, but control runoff and the use of chemicals to minimize the landscape's impact on the environment.

One of our joint projects is Coastkeeper Gardens, the county's largest demonstration garden featuring six backyard vignettes -- each one representing a different variety of drought tolerant plants that can be used by homeowners and businesses to save water.

The garden demonstrates other sustainable landscape practices as well. Visit [www.coastkeeper.org](http://www.coastkeeper.org) for more information on the garden and their May 4 "From the Gardens to the Sea" fundraiser to help complete the project.

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*Steven Schinhofen is  
President and CEO of*



Training is a major part of the work that we do at Harvest. With more than 400 employees working in the field and behind the scenes in the office, it's important that everyone perform their work with the utmost concern for safety, efficiency, and results.

Our training is ongoing: We host regular sessions for employees on how to do their job. We encourage them to attend classes that will enhance their knowledge and careers.

Many of our employees have earned professional certifications in areas specific to their jobs. Ultimately, this leads to a more effective workforce, which means we can continue to perform at a level that distinguishes us from other landscape companies. Harvest is about service: We care about doing a better job for our clients.

### Harvest President Appointed to Coastkeeper Board

Harvest Landscape Enterprises is pleased to announce the appointment of its president, Steven Schinhofen, to the Board of Directors for Orange County Coastkeeper, a leading nonprofit organization committed to protection, preservation and restoration of area waterways and the coast.

Harvest has had the pleasure of working with the organization on a number of projects, from the Coastkeeper Gardens at Santiago Community College to a model sustainable landscape renovation project for Southern California Edison.

As a regional leader in sustainable landscape practices, we share like-minded ideas with the organization.

"It's an honor to receive such recognition and to take on such an important role in protecting our coast," said Schinhofen. "Water is our most precious resource. Our involvement with Orange County Coastkeeper will help to spread awareness of ways in which we can all do our part to conserve water and protect our waterways from pollution and debris."



### Harvest Employee Wins Association Nominations, Award

Leslie Hogbin, Harvest's Director of Marketing and Business Development, was honored yet again by the Community Associations Institute Orange County Regional Chapter as a nominee for this year's Orange County Excellence in Community awards. This is the third year in a row that she has been nominated. This year, she was tagged for three awards: Outstanding Service Member, Committee Member of the Year, and Committee of the

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Year, which she received as co-chair of the winning committee, the Springtime Showcase Forum Committee.  
This is a tremendous honor. Please join us in congratulating Leslie for her ongoing hard work and dedication.



### Newspaper Profiles 'Kid Ramos'

Many of you have asked about Dave Ramos, a Harvest account manager who is on medical leave while he undergoes treatment for a rare form of cancer.

Dave is best known as "Kid Ramos," a popular blues artist with the band, Los Fabulocos.

The Orange County Register recently did a nice feature of Dave. You can read it here:

<http://www.ocregister.com/entertainment/ramos-409296-says-people.html>

### Welcome New Clients!

Harvest is pleased to welcome the following clients to our family:

- Woodbury East - Irvine
- Cedarpoint - Ontario
- Tustin Verdes - Tustin
- Pepperwood Village - Anaheim
- Cachette - Irvine
- Kaleidoscope - Anaheim
- Kal-Pep - Anaheim

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