

Property at a glance

Location: Boulder, CO

Staff: Ned's Lawn & Tree Service, Inc.

Category: Small Site

Total budget: \$25,200

Year site built: 1975

Acres of turf: 3.5

Acres of woody ornamentals: 5

Acres of display beds: 1

Total paved area: 1.9 acres

Total man-hours/week: 25

Maintenance challenges

- ▶ Keeping bluegrass lush and green
- ▶ Aging irrigation system
- ▶ Responsible and efficient employees

Project checklist

Completed in last two years:

- ▶ Relandscaped problem areas with more appropriate plant selections.
- ▶ Updated irrigation system
- ▶ Developed IPM program

On the job

- ▶ 2 full-time staff, 3 seasonal employees

Roche of Colorado Corporation

2001 PGMS Grand Award Winner for Small Site

When Roche of Colorado Corporation, a pharmaceutical company located in Boulder, CO, hired Ned's Lawn & Tree Service to maintain its landscape, it had one simple demand: keep the Kentucky bluegrass lush and green.

This, however, was easier said than done. The company is located at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, where Ned's crew members have found plenty of large rocks and gravel to contend with just beneath the soil. A 25-year-old irrigation system which must be monitored bi-weekly doesn't help matters.

Mowing's no cinch either. Numerous berms around the site, as well as steep rolls in the terrain, make mowing an adventure.

Where bluegrass has had trouble surviving, Ned's crews have added flower beds with California poppies, snapdragons, Brazilian verbena, begonia, lobelia,



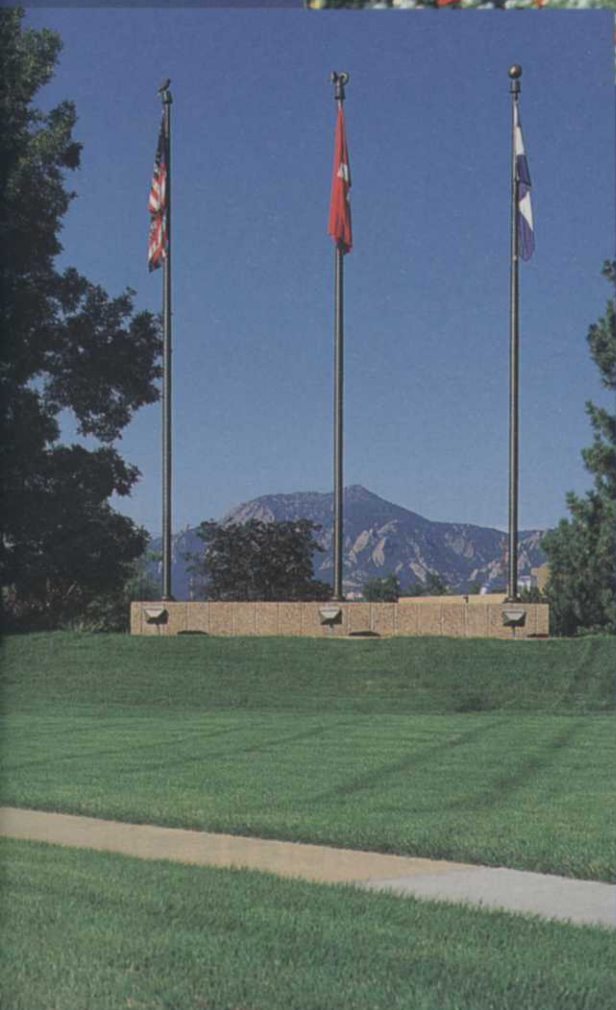
Flat ground is hard to find on Roche of Colorado Corporation's site, which is why most mowing is done with stand-on mowers.

blue salvia, and others. White Nancy has proven to be a great ground cover for the area. With 100% lush bluegrass being unrealistic for this site, Ned has been educating the client on appreciating the diversity within a bluegrass landscape and understanding the principles of site specific landscape design.

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Although there are some display beds on site, the 3.5 acres of Kentucky bluegrass demand the most attention from Ned's crew. Roche of Colorado Corporation issued this directive when hiring Ned's: keep the bluegrass lush and green.