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**South Coast Resident Becomes 1st and Only “GREEN”
Landscape Architect To Be LEED Accredited
in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties**

SANTA BARBARA / VENTURA, CA –

Leland Walmsley of everGREEN Landscape Architects, Inc. recently earned the distinguished position of the **1st and only “LEED Accredited Professional” landscape architect in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.**

LEED certified projects demonstrate an owner’s commitment to environmental stewardship and social responsibility. These projects have lower operating costs and increased asset value, reduce waste going to landfill, conserve energy and water, are healthier and safer to be in, reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions, and can qualify for tax rebates, zoning allowances and other incentives.

“I show people that regardless of design style, their gardens can be resource saving, eco-friendly, and absolutely stunning. It’s easy and cost effective to be a responsible global citizen while realizing your dream of a lush garden escape.” **Leland is also the only “Green Roof / Living Wall Specialist” landscape architect on the Central Coast.**

According to the U.S. Green Building Council, the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and accepted tools and performance criteria.

LEED is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

Architects, landscape architects, real estate professionals, facility managers, engineers, interior designers, construction managers, lenders and government officials all use LEED to help transform the built environment with sustainability. State and local governments across the country are adopting LEED for public-owned and public-funded buildings; there are LEED initiatives in federal agencies, including the Departments of Defense, Agriculture, Energy, and State; and LEED projects are in progress in 41 different countries, including Canada, Brazil, Mexico and India.

For more information about “sustainable/green” landscape design and construction, visit www.everGREEN-sb.com and www.usgbc.org.

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