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WaterSaver Landscape Specialist - A Year Later

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The WaterSaver Landscape Specialist Program was introduced at the 2006 Irrigation Association meetings in San Antonio. It is a professional and technical development and recognition program for landscapers and irrigators that work in the San Antonio area. The program's primary goal is to provide consistent information to the local industry on the Best Management Practices that focus on efficient water use for landscape installation and maintenance. Companies that sign up to participate in the program agree to have both professional and field staff attend a series of modules that cover the WaterSaver Specialist Best Management Practices for landscapes in the San Antonio region. Participating companies agree to adhere to these BMP's in the course of their daily business.

From the results of a preliminary survey and meetings with the steering committee comprised of green industry professionals, both the focus and format of the program changed. Field staffs were also recognized as essential partners in promoting and implementing the BMP's, and their attendance at specially designed modules which emphasize "hands-on" education was required. The format changes included lengthening the number of modules for field staff but reducing their duration and organizing the modules around the Seven Principles of Xeriscape™. All partners agreed that initial "buy-in" from the green industry for both professionals and field staff is the key to the program's success.

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See more of [The 28th Annual International Irrigation Show \(December 9-11, 2007\)](#)