

Git R Done- By Stan Southwick



Larry the Cable Guy is famous for his line, "Git R Done!" I like people who can get things done. Many times, however, we get caught up in the bureaucracy attached to what should be a simple task. Things get drawn out, decisions don't get made and all parties involved lose time, money and precious sanity. We are working on several projects that have never had a 100% submittal date on the design schedule. It seems like we just keep on making changes and new designs right on through construction.

Over the years, I've learned a few things that help me to Git R Done.

Probably the most important is to start with the end in mind. If we don't know where we are going, we will never get there... no matter how hard we work at it. Circles don't have an end point. Decide what ultimately needs to be accomplished before beginning any specific task. Which brings me to the next thing I've learned, get started. There is nothing worse than staring at a blank piece of paper and your mind is just as blank. Sometimes the hardest thing is to put that first mark on the page. As hard as it may sometimes seem, you just need to start. One last point, focus! We waste a lot of time and sanity when we jump from one task to another and back again. Much more can be accomplished working for one hour on a single task than by working 25 minutes on the same task four different days in a row.

Pull up Larry the Cable Guy's Git R Done routine on You Tube. Maybe you'll learn something, maybe you won't, but for sure you'll smile.

Consultant of the Month

Our top pick for consultant of the month is Emily Barclay, President of ADA Professional Team, LLC (Adapt). Emily has been a team member with us on several of our projects and has given us invaluable advice and recommendations concerning ADA issues. Her proactive approach has provided us with the upfront information we need to make decisions early in the project. Emily is very thorough and detailed oriented and we very much appreciate her individual approach to each project. And besides that... she's a lot of fun! Thank you, Emily, for your dedication and team spirit.



"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."
— Margaret Atwood

Favorite Flora:

Prosopis chilensis- Chilean Mesquite- By Jon Marenfeld



This month's favorite flora is a semi-evergreen, heat loving, and drought tolerant tree native to Chile. The Chilean Mesquite (*Prosopis chilensis*) is closely related to the native mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*) and its native climate is a mirror image of the American southwest. This moderate grower has a low spreading canopy with an oval, rounded, or umbrella shape and can reach up to 30' high with an equal spread. However, well-watered specimens can reach 50' high and wide or larger. Typically the Chilean mesquite is semi-evergreen and will be dormant during the winter although it may not lose all its

leaves. It is available in thorny and thornless varieties. This tree grows best in full sun and well/quick draining soils. During the first growing season regular deep watering is a must to establish an extensive root system. Underwatered trees with shallow root systems can heave sidewalks, pathways, and driveways and blow over during storms. Once established Chilean mesquites only need occasional watering to encourage vigor. During the summer it will produce 3" long seed pods.



Photo of the Month

Desert Blooms
Sloan, NV
Dan Ballard

The Chilean mesquite is an excellent choice for reducing the effects of our harsh summer sun. When planted on the south and west sides of your home it can produce a significant amount of shade that battles the oppressive heat and reflected heat. It's best to plant them in groupings but can survive as single specimens too. Because it drops leaves and seed pods at various times of the year it would be best to keep this tree away from pools and other areas where litter is a concern. Pair with Texas Rangers (*leucophyllum* sp.), Yuccas, Ground Morning Glory (*Convolvulus*), and other drought tolerant plants for a truly southwestern landscape.