

## MEMBER PROFILE



### Wilson Nurseries, Inc. Northern Illinois

Owned and operated by the Fick family (Roger, Andy, and Jennifer), and managed by Andy and Jennifer Fick, Wilson Nurseries, Inc., is a full-service wholesale grower of nursery stock. Recently featured on ANLA's Kick the Dirt Tour, Wilson has two fully staffed locations. Wilson propagates and grows a full line of B&B and container material, supplying both large commercial and smaller projects. In addition, sister company Wilson Landscape Supply offers a complete line of hardscape goods. Wilson's Horticulture Distribution Center stocks and makes immediately available material from both the nursery and the landscape supply operation.

## VIEWPOINT

### Report from the Division Board Meeting by George Hackney

The board of directors of ANLA's grower division met in November for a day of decision-making and policy discussion. We focused on three main areas:

The board had a chance to review comments from the Kick the Dirt Tour and Talks held in late September in the Chicago area. In the photo, I'm presenting a plaque of appreciation to Ken Doty (left) of Hinsdale Nurseries for hosting a tour site. Attendees reported a very positive experience, particularly the opportunity to get out and walk the sites we visited ([Wilson Nurseries](#), [Hinsdale Nurseries](#), [Midwest Groundcovers](#), [Kendall Hill Nursery](#), [Kankakee Nursery Company](#), and Kaneville Tree Farm). The 2008 KTD Tour will offer more of the same, with even greater focus on nurseries that are "doing it differently." [[read more](#)]



## MANAGER'S CORNER

### Economic Indicators Point To Slow Down

[Harvard's Joint Center for Housing Studies](#) reports that the weakness in house prices and consumer confidence will extend into 2008, leading to a decline in home improvement activity for the first time since late 2003.

Meanwhile, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), the rate of home building and building permits in October was lower than in the previous month, slower than in more than a decade, and nearly 25% lower for building permits and 16% lower for housing starts than in October 2006. [[read more](#)]



## SEEN & NOTED

The Economic Research Service (ERS) of USDA has resumed its floriculture report, which was last published in 1999. It is now available twice a year, as an

