

Property at a glance

Location: Boise, ID**Staff:** St. Luke's Regional Medical Center grounds department**Category:** Hospital or Institution**Total budget:** \$118,000**Year site built:** 1906**Acres of turf:** 4**Acres of woody ornamentals:** 3.5**Acres of display beds:** 8,000 sq. ft.**Total paved area:** 2 million sq. ft.**Total man-hours/week:** 280

Maintenance challenges

- ▶ Old site/new growth
- ▶ Project spread out over large area
- ▶ Constant construction

Project checklist

(Completed in last two years):

- ▶ Hazard tree program
- ▶ Five-year pruning program
- ▶ New color program

On the job

- ▶ 5 full-time staff, 2 seasonal employees, 1 licensed pesticide applicator

St. Luke's Regional Medical Center

A 2000 Honor Award Winner of the Professional Grounds Management Society for Hospital or Institution

St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Boise, ID, has grown from a single Victorian-style building constructed in the early 1900s to a regional medical center with over one million sq. ft. of buildings, covering 27.5 acres and 18 city blocks. Its grounds department has grown right along with it, and now cares for 800 trees and 4,000 shrubs on campus, including a 150-ft. giant sequoia unique to Boise's high desert environment.

The last two years have been particularly challenging to members of St. Luke's grounds department. They have supported two major construction projects by reviewing landscape designs and recommending changes as needed, providing support to contractors and keeping work sites clean and safe — with no addition to staff or reduction of other responsibilities.

Grounds Maintenance Lead Russ Harbaugh takes his job seriously. "When

patients and visitors arrive on our campus for medical services, their first opinion of the quality of care they will receive comes from the appearance of our grounds and buildings," he says.

Workers deadhead annuals near one of the hospital's directional signs.



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Editors' note: *Landscape Management* is the exclusive sponsor of the Green Star Professional Grounds Management Awards for outstanding management of residential, commercial and institutional landscapes. The 2001 winners will be named at the annual meeting of the Professional Grounds Management Society in November. For more information on the 2001 Awards, contact PGMS at:

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The sandstone and brick and ivy covered walls of one of the oldest buildings of St. Luke's are surrounded by immaculately trimmed bushes.

