

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA RELEASE

Tohono Chul Park & Arizona Department of Water Resources Announce 2006 Xeriscape Contest Winners

Tohono Chul Park and the Arizona Department of Water Resources, Tucson Active Management Area (ADWR), recognized business and residential winners in the 2006 Community Xeriscape Contest at an evening ceremony held May 17 at Tohono Chul Park. Awards recognized the landscapes of professionals and property owners who have made innovative and appropriate use of native and low-water-use plants, water harvesting, greywater and efficient irrigation systems.

The contest goal is to increase awareness of innovations in landscaping and water-use efficiency and to encourage the Tucson business and residential community to utilize these practices to create beautiful landscapes. The use of Xeriscape principles and native plants is an important aspect of desert-appropriate landscaping and promoting water conservation in our community. Here are the fine examples of desert stewardship recognized in 2006:

2006 COMMUNITY XERISCAPE LEADER, Wendy Falco, Harelson Public School District

First Place – Professional Residential,

Roberta Braegelmann, Sonoran Gardens Inc. for the Lewis Residence

First Place – Public Education,

UA Pima Co. Master Gardeners for the Xeriscape Garden

First Place – Commercial,

Margaret Joplin, Design Collaborations, Ltd. - Tucson Museum of Art, Entry Planter

First Place – Medians,

Novak Environmental, Inc., Karen Cesare, RLA - Star Valley Medians

Judges Xeriscape Award - “Best Use of Sonoran and Chihuahuan Natives”

Nancy Reid Residence, Homeowner Category

Judges Xeriscape Award - “Best Plant Lovers Garden in a Small Space”

Barbara M. Cain Residence, Homeowner Category

Judges Xeriscape Award- “Best Commercial Use of Sonoran and Chihuahuan Natives”

Novak Environmental, Inc., Karen Cesare, RLA - Star Valley Medians

Judges Xeriscape Award- “Best Mini Oasis”

Boxhill Landscape Design, Elizabeth A. Przygoda - Veterinary Specialty Center of Tucson

Judges Xeriscape Award- “Outstanding Community Common Area”

Grant McCormick, Brad Lancaster, Jeff Trent -Sonora Cohousing

Judges Xeriscape Award- “Best Use of Passive Water Harvesting”

Grant McCormick, Brad Lancaster, Jeff Trent - Sonora Cohousing Common Area

Judges Xeriscape Award- “Best Retrofit of a High-Water-Using Landscape”,

Mary Rose Duffield, RLA –Altholz Residence

Judges Xeriscape Award- “Most Efficient Irrigation System”

UA Pima Co. Master Gardeners - Xeriscape Garden

Professionals and homeowners were judged separately. All landscapes must have been at least two years old. Tohono Chul Park and ADWR again will host this contest in 2007. For more information on the 2007 contest or this year’s winners, contact Monica Surfaro Spigelman at Tohono Chul Park at 742-6455, ext. 220.

Tohono Chul Park website: www.tohonochulpark.org

Arizona Department of Water Resources website: www.azwater.gov

(List of 2006 Xeriscape Contest Judges and Sponsors Attached)

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Judges

Russ Buhrow, Curator of Plants, Tohono Chul Park

Greg Corman, owner, Gardening Insights, Inc.

Mike Debellis, irrigation specialist, Ewing

Doug Larson, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

Scott Millard, Ironwood Press

Steve Montano, irrigation specialist, Ewing

Dorothy Montgomery, volunteer, Tohono Chul Park Greenhouse

Jerry O'Neill, horticulturist

George Richard, landscape designer

Eric Scharf, Wheat Scharf Associates

Sponsors

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Mesquite-Level Sponsors

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Civano Nursery

Desert Trees Nursery

Kelly Green Trees

V&P Nurseries

Farmers Water Co.

Acacia-Level Sponsors

City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department

Landscape Cacti

Bach's Cactus Nursery

Bob's Material Supply

Silverbell Nursery

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