

# JUDGING CRITERIA

## 'LNS Award of Excellence for Water Feature'

The water feature should fit naturally into the landscape, whether it is of formal or informal design. It should be a sustainable feature, not requiring excessive maintenance or intervention. The water feature entry will be judged on the following criteria:

### **Total 100 points**

#### **Total Category Value - 50 points**

##### **Design**

- Originality, creativity (10)
- Degree of difficulty (10)
- Owner's desires and restrictions met (10)
- Effective use of design elements (10)
- Effective integration of plants and water feature (10)

#### **Total Category Value - 10 points**

##### **Plant Material**

- Horticultural correctness (3)
- Quality of plant material (3)
- Compatibility with the environment (4)

#### **Total Category Value - 40 points**

##### **Quality Workmanship for Water Feature**

- Installation techniques, craftsmanship (10)
- Execution of construction details (10)
- Site problems addressed (10)
- Installation challenges encountered (10)

##### **The judges will consider:**

###### Originality, creativity

- Unique design
- Unique use of materials

###### Degree of difficulty

- Grade concerns, source of electricity where applicable
- Safety concerns addressed

###### Owner's desires and restrictions met

- Evidence of collaboration with owner in the design of the water feature

###### Effective use of design elements

- Shape, form, landform, contrast, unity

###### Effective integration of plants and water feature

- Plants used to improve water quality
- Plants provide visual connection between the water feature and the surrounding landscape

Horticultural correctness

- Correct species selection for placement and function
- Correct soil preparation, planting, and establishment care.

Quality of plant material

- Size of plants at installation
- Unusual plants or use of native species

Compatibility with the environment

- Plants used are noninvasive
- Plants contribute to habitat for wildlife, including insects, birds, reptiles or mammals
- Water feature contributes to storm water mitigation
- Need for chemical treatment of water feature minimized

Installation techniques, craftsmanship

- Correct excavation, site preparation and installation technique
- Successful creation of desired effect (natural, formal, etc)
- Stone and plant placement effective
- Water movement effective

Execution of construction details

- Installation is according to the design of the feature
- Pond liner not predominant
- Planting areas adequately provided

Site problems addressed

- Surface drainage issues solved
- Water feature functions as desired

Installation challenges encountered

- Excavation concerns solved
- Site damage minimized