



**EcoLandscape™**  
**Code of Ethics**  
**and**  
**Standards of Professionalism**

EcoLandscape California has adopted this Code of Ethics and Standards of Professionalism. To maintain good standing and to actively represent oneself as an EcoLandscape, one must first be a Qualified River-Friendly Landscaping Green Gardener. In addition to being a Qualified Green Gardener, one must:

**Participate:** Be a member of EcoLandscape California, actively participate in the organization, and support its mission of providing education and advocacy for ecologically-responsible landscapes.

**Professionalism:** Maintain business and professional licenses, certifications, and insurance as applicable to your field and the services you provide.

**Education:** Obtain continuing education units (CEUs) as outlined by EcoLandscape California.

**Environment:** Be committed to conducting business in accordance with the River-Friendly Landscaping Principles.

**Values:** Conduct oneself with honesty, integrity, and respect for the environment, clients, customers, and peers.

If at any time it comes to the attention of EcoLandscape California that, while representing myself as an EcoLandscape, I fail to adhere to the River-Friendly Landscaping Principles and values expected by EcoLandscape California, my standing as an EcoLandscape may be jeopardized or revoked. Notice of such complaints or concerns that come to the attention of EcoLandscape California will be addressed between EcoLandscape California and me, and resolved in a timely and respectable manner to ensure the most positive resolution possible, as determined by EcoLandscape California.

Agreed on this Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

## **EcoLandscaper™ Requirements**

In order to remain on the EcoLandscaper Referral List on the EcoLandscape California website, one must follow the Code of Ethics and Standards of Professionalism as agreed to and signed. The following document further addresses the requirements outlined in the Code of Ethics:

### **1. Active Participation**

Active participation as an EcoLandscaper entails fulfilling the following 12-unit annual requirement. We believe that participants will see the value of being actively involved in EcoLandscape California and supporting River-Friendly Landscaping principles with like-minded members of the public. It is important to remember that while these are requirements, they are also opportunities for you as a professional to market yourself and expand your business network.

#### **A. Meetings: 1 - 3 units (earning 1 unit per meeting)**

Attend EcoLandscape California meetings and/or assist in committee activities on a monthly basis. One (1) unit will be awarded for each meeting and a maximum of 3 units (3 meetings) may be applied towards the annual unit requirement. Monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month and are posted on the EcoLandscape California Calendar.

#### **B. Volunteerism: Minimum 4 units (earned hour-for-hour)**

Participate, on behalf of EcoLandscape California, in events such as Sacramento County Master Gardeners' Harvest Day, Greener Gardens Tours, EcoLandscape California Conference, and various other professional and public outreach events.

#### **C. Continuing Education Units (CEUs): Minimum 4 units (earned hour-for-hour for in-person training, 1 unit earned for on-line courses) in at least 2 topic areas per year, covering 4 topic areas in 2 years.**

Attend or teach educational programs provided through EcoLandscape California or recognized affiliate organizations as described and listed in item 2 below.

#### **D. EcoLandscape-Approved Presenter (optional, not required): 2 units (can apply toward CEUs)**

Present the approved River-Friendly Landscaping Principles presentation to garden clubs, schools, Homeowner Associations (HOAs), community groups, etc. An EcoLandscaper must be approved as an instructor by EcoLandscape California and utilize approved material for a presentation. Two (2) units per presentation will be awarded. This includes preparation time for a 30-minute to 1-hour presentation.

Reporting of Active Participation will be addressed at the beginning of each annual renewal cycle.

## 2. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) - Minimum 4 units

EcoLandscape California promotes educational progression beyond the introductory Green Gardener course through the attainment of credentials represented by “badges” based on the Green Gardener topics and the Seven Principles of River-Friendly Landscaping. Badges will be displayed with your qualifications on the EcoLandscape Referral List. Continuing education must be pursued in a minimum of 2 topic areas, which need to be attained on an annual basis.

As an EcoLandscape, it is your responsibility to achieve the minimum number of advanced training units required. EcoLandscape California will support advanced education in the following topic areas/BADGES by posting such courses on the EcoLandscape California Calendar:



Right Plant Right Place, Wildlife Habitats, Pruning, and Less to the Landfill



Soil Health, Fertilizer, Mulch and Compost



Water Efficiency, Turf and Landscape Management



Integrated Pest Management (IPM)



Business Management, Development, and Marketing

Educational opportunities offered by EcoLandscape California and opportunities from recognized professional organizations and industries will be posted on the EcoLandscape California Calendar. At this time, trainings from the following affiliate organizations can satisfy EcoLandscape California CEU requirements if they are consistent with the topic areas/BADGES noted above and/or the Seven Principles of River-Friendly Landscaping:

- Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD)
- Bay-Friendly Landscaping and Gardening Coalition
- California Landscape Contractors Association (CLCA)
- California School of Garden Design
- Ewing Irrigation
- Gaia College
- Hunter Industries

- International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)
- Irrigation Association Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor (CLIA)
- Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL)
- Regional Water Authority (RWA)
- Oregon Tilth Organic Land Care Training (OLC)
- University of California Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners

To receive CEU credit for educational opportunities offered by organizations and industries other than those listed above, the training must be provided by a program or entity that has been awarded CEUs.

Units are to be submitted to ELC on the Active Participation Report Form at the beginning of each annual renewal cycle.

### 3. Current Information

In order for a member to maximize their benefits as an EcoLandscaper and for EcoLandscape California to maintain their commitment to the public, its sponsors and members, it is vital that information be current. Therefore, EcoLandscapers are required to update their professional information on an annual basis. EcoLandscapers who fail to update their professional information within 30 days of a request or by the requested due date may be dropped from the EcoLandscaper Referral List for one year.

### 4. Membership

One must maintain an annual membership as an “EcoLandscaper Member” to be an EcoLandscaper.

Agreed on this Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Print Name Signature