

## Property at a glance

**Location:** Atlanta, GA

**Staff:** Post Landscape

**Category:** Condominium, Apartment Complex or Planned Community

**Total budget:** \$80,500

**Year site built:** 1998

**Acres of turf:** 1

**Acres of woody ornamentals:** 3

**Acres of display beds:** 1

**Total paved area:** 4 acres

**Total man-hours/week:** 48

## Maintenance challenges

- ▶ Parking decks
- ▶ 100% organics (trees, shrubs, beds)
- ▶ Eight theme gardens

## Project checklist

Completed in last two years:

- ▶ Dry stream beds
- ▶ Turf converted to ground covers
- ▶ Low volume irrigation

## On the job

- ▶ 3 full-time staff, 1 seasonal employee, 3 licensed pesticide applicators

# Post Gardens

## 2002 PGMS Grand Award Winner for Condominium, Apartment Complex or Planned Community

Organic is the word at Post Gardens, a nine-acre apartment community set in the upscale neighborhood of Lenox Park in the the community of Buckhead. Post Landscape uses a 100% organic fertility program for trees, shrubs, annuals and perennials due to the high use environment and to be environmentally sensitive.

"Another reason we do this is for the residents who have pets," says Property Horticulture Supervisor Kevin Hostetler, a 15-year grounds veteran.

Hostetler graduated from the University of Georgia with a horticulture degree and has worked for Post Properties ever since. He's a Certified Nursery Technician and is working on becoming a certified landscape professional. And he finds nothing wrong with taking his job home with him — he loves to work in his own yard, provided he finds the time to do it.

He and his crew have their hands full at Post Gardens, which features



University of Georgia grad Kevin Hostetler and crew maintain eight gardens.

eight theme gardens that are each their own "micro" environment

with unique needs for sun, shade, soil structures, water management, proper pruning, IPM, fertility and horticulture. The irrigation system was recently upgraded in the theme gardens, allowing the crew to become even more "water savvy" and better meet each garden's individual requirements.

**PGMS**  
**Landscape**  
MANAGEMENT

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 2003 winners will be named at the annual meeting of the Professional Grounds Management Society in November. For more information on the 2002 Awards, contact PGMS at:

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An organic program keeps Post Gardens' property bright and blooming.



The one acre of turf, one acre of display beds and three acres of woody ornamentals require a total of 48 man-hours per week.

