**ELITE Awards Entry Form – Sustainability Category**

**Questionnaire**

1. Company information
2. How many years has your company been in business?
	1. Start up
	2. Growth (in business 5 years or fewer)
	3. Mature (in business 5-10 years)
	4. Legacy (in business 10+ years)
3. Please give a brief outline (no more than 250 words) of the growth and development of your company since it was established.
4. Do you have certified people on staff?
5. If yes, how many and what designations do they hold?
6. Project name
7. Project/program location. Please provide at least city and state.
8. Property owner name
9. Contract begin date
10. Contract completion date
11. Total landscape budget
12. What was your profit margin (%), and why is this acceptable?
13. Did you complete all the work on this project? Were there any pre-existing or subcontracted items? If so, please explain.
14. How did the property owner find you and why did the property owner hire your company?
15. Provide a short project description of no more than 100 words. This should be no more than 3 sentences in length and should be a condensed description of the project description.
16. In 200 words or less, describe your project and what distinguishes it as a sustainable landscape. How did you meet customer desires and deal with site-specific challenges in sustainable ways? What makes it award-worthy?
17. How proactive you customer was in pursuing the sustainable qualities involved in this project? Was creating a sustainable landscape high on your customer’s wish list at the start? Please answer in less than 150 words.
18. Was marketing your company’s commitment to sustainability a factor in attracting this customer and/or getting the sale? Please answer in less than 150 words.
19. How much education did you do with the customer in terms of sustainable practices? If education was part of the process, did it lead to more sustainable results in the end of the project? Please answer in less than 150 words.
20. If you were required to follow specifications such as LEED, SITEs, etc., please list what you were required to do per those specifications.
21. The following checklist of sustainable landscape practices is based on Green Strategies for Colorado Landscapes developed by ALCC. Please indicate up to 3 items that were MOST important for this project by checking the boxes below. Some priority areas will require further description in next questions.
	1. The irrigation system has been designed to deliver appropriate water coverage
	2. A water budget was developed. You’ll be asked to provide a copy of the the water budget below.
	3. Non-potable water sources were investigated and incorporated to supply landscape water. Please provide more detail in the “comment” section below.
	4. The site warranted a dedicated water meter for landscape water and it is part of the system.
	5. An initial irrigation audit was performed and installation to make necessary adjustments for water pressure, coverage, etc. You’ll be asked to provide a date-stamped copy of the audit.
	6. Grading to move water away from areas where it is not wanted and to direct water through the landscape in order to water plants and filter water before it exists the site.
	7. Selection of plants that are appropriate for the site. You will be asked to provide a plant list below.
	8. Hydro zoning plants so they are grouped based on water needs and watered appropriately
	9. Avoiding overplanting in order to reduce water and other waste
	10. Preserving/protecting existing and viable trees during renovation/construction
	11. Plants were selected so that they have room to grow to their natural size and shape
	12. Appropriate space was allocated for turf based on function and other considerations
	13. Plant monocultures were avoided
	14. Planting for the long term was done by carefully selecting perennials for the site.
	15. Plants that sustain beneficial; wildlife, especially pollinators, were included.
	16. Edibles were included
	17. A soil test was performed. You will be asked to provide dated soil test results and what you did based on the results.
	18. Amended soil was protected from being compacted by equipment during the landscape installation process. You will be asked to provide more detail.
	19. Bed were mulched to maintain 3-4” of mulch to retain moisture, reduce runoff and control weeds.
	20. Existing materials already on site were reused. You will be asked to provide more detail below.
	21. Over-runs on the orders were minimized to avoid waste. You will be asked to provide more detail below.
	22. Materials that cause less damage or require fewer resources when produced were used. You will be asked to provide more detail below.
	23. Locally-sourced materials were used whenever possible. You will be asked to provide more detail below.
	24. Energy efficient products were used. You will be asked to provide a list of products used.
	25. Green waster waste was removed for composting. You will be asked to provide approximate quantities below.
	26. Job debris was removed and recycled. You will be asked to provide approximate quantities below.
22. What types of water-saving technology methods were used on this project, if any?
23. If a water budget was indicated as a priority for this project, please provide a copy of the water budget developed for the site.
24. If an irrigation audit was indicated as a priority for this project, please provide a a date-stamped copy of the irrigation audit.
25. If selection of plants was indicated as a priority for this project, please include a plant list for the project
26. If soil test was selected as a priority for this project, provide dated soil test results.
27. Based on the results of the soil test, what did you do?
28. If amended soil protected from being compacted by equipment during landscape installation was selected as a priority for this project, describe how it was done.
29. If reuse of existing materials was selected as a priority for this project, describe what was reused and how.
30. If over-runs on the orders were minimized to avoid waste was a priority, please describe.
31. If minimizing the amount of impervious surfaces on the site was a priority, please describe.
32. Describe or list sustainable materials used. Did you use materials that cause less damage or require fewer resources when produced
33. Describe or list locally-sourced materials used. Include what percentage of all materials that were sourced locally.
34. Describe or list energy-efficient products used, if any.
35. Was green waste removed for composting? If so, list approximate quantity such as cubic yards, etc.
36. Describe or list job debris that was removed and recycled, if any. Also list approximate quantities such as cubic yards, tons, etc.

Questions 37-46 are photo uploads