Enter your best projects . . . Today!!



Tode Landscape - 2025

New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association
NJLCA
Growing Every Day

2026 NJLCA LANDSCAPE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Deadline for Entries: October 31, 2026



Canete Landscape. - 2025



Sponzilli Landscape Group - 2025



CLC Landscape Design - 2025



Exclusive Stoneworks - 2025



Premium Aquascapes - 2025

www.NJLCA.org 201-703-3600 info@njlca.org

Why Should I Enter?

- **Promote Your Quality Work:** Show your clients that you are an award winning contractor.
- **Build Customer Relationships:** Clients will know that 'award winning' means that they have hired a professional.
- **Motivate Employees:** Winning awards reinforces employee confidence and boosts morale. Bringing your team to the awards ceremony is a great way to celebrate your achievements as a team.
- **Separate Yourself from the Competition:** Prove your superior workmanship, quality craftsmanship, attention to detail and most importantly, your pride in your work.
- **Free Publicity:**
  - Winners are featured on NJLCA's social media.
  - Award winners are featured in *The New Jersey Landscape Contractor* magazine. Award of Excellence winners receive a full page.
  - Photos of projects are used in NJLCA promotional materials, on our website, and in future publications, with full credit given to the award winning company.
  - Press releases are sent to local, state and national media for additional public recognition.



NJLCA Landscape Achievement Awards & Dinner



The New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association is proud to be the sponsor of the 26th Annual Landscape Achievement Awards and Holiday Gala. The Landscape Achievement Awards program was created to recognize the outstanding work designed, built and maintained by NJLCA members. The program also encourages greater public awareness of the aesthetic and environmental benefits of landscaping.

Winning entries for 2026 will be announced at the Landscape Achievement Awards Dinner at Westmount Country Club on December 1st. You are encouraged to invite landscape architects, designers, clients, foremen/women, crew and family.

The Landscape Achievement Awards are classified into two main categories: Design/Build and Maintenance. These categories are then broken down into various subcategories (see entry form), providing companies of all sizes and experience an opportunity to win an award. There are three potential awards for each subcategory: the Award of Excellence, the Award of Distinction, and the Award of Merit, all of which are very prestigious. The "best of the best" will win the prestigious "Judges Choice Award".

The Landscape Achievement Awards and Holiday Gala Dinner honors all of the winning companies for their achievements. The Awards Dinner is also an excellent way to thank your employees for their hard work and dedication, while honoring them for a job well done. That's why we encourage your employees to join you in accepting your award. All entries will be on display at the dinner (not just the winners) to show the breadth of the projects being entered. To help you market and promote your success, a professional photographer will be there to take publicity photos of you and your team.

Categories

Design/Build
Design/Build projects will be judged on quality of design and overall craftsmanship, including plant selection and hardscape construction details. Unique site challenges and unusual circumstances will be a factored into the judges decision-making, as well.

Landscape Maintenance
Landscape Maintenance projects will be judged on quality of work performed, including proper pruning techniques, clean edging and bedlines. Lawns should be lush. Beds, lawns, curbs and sidewalks should be free of weeds and debris, with an overall healthy appearance. All beds should be properly mulched. Special consideration will be given for seasonal color displays.



Submission Guidelines

- **Design/Build** projects must be submitted with a plan on at least one digital image, even if you did not design the project. Do not send originals. Photos must depict work that entering firm has completed. **ENTERING COMPANY MUST BE THE CONTRACTED COMPANY FOR THE PROJECT.**
- **Landscape Maintenance** projects must be currently maintained by the entering firm and have been maintained for at least 12 months prior to October 31, 2026. Photographs must show sufficient detail to allow judges to adequately determine quality of work performed. Photos must depict work that entering firm has completed. Any work of which you had no control over must be noted on the entry form and photos that you had no control over will be disqualified. Please note if seasonal color, fertilization, etc. are included in the contract.

A single project may be entered into **one category**. You may enter as many different projects as you'd like. **Entry must be typed or printed legibly.**

All entries must be submitted with the knowledge of the owner/property manager. All submitted materials, including photos and descriptions will become the property of the NJLCA and may be used for future publications, marketing or advertising purposes, with full credit given to you. Entry materials will not be returned. Deadlines cannot be extended. Forms must be completely filled out.

A minimum of 5 and a maximum of 15 photographs must be included with the entry in digital format (jpeg, png, gif, etc.) Each entry must have a project description as well as one description for each photo (see entry form). Descriptions should include any special or unusual circumstances encountered during the project. **Do not show your company name in any of the photographs (including trucks, trailers, uniforms, shirts, lawn signs, etc.)**. When possible, "in progress" and "before/after" photographs of the project should be included. No photo enhancements permitted. Category cost limitations must be adhered to and cost verification may be requested. Awards committee may, at its discretion, move a project to a different category.

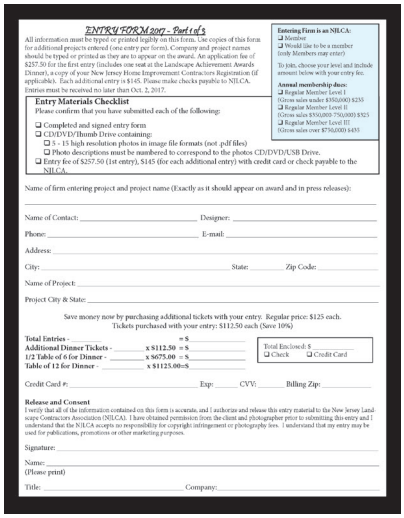


Take the opportunity to use the photo descriptions to tell the judges the story of your project, but please be clear, concise and to the point. Label the photos in the order you would like them to be viewed during the judging (01, 02, 03, etc.) and make sure that they correspond to the same number in the photo descriptions.

COMPANIES FOUND IN VIOLATION OF THE RULES OF ENTRY WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FOR A PERIOD NO LESS THEN 5 YEARS, PENDING REVIEW BOARD'S DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS.

Entry Process

1. Fill out three page entry form



ENTRY FORM 2017 - Part 1 of 3

All information must be typed or printed legibly on this form. Use copies of this form for additional projects entered (one entry per form). Company and project names should be typed or printed as they are to appear on the award. An application fee of $257.50 for the first entry (includes one seat at the Landscape Achievement Awards Dinner), a copy of your New Jersey Home Improvement Contractors Registration (if applicable). Each additional entry is $145. Please make checks payable to NJLCA. Entries must be received no later than Oct. 2, 2017.

Entering Firm is an NJLCA:
- ❑ Member
- ❑ Would like to be a member (only Members may enter)

To join, choose your level and include amount below with your entry fee.

Annual membership dues:
- ❑ Regular Member Level I (Gross sales under $50,000) $235
- ❑ Regular Member Level II (Gross sales $50,000-750,000) $525
- ❑ Regular Member Level III (Gross sales over $750,000) $435

Entry Materials Checklist

Please confirm that you have submitted each of the following:

- ❑ Completed and signed entry form
- ❑ CD/DVD/Thumb Drive containing:
  - ❑ 5 - 15 high resolution photos in image file formats (not .pdf files)
  - ❑ Photo descriptions must be numbered to correspond to the photos CD/DVD/USB Drive.
- ❑ Entry fee of $257.50 (1st entry), $145 (for each additional entry) with credit card or check payable to the NJLCA.

Name of firm entering project and project name (Exactly as it should appear on award and in press releases):

Name of Contact: _____ Designer: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name of Project: _____

Project City & State: _____

Save money now by purchasing additional tickets with your entry. Regular price: $125 each. Tickets purchased with your entry: $112.50 each (Save 10%)

Total Entries - _____ = $_____
Additional Dinner Tickets - _____ x $112.50 = $_____
1/2 Table of 6 for Dinner - _____ x $675.00 = $_____
Table of 12 for Dinner - _____ x $1125.00=$_____

Total Enclosed: $_____
❑ Check ❑ Credit Card

Credit Card #: _____ Exp: _____ CVV: _____ Billing Zip: _____

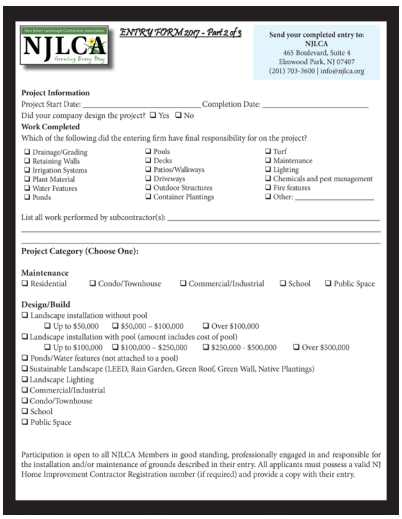
Release and Consent

I certify that all of the information contained on this form is accurate, and I authorize and release this entry material to the New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association (NJLCA). I have obtained permission from the client and photographer prior to submitting this entry and I understand that the NJLCA accepts no responsibility for copyright infringement or photography fees. I understand that my entry may be used for publications, promotions or other marketing purposes.

Signature: _____

Name: _____
(Please print)

Title: _____ Company: _____



NJLCA

ENTRY FORM 2017 - Part 2 of 3

Send your completed entry to:
NJLCA
465 Boulevard, Suite 4
Elmwood Park, NJ 07407
(201) 703-3600 | info@njlca.org

Project Information

Project Start Date: _____ Completion Date: _____

Did your company design the project? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Work Completed

Which of the following did the entering firm have final responsibility for on the project?

- ❑ Drainage/Grading
- ❑ Retaining Walls
- ❑ Irrigation Systems
- ❑ Plant Material
- ❑ Water Features
- ❑ Ponds
- ❑ Pools
- ❑ Decks
- ❑ Patios/Walkways
- ❑ Driveways
- ❑ Outdoor Structures
- ❑ Container Plantings
- ❑ Turf
- ❑ Maintenance
- ❑ Lighting
- ❑ Chemicals and pest management
- ❑ Fire features
- ❑ Other: _____

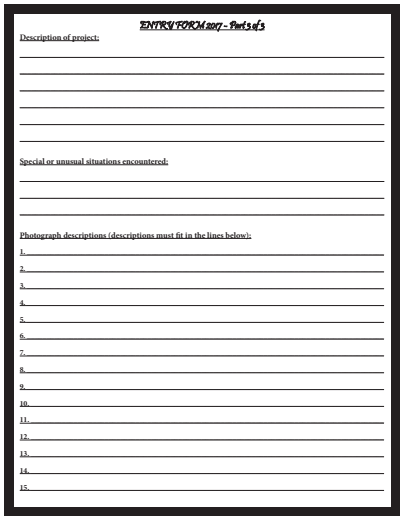
List all work performed by subcontractor(s): _____

Project Category (Choose One):

Maintenance
❑ Residential ❑ Condo/Townhouse ❑ Commercial/Industrial ❑ School ❑ Public Space

Design/Build
- ❑ Landscape installation without pool
  - ❑ Up to $50,000 ❑ $50,000 – $100,000 ❑ Over $100,000
- ❑ Landscape installation with pool (amount includes cost of pool)
  - ❑ Up to $100,000 ❑ $100,000 – $250,000 ❑ $250,000 - $500,000 ❑ Over $500,000
- ❑ Ponds/Water features (not attached to a pool)
- ❑ Sustainable Landscape (LEED, Rain Garden, Green Roof, Green Wall, Native Plantings)
- ❑ Landscape Lighting
- ❑ Commercial/Industrial
- ❑ Condo/Townhouse
- ❑ School
- ❑ Public Space

Participation is open to all NJLCA Members in good standing, professionally engaged in and responsible for the installation and/or maintenance of grounds described in their entry. All applicants must possess a valid NJ Home Improvement Contractor Registration number (if required) and provide a copy with their entry.



ENTRY FORM 2017 - Part 3 of 3

Description of project:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Special or unusual situations encountered:

_____

_____

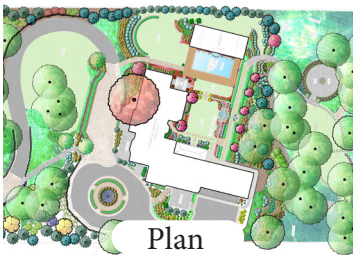
_____

Photograph descriptions (descriptions must fit in the lines below):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____

2. Save 5-15 photos (samples below), including the landscape design on a USB or via DropBox.

















3. Mail or email entry forms and USB Drive/DropBox link with payment made payable to NJLCA.

Judging

An experienced panel of green industry professionals, including landscape architects, designers, educators and others will judge the entries.

Judging criteria for design/build include difficulty, quality of products used, proper installation practices, selection of plant materials, future maintainability, attention to detail, design objectives, harmony of design with surroundings, structural integrity and overall appearance.

Judging criteria for maintenance projects include difficulty, pruning practices, mowing practices, weed control, mulch, annual color condition, litter control, quality and condition of plants and overall appearance as they apply.

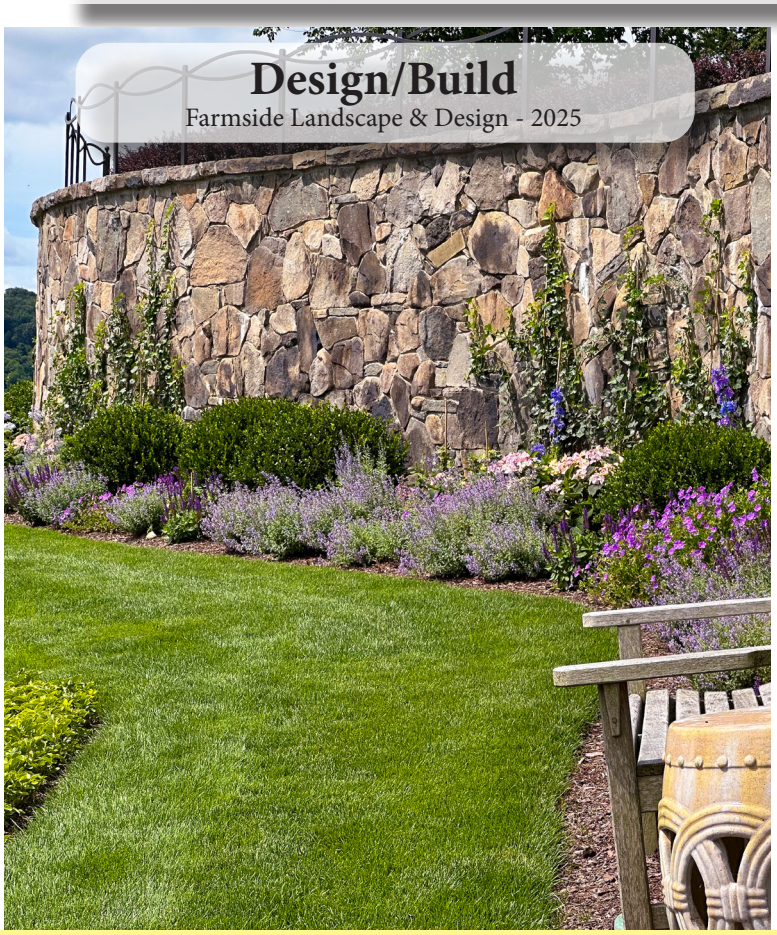
It is very important to note which areas you have no control over, as well as any customer requests.

The judges will have no knowledge of the company that performed the work and will make decisions based solely on the photographs and descriptions presented to them. That is why it is imperative to use high quality, high resolution images along with well thought-out descriptions of the photos.

Due to the volume of entries, judges will be scrutinizing details more closely. Be sure to follow "Tips for a Strong Entry" on the following page.

Tips for a Strong Entry

1. Read the requirements carefully and submit a complete entry.
2. In all cases, pay careful attention to photo selection. Don't show anything that could defeat the credibility of your project, such as brown leaves, debris, uneven pruning, etc.
3. Include overhead shots from a deck, upstairs window, ladder, with a drone, etc. if possible.
4. Close-ups of construction details help show quality of craftsmanship and attention to detail.
5. Try your best to show before, during and after shots of your work.
6. Wetting hardscape areas, prior to taking photos, will enhance the color and overall feel of those areas.
7. Keep descriptions concise. Make sure you include all of the challenges of the project and special qualities that make your project stand out as an award winner.
8. Identify any plantings, hardscape materials or construction details that are unique.
9. Hire a professional photographer for your "after" photos, if possible.
10. It is very important that your first and last photograph be two of the best since these will typically be viewed longer than the other photographs in your presentation.
11. Fight the urge to procrastinate! Take pictures throughout the seasons.



Design/Build
Farmside Landscape & Design - 2025



Maintenance
Scenic Landscaping - 2025

Disclaimers

1. Each entry should include the date the project was completed or taken over.
2. A project which previously won an NJLCA award may not be re-entered in the same category.
3. Project's name, company logo (trucks, shirts, etc.) or address may not be shown in any photo.
4. All entries will be reviewed from the 5 to 15 photos submitted. They must show sufficient detail to allow judges to adequately determine the quality of work. Review your entry carefully.
5. All installation and Design/Build entries must include a copy of the landscape design.
6. Any subcontractors work must be noted on the entry form.
7. All entries must be submitted on a current year entry form.
8. Awards are based on merit. Categories will not always have a winner, even if there are entries in that category.

ENTRY FORM 2026 - Part 1 of 3

All information must be typed or printed legibly on this form. Use copies of this form for additional projects entered (one entry per form). Company and project names should be typed or printed as they are to appear on the award. An application fee of $325 for each entry (1st entry includes one seat at the Landscape Achievement Awards Dinner), a copy of your New Jersey Home Improvement Contractors Registration (if applicable). Please make checks payable to NJLCA. Entries must be received no later than October 31, 2026.

Entering Firm is an NJLCA:
❑ Member
❑ Would like to be a member
(only Members may enter)

To join, choose your level and include amount below with your entry fee.

Annual membership dues:
❑ Contractor Member $375
❑ Contractor Member - 3 yrs. $900

Entry Materials Checklist

Please confirm that you have submitted each of the following:

❑ Completed and signed entry form
❑ USB Drive or DropBox link containing: (Or complete your entry online)
  ❑ 5 - 15 high resolution photos in image file formats (not .pdf files)
  ❑ Photo descriptions must be numbered to correspond to the photos on USB Drive/DropBox.
❑ Entry fee of $325 with credit card or check payable to the NJLCA.

Name of firm entering project and project name (Exactly as it should appear on award and in press releases):

_____

Name of Contact: _____ Designer: _____

Foreman (if maintenance entry): _____ (If project wins, designer/foreman will receive a certificate)

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name of Project: _____

Project City & State: _____

Save money now by purchasing additional tickets with your entry. Regular price: $190 each.
Tickets purchased with your entry: $180 each (Save $10 each)

Total Enclosed: $ _____
❑ Check ❑ Credit Card

Total Entries - _____ = $_____
Additional Dinner Tickets - _____ x $180.00 = $_____
1/2 Table of 6 for Dinner - _____ x $900.00 (inc. free ticket inc. with entry) = $_____
Table of 12 for Dinner - _____ x $1980.00 (inc. free ticket inc. with entry) = $_____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp: _____ CVV: _____ Billing Zip: _____

Release and Consent

I verify that all of the information contained on this form is accurate, and I authorize and release this entry material to the New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association (NJLCA). I have obtained permission from the client and photographer prior to submitting this entry and I understand that the NJLCA accepts no responsibility for copyright infringement or photography fees. I understand that my entry may be used for publications, promotions or other marketing purposes.

Signature: _____

Name: *(Please print)* _____

Title: _____ Company: _____

New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association
NJLCA
Growing Every Day

ENTRY FORM 2026 - Part 2 of 3

Due to the volume of entries, judges will be scrutinizing details more closely. Be sure to follow "Tips for a Strong Entry".

Send your completed entry to:
NJLCA
465 Mola Boulevard, Suite 2
Elmwood Park, NJ 07407
(201) 703-3600 | info@njlca.org

Project Information
Project Start Date: _____ Completion Date: _____
Did your company design the project? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Work Completed
Which of the following did the entering firm have final responsibility for on the project?

❑ Drainage/Grading
❑ Retaining Walls
❑ Irrigation Systems
❑ Plant Material
❑ Water Features
❑ Ponds
❑ Pools
❑ Decks
❑ Patios/Walkways
❑ Driveways
❑ Outdoor Structures
❑ Container Plantings
❑ Turf
❑ Maintenance
❑ Lighting
❑ Chemicals and pest management
❑ Fire features
❑ Other: _____

List all work performed by subcontractor(s): _____
_____
_____

Project Category (Choose One Category per Entry):
Maintenance
❑ Residential ❑ Commercial/Industrial (includes Condo/Townhouse, School and Public Space)
OR
Design/Build
❑ Landscape installation without pool
❑ Up to $25,000 ❑ $25,000 - 50,000 ❑ $50,000 – $100,000 ❑ Over $100,000
❑ Landscape installation with pool (amount includes cost of pool)
❑ Up to $100,000 ❑ $100,000 – $250,000 ❑ $250,000 - $500,000 ❑ Over $500,000
❑ Interior Plantscaping/Landscaping
❑ Foundation Planting / Small Garden Installation up to 500 sq. ft. / Display & Events *New
❑ Sustainable Landscape (LEED, Rain Garden, Green Roof, Green Wall, Native Plantings, etc.)
❑ Landscape Lighting ❑ Commercial/Industrial / Condo/Townhouse / School / Public Space

**Project amount is what you charge to install the job for profit, NOT the amount it costs you to install.

State any items NOT included in the dollar value of this entry: _____
_____
_____

Were there any client constraints or site issues that prevented you from implementing certain design elements?
❑ Yes ❑ No

If yes, please explain: _____
_____
_____
_____

Participation is open to all NJLCA Members in good standing, professionally engaged in and responsible for the installation and/or maintenance of grounds described in their entry. All applicants must possess a valid NJ Home Improvement Contractor Registration number (if required) and provide a copy with their entry.

ENTRY FORM 2026 - Part 3 of 3

Description of project:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Special or unusual situations encountered:

_____

_____

_____

Photograph descriptions (descriptions must fit in the lines below):

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____