

Sustainable Landscaping Topics Covered in PACE Certification

COMPOSTING of wastes such as grass, leaves, and food scraps makes a rich soil amendment that will improve soil quality.

FERTILIZATION should be based on soil analysis and the growth phase of the turf or garden. Slow-release fertilizers minimize nutrient runoff.

GRASSCYCLING is the practice of leaving grass clippings on the lawn when mowing to return valuable nutrients to the soil.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) focuses on long-term prevention or reduction of weeds and insect pests using (in order of preference) cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical controls.

PLANT SELECTION involves choosing plants suited to our climate which need less water and are less prone to diseases and pests.

TURF area should be minimized based on recreational needs of the property. Drought-tolerant, slow growth turf should be used for turf areas.

WATERING AND IRRIGATION should minimize water waste.

XERISCAPE is water-conserving landscaping.

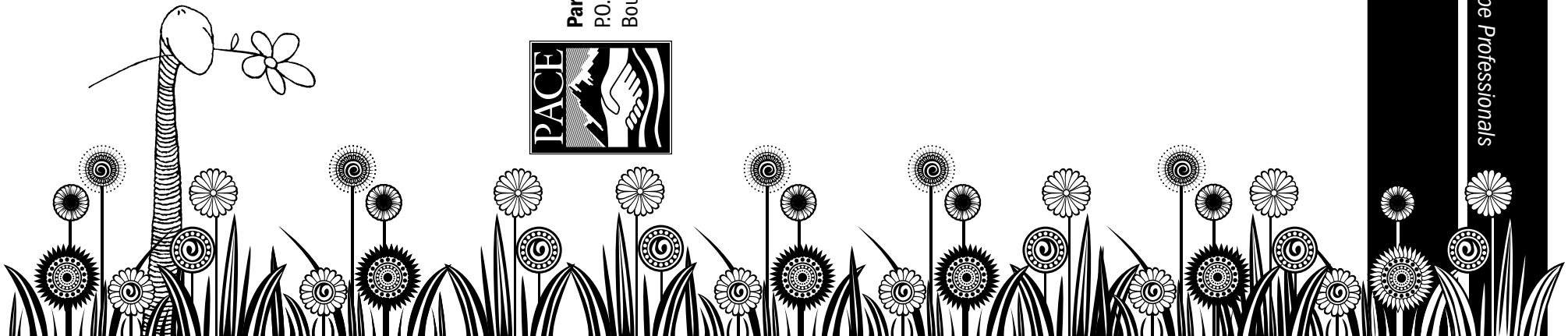
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PACE

Certification
in Sustainable
Landscaping

A Training and Recognition Program for Boulder County Landscape Professionals





The PACE Certification in Sustainable Landscaping Program

was developed in 2003 with participation from the city of Boulder, Boulder County Health Department, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension in Boulder County, and the Boulder County Green Industry Advisory Board. The goals of the program are to:

- Provide a service to landscape professionals.
- Promote practices that protect public health and reduce risks to the environment.
- Promote water conservation and extend the capacity of the existing infrastructure to meet local needs, considering Boulder County's arid climate and drought conditions.
- Satisfy resident requests for referrals to "green" landscape businesses and professionals with expertise in sustainable practices.

What is PACE Certification for Landscape Professionals?

Partners for A Clean Environment (PACE) is an environmental education and recognition program for Boulder County businesses. PACE certification for landscapers is a training program covering sustainable landscaping practices. Sustainable landscapes are designed to be attractive and in balance with the local climate and environmental conditions. They require minimal resource inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, and water.

BENEFITS OF PACE CERTIFICATION

- High quality training by local experts on current "hot topics".
- A resource manual packed with information to supplement the training.
- Consistent guidelines for sustainable landscaping practices.
- Listing in a directory of "green" landscape professionals for referrals to residents and businesses.
- Free advertising on the PACE web site and periodically in local newspapers.
- Educational materials for clients.
- Reduced environmental impacts from landscaping in Boulder County.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

- Attend required training, including the Boulder County Cooperative Extension Short Course offered in the spring and the city of Boulder Sustainable Landscaping Seminar in the fall.
- Pass an exam that tests your knowledge of the materials covered in the training.
- Complete a brief summary form each year listing sustainable landscaping principles you have implemented.
- Complete two hours of approved continuing education each year to maintain certification.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PACE CERTIFICATION

Visit the PACE web site at www.pacepartners.com or call **303-786-PACE**

The PACE Program is a cooperative effort of the cities of Boulder and Longmont, Boulder County Health Department, and Boulder Chamber of Commerce.

