

## Colorado Landscapers Honor Top Water Features

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A patio and fire pit set off this Grand Award-winning water feature project by Outdoor Craftsmen.

[Click here for projects slideshow.](#) The Associated Landscape Contractors of Colorado, a Denver-based industry group with more than 700 members, honored 38 landscapes, including nine water features, at its 2010 Excellence in Landscape Awards banquet, held in February. Other judged categories included landscape construction, renovation and maintenance, xeriscape, special areas, design/build, interior landscape and color use.

The number of honored water features marked a resurgence of the category since water restrictions in the state were eased as drought conditions improved. The water feature resurgence began last year, when ALCC honored five water features.

Only one contractor repeated in the water feature category: Outdoor Craftsmen of Erie, Colo., for a Grand Award-winning Ni-Water Composition project in Niwot. In 2009, Outdoor Craftsmen received an Award of Excellence for its Evergreen Falls project in Evergreen. The Niwot water feature includes a reflection pond, a primary waterfall, a hot tub inside a grotto and a streambed with a series of waterfalls that end in a pond.

Rocky Mountain Custom Landscapes of Avon also earned a 2010 Grand Award for its Spraddle Creek project in Vail. In this project, Rocky Mountain Custom Landscapes sought to create a water feature that looked as though the existing home was built around the water feature. Rocky Mountain Custom Landscapes used more than 200 tons of moss rock to create plenty of cascades to drown out interstate traffic sounds.

Seven contractors earned Awards of Excellence for water features, including 1st Green Lawns Inc. of Lafayette, Changing Landscapes Inc. of Longmont, JBK Landscape Inc. of Aurora, Lifescape Associates of Denver, Neils Lunceford Inc. of Silverthorne, Rock and Water LLC of Wheat Ridge and Terracare Associates of Littleton. Neils Lunceford earned an Award of Excellence last year for a design/build project that incorporated water.

More than 300 people attended the 2010 award banquet.