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### Popular Annual Color Choices for Spring

*Impatiens*

*Petunia*

*Geranium*

*Coleus*

*Begonias*



We would like to welcome a few of our newest clients to Precision!

Girl Scouts Dallas  
 Cornerstone Crossing  
 Duke Bridges I&II  
 Grapevine Mills Mall  
 Hitachi Building  
 Westbrook HOA  
 Turtle Creek 2999  
 Energy Plaza Building



TIP: With the storms we have had in the last 6 months there were a lot of trees damaged. In order to prevent as much damage, and a great way to be proactive to save your trees, make sure you schedule a yearly tree trim!

# Precision Landscape Management

## Precision Congratulates Property Award Recipients

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) in relation to ET based controllers

**LEED** is an internationally recognized green building certification system, providing third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, **water efficiency**, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

The **water efficiency** credited section of the **LEED** certificate is to encourage smarter use of water, inside and out. Water reduction is typically achieved through more efficient equipment, fixtures and fittings inside, and water-wise landscaping outside.

Precision offers a great product for anyone trying to achieve energy and water efficiency which helps on costs in the landscape. The product is an ET (evapotranspiration) based controller.

The **ET based controllers** monitor the solar radiation, temperature, wind, humidity, and rainfall. It receives the information from a real-time local precision weather station on the site. The weather station automatically updates every hour and sends the signal to the controller to water only when needed. The ET controller works virtually

with any existing controller no matter how big or small the property.

A great example of the savings the ET based controller can offer **Granite Park** in Plano, TX which just received the **LEED Gold Certification**. **In 2009 they saved 12.5 million gallons of water at a cost savings of about \$47,000.**

As a result of the certification process both Granite Park One and Two decreased their potable water use by over 20%: a Commissioning Program was developed and implemented for all of the mechanical systems. Policies and Programs were written and implemented for Green Cleaning, Integrated Pest Management, Exterior Hardscape Surfaces, Exterior Landscape, Sustainable Purchasing for Ongoing Consumables, Light Bulbs, and Waste Stream Management, to name a few. This process not only afforded them a very prestigious certification; but also increased their operating efficiencies-saving time and money, and ultimately increasing the value of their assets.

We also want to congratulate **One Lincoln Park** for receiving the **LEED Gold Certification** and a **TOBY** ("The Office Building of the Year") award for 2009/2010 for Building in 250,000-499,999 square foot range in Dallas for their region!

**Interchange Office Center** received a TOBY award for 2009/2010 for building in 100,000-249,999 square feet for Dallas along with **Park Central 7, 8, 9** winning the Renovated Building category. Good Luck to Interchange Office Center and Park Central 7, 8, 9 when they compete again in California at the International TOBY.

The TOBY award is the most comprehensive award of its kind in the commercial real estate industry. The TOBY recognize quality and rewards excellence in office building management with landscaping playing a roll in this award.

*Good luck to any other property going for a LEED certification or TOBY award, we wish you all the best!*

**For more information about ET based controllers ask your landscape consultant!**



Granite Park, Plano, TX

## BE ON THE LOOKOUT!

You will soon be receiving your annual aeration and grub control proposal. Aeration is great for better utilization of your irrigation, establishment of stronger roots, and reduce compaction of soil which in return makes the turf more drought tolerant and accepts fertilizer more easily. This equates to an overall water savings!

Grub control is used as a preventative maintenance on your turf so you don't get the round circles in your lawn this growing season. The grubs eat the root systems of the grass and the turf dies since it can not get water or nutrients.

## Seasonal Spotlight

### CORA VINCA

Cora Vinca is a new variety of vinca or as some of you know it, periwinkle. This variety is special to the landscape industry since it is disease resistant to *Aerial Phythophthora* which means it will bloom all summer. The other great thing about this species; it loves the heat!

The other variety of the Cora Vinca is Cora Cascade with is a trailing Vinca. It is great for large beds, landscapes and pots.

The only downfall about this amazing color; it not grown in a large supply.



#### "Cora Vinca" At A Glance:

- Exposure:** Full Sun
- Water:** Average Watering
- Mature Size:** H: 14-16in  
W: 22-25in
- Leaves:** Glossy Green Foliage
- Bloom Period:** Summer

## NEW PRECISION EMPLOYEES!

We are pleased to announce our new employees Michelle Johnston and Lauren Little. Michelle graduated from Texas Tech University with a B.S. in Horticulture in 2004. Since graduation she has been in the landscape industry starting out in the field and has gradually moved into a supervisor role, an account manager, and now a Landscape Consultant for Precision. Lauren graduated from Sam Houston State University with a B.S. in Agriculture Business in 2008. Since graduation she has worked in the green industry starting at a retail nursery and then into landscape maintenance.

## Spring Home Gardening Tips

- Spring is the clean-up time. Make sure leaves are removed from beds, fresh mulch is applied and perennials are cut back.
- When planning your seasonal flower beds, make sure you add compost and mound your beds before planting.
- If you will be pruning hollies or any shrub that will have berries later in the year, keep in mind that pruning them when in flower or after will diminish the berry show. Best to prune them before they flower. Throughout the season you can pick prune any branches that you want to grow taller.
- Pre-emergents for early summer weeds can be applied up to around mid-April.
- Warm season vegetables can be planted in late March/early April. This includes tomatoes, beans, corn, squash, and cucumbers.

## EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

### 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARIES

Roque Flores  
Domingo Huerta  
Ernesto Chavez

### 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARIES

Edgar Nambo  
Steven McMurchie  
Raussel Morales  
German Lujano

## Recipe Corner: Tomato, Mozzarella and Basil Bruschetta

### Ingredients

- 1 (32-ounce) can whole tomatoes, drained
- 1 cup fresh basil leaves, washed and spun dry
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 6 cloves garlic, peeled
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 large French baquettes, sliced 1-inch thick (about 36 slices)
- 1 1/2 pounds fresh mozzarella cheese, sliced 1/3-inch thick

### Directions

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.
- In the bowl of a food processor, add drained tomatoes, 1 cup basil leaves, olive oil and 2 cloves garlic. Pulse until smooth, but somewhat chunky. Season with salt and pepper.
- On a baking sheet, line up baquette slices. Toast in oven for about 3 minutes or until light golden brown. Working quickly, rub the remaining garlic on the toasted side of each slice and then lay a piece of mozzarella cheese on

top. Place bread back in oven and melt cheese slightly, about 45 seconds. Remove from oven and spread one tablespoon of the tomato mixture on each piece. Place bruschetta on decorative platter and garnish with basil leaves.



Check out our website at: [www.precisiondallas.com](http://www.precisiondallas.com) for info & tips on native plants, shrubs & trees, etc.