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**Coast Village Road goes “GREEN”  
with the Help of Local LEED AP**

CARPINTERIA / SANTA BARBARA / MONTECITO, CA –

“We are aiming for *LEED Platinum*” says Leland Walmsley, Landscape Architect and LEED AP of local Carpinteria based firm, **everGREEN landscape architects, inc.**

Recently, a Montecito business consulted Walmsley, a “green” garden expert, in the development of their rented office building and its surrounding landscape to meet LEED standards – embracing the group effort for Coast Village Road to be carbon neutral by 2020. When completed (July 2008), it will be the **1<sup>st</sup> commercial building with a *LEED Platinum* rating in Santa Barbara County and the 2<sup>nd</sup> building in Santa Barbara County to earn *LEED Platinum*.** “It will be one of most energy efficient buildings in the state.”

This voluntary effort demonstrates a serious commitment to the local and global community through environmental stewardship and social responsibility. “Over time this project will cost no more than if conventional methods were used, yet it will significantly reduce waste going to landfill, lower operating costs, conserve energy and water, reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions, will be healthier and safer for employees and clients to be in, and will increase property value. Esthetically and functionally, it will be a real “green” jewel. Everybody wins!”

“When pursuing LEED certification, a project often can be just a few points shy of achieving the desired LEED level. For this project, cutting-edge water efficiency (inside and out) connectivity to public transportation and improved stormwater quality will all contribute to solid LEED credits,” Walmsley said. Instrumental to achieving the Platinum rating, Leland Walmsley is the 1<sup>st</sup> and only “LEED Accredited Professional” landscape architect in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. He also sits on the local USGBC Regional Council.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design -- U.S. Green Building Council), is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance “green” and sustainable buildings and building sites. When striving for LEED certification, the entire project, including its landscape, is considered. Points are earned for meeting various criteria in five areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water efficiency, energy & atmosphere, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality. The total number of points awarded earns LEED certification in one of four levels: *certified, silver, gold, or platinum.*

Considering a commercial or residential project of your own? These types of projects can qualify for tax rebates, zoning allowances and other incentives. For more information about eco-friendly landscape design and construction, visit [www.everGREEN-sb.com](http://www.everGREEN-sb.com) and [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org).

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