



Nelda Matheny Horticultural Consultant



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Education

M.S. Environmental Horticulture.
Univ. of California Davis 1980
B.S. Plant Science. U. C. Davis 1978

Certifications

Registered Consulting Arborist
(#243)

Recent Awards

Excellence in Urban Forest Leadership Arbor Day Award. Arbor Day Foundation 2016

International Society of Arboriculture Board Commendation 2013

President's Award, ISA 2012

Durrell Maughn Founders Award
California Urban Forests Council
2010

Alex Shigo Award for Arboricultural Education, ISA 2007

Selected Publications

Matheny, N., L. R. Costello, C. Randisi, and R. Gilpin. 2021 *Irrigating San Francisco Bay Area Landscapes with Recycled Water*. WaterReuse California.
<https://watereuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Bay-Area-RW-Guide-June-2021.pdf>.

Matheny, N., E T. Smiley, R. Gilpin and H. Hauer. 2023. *Best Management Practices: Managing Trees During Site Development and Construction*, 3rd Ed. International Society of Arboriculture. Atlanta, GA.
Costello, L.C., E. Perry, N. Matheny, J.M. Henry and P. Geisel. 2003. *Abiotic disorders of landscape plants: A diagnostic guide*. Pub. 3420. University of California Ag and Natural Resources, Oakland CA.

Summary

Nelda Matheny is senior consultant at HortScience | Bartlett Consulting, divisions of the F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company. She specializes in tree evaluation and management, problem diagnosis and landscape plant selection and suitability assessment. She has particular experience in managing sites irrigated with recycled and low quality water, landscape soil assessment and management, and plant evaluation and management.

For over 40 years, Nelda has been providing consultation for landscape architects, contractors, owners, developers and public agencies to create enduring landscapes. She is committed to providing advice and services to promote healthy, sustainable and attractive landscapes. She helps clients select plants that are well suited to the site and manage them to enhance and protect environmental quality and conserve natural resources.

Selected Project Experience

Microsoft, Mountain View, CA

Working with the landscape architect for the project, Nelda provided advice to support the design of an extensive roof-top garden, including plant selection, soil medium composition, and irrigation management.

Stanford at Redwood City

Nelda participated in the landscape design and development of Stanford's first expansion outside its original campus. She identified plant species suitable for the 35-acre site that would be irrigated with recycled water. She developed guidelines and specifications for soil harvesting, stockpiling, and preparation to support an attractive, drought-tolerant landscape.

University of California Berkeley, Student Community Center

Working with the landscape architect, Nelda reviewed and commented on the plant palette for the landscape, most of which would be planted in raised beds over structure. She researched, designed and tested soil mixes for the planting areas that would provide adequate aeration and water holding capacity within the engineered specified weight limits.

Windemere, San Ramon, CA.

Working with the developer, landscape architect, and landscape contractor, Nelda evaluated site conditions and advised on plant selection over a 10-year period. This master planned community included 50 villages, 18 parks, 4 schools and many miles of streets. She collected soil samples, evaluated the site conditions, prepared pre-planting soil amendment specifications, and reviewed proposed plant palettes for suitability to the site as each phase was designed.

Feasibility Study for use of Recycled Water at Stanford Research Park, Palo Alto, CA

Managers of the 700-acre Stanford Research Park were concerned about the effects irrigation with recycled water would have on their landscapes. Nelda evaluated site conditions and prepared recommendations for appropriate water quality to maintain landscape function and appearance.

Landscape Design Guidelines and Submittal Checklists, Pleasanton, CA

Nelda contributed to development of the City Pleasanton's Landscape Design Guidelines. She participated in task force meetings, prepared drafts, and responded to comments regarding tree preservation, water conservation, and irrigating with recycled water.