

I wanted to send out some information about the upcoming CLT Field Tests that are being held at the Olathe Horticulture Center on Aug 23. Some of you are asking yourself “What does CLT mean?” CLT stands for Certified Landscape Technician and it is part of the certification program that is being coordinated by PLANET, the Professional Landcare Network www.landcarenetwork.org/

Here are some excerpts from PLANET news releases and brochures;

Why should I become a CLT?

Having a CLT on staff or on site is becoming more and more a requirement for many commercial and municipal jobs. And, more and more, the buying public is looking for a way to distinguish one landscaping firm from another. Being a Certified Landscape Technician assures your clients and customers of your dedication to professionalism, provides you with national recognition for your landscape skills, registers your company as an employer of Certified Landscape Technicians, and creates opportunities for career advancement in the industry.

Benefits of Certification

The PLANET Certification program is an international certification program whose objectives are:

- To encourage self-assessment by offering guidelines for achievement
- To identify persons with acceptable knowledge of principles and practices of the profession
- To improve performance within the profession by encouraging participation in a continuing program of professional development
- Promotes professionalism for individuals
- Provides international recognition
- Validates landscape skills
- Allows the company to advertise and be registered as an employer of Certified Landscape Technicians
- Creates opportunities for career advancement in the industry

Why Hire a CLT?

For many of the reasons listed above. Hiring a CLT will help insure that the person working with you has a very high level of knowledge and competency. Homeowners or land managers should definitely consider seeking out and hiring CLT's for your next landscaping job. You can find more info about the CLT program from the PLANET website www.landcarenetwork.org/. You can find local CLT professionals from the local PLANET chapter called MAGIC, The Mid-American Green Industry Council. Their website is at <http://www.magicouncil.org/>

Time is Running Out!

I've attached some more information about becoming a CLT and taking the Field Test below. The Field Test is only held once a year and registration space is limited. Moreover, the deadline to register is next Wednesday Aug 6. So get registered right away to insure a spot for you or someone on your staff. If you have any questions feel free to contact Jane Male at MAGIC **816-561-5323**.

It's time to register for 2008 CLT Tests!



<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Register by</u>
Field - Saturday August 23	35125 W. 135th Olathe, KS	August 6

CLT Test requirements have changed as of June 1, 2008!

As of June 1st, there are changes going into effect that you should know about whether you have already started the CLT testing process or you are just getting started. The most significant change is that the **Installation Module** and the **Maintenance Module** have both been divided into two areas. Now there are five areas in which you may earn the CLT:

- Softscape Installation
- Hardscape Installation
- Turf Maintenance
- Ornamental Maintenance
- Irrigation

Some of the requirements for individual modules have also changed. Please see the enclosed flyer for a list of specific problems that are now required to complete each one of the five modules.

What you need to know has not changed!

- The knowledge base for earning the CLT has not changed.
- What has really changed is how the test is delivered in some cases and that two modules have been divided.
- The hands-on skills required for individual test problems are the same as before.
- Because *what* you need to know hasn't changed, the training manuals are still the best study guide you can use.

If you have already started the CLT process:

- Due to the changes effective June 1st, people who are already certified in either installation or maintenance will now have two CLT designations.
- Other people who only have one or two problems left may find that they are now CLTs. For example, if you are an Irrigation candidate needing only to pass Plant ID to become a CLT, you will be a CLT after June 1st because Plant ID is no longer required for the Irrigation Module.
- ALCC will notify current candidates if the new changes result in them now being CLTs.
- **If you have questions about test problems you still need to complete, call Jane Male, CAE at MAGIC: 816.561.5323.**

Register early for 2008 tests.

Registrations are accepted on first-come, first-served basis.





Certified Landscape Technician (CLT)

FIELD TEST

KSU Horticulture & Extension Center
35125 W 135th • Olathe, KS



Saturday, August 23, 2008

Please provide <i>both</i> company and home addresses; check where you want information sent:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Company		
Your Name	First _____ MI _____ Last _____	
Home Address:	Street/PO Box _____ Cell Phone _____	
	City/State _____ Zip _____	
Work Address:	Company _____	
	Street/PO Box _____ Phone _____	
	City/State _____ Zip _____	
	Email _____ Fax _____	
	REQUIRED	
Test Fees:	Register Me For: Select the test you want to take.	
MAGIC Members: \$225 for each test Nonmembers: \$400 for each test Retest Fees: \$30 each problem up to a maximum of five (5) problems	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Installation Softscape <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Installation Hardscape <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Turf Maintenance <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Ornamental Maintenance <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Irrigation Test	
	Please Check: Are you a current CLT? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, in what area? <input type="checkbox"/> Installation <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation Are you a CLT in process (retake)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Which field test problems are you registering to test? (5 problem maximum) _____	
Special Accommodation	<input type="checkbox"/> I need a Spanish interpreter. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ _____	
Register by July 25!		MEMBER NON-MEMBER
	Field Test Fees:	\$225 \$400
	Retest Fees: _____ test(s) @ \$30	\$ _____ \$ _____
	If postmarked after July 25, add late fee - \$25	\$25 (after 7/25) \$25 (after 7/25)
	No reservations accepted after Friday, August 6	
	TOTAL	\$ _____ \$ _____
	No refunds for no-shows on test day or cancellations after August 6.	
Pay By Check	Please send check or money order payable to MAGIC Council to address below.	
Pay by Credit Card	Visa/MasterCard _____ Exp. _____	
	Name of Card Holder (Person or Company) _____	
	Signature of Cardholder _____	
	You may FAX credit card registrations to MAGIC Council: (816) 561-1991	
Cancellations Questions?	Test cancellations require written notification. Call: Jane Male, CAE, Executive Director at (816) 561-5323	
Mail Form by July 25 and save to:	MAGIC Council P.O. Box 419264 Kansas City, MO 64141-6264	