

Fact Sheet

- Landscape Structures Inc., was founded in 1971 by Barbara and Steve King. It is headquartered in Delano, Minn.
- Landscape Structures, the leading manufacturer of commercial playground equipment, is committed to creating inspiring play experiences for children while honoring the environment. The company has designed, manufactured, installed more than 80,000 playgrounds worldwide.
- Landscape Structures engineers and manufactures a wide array of challenging and fun playgrounds for children and families of varying abilities, ages 2 to 12 and beyond including Smart Play, Forma™, Quantis, Hedra, Evos, Weevos, PlayBooster, PlayShaper and PlaySense.
- Landscape Structures performs all of our design, engineering and manufacturing in-house with our team of expert designers, engineers and artists.
- Landscape Structures design innovation has been the driving force behind of a long history of exceptional iconic play environments, nature-inspired playgrounds and inclusive playgrounds where kids of all ages and abilities can play together.
- While its original equipment was manufactured of wood, Landscape Structures now primarily utilizes steel, aluminum, polyethylene and cable while continuing to develop products using recycled or reclaimed industrial and post-consumer waste.
- Steve King, who serves as chairman of the board at Landscape Structures, is a registered landscape architect and Fellow of ASLA. He was the originator of the "continuous play" concept, which involves combining traditional playground equipment, such as slides, ladders and climbing equipment into an endless stream of activities that stimulate a child's physical, social and intellectual capabilities.
- In 1992, Barb and Steve King were named Minnesota's Entrepreneur(s) of the Year by Ernst and Young, Inc. magazine and the law firm of Gray Plant Mooty. They also were recognized with a national honorable mention in the manufacturing category. As a result of this award, Barb and Steve were inducted into the National Institute of Entrepreneurs.
- In 1993, Steve King was appointed to the Federal Access Board's Recreation Access Advisory Committee. He was the sole playground equipment manufacturer to be named to that committee.
- In 1994, Barb King, who served as president, was selected as the Small Business Administration's "Small Business Person of the Year" for the six-state Midwest region.
- Landscape Structures received certification to the ISO 9001:1994 standard in 1996, and now both Landscape Structures and SkyWays® are in compliance with the updated ISO 9001:2015 standard for outstanding quality.
- In 1998, Landscape Structures received its certification to the ISO 14001 standard. Today, both Landscape Structures and SkyWays are certified to ISO 14001:2015. We are the first playground manufacturer in North America to receive that certification of environmental responsibility.
- Landscape Structures created the Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) in 2004, and in 2012 the company became 100% employee owned.
- In May 2005, Barb King was inducted as a Honorary Member of the ASLA. In 2015, Pat Faust received the distinct honor of also being inducted as an Honorary Member. The Honorary Membership title is awarded to non landscape architects whose achievements of national or international significance or influence have provided notable service to the profession of landscape architecture. Barb had the distinction of being the first spouse of an ASLA member to be inducted as an Honorary Member.

- Landscape Structures recognized for is outstanding waste reduction and recycling efforts with a Minnesota Waste Wise Leader award in 2006.
- The King Pavilion at Iowa State University's College of Design was named for Barb and Steve in October 2007. The facility was dedicated on Aug. 24, 2009 and achieved Platinum LEED* certification in March of 2010.
- Barb King passed away in 2008 from cancer, but her passion lives on through the unique company culture of Landscape Structures as well as the after school programs created by her personal foundation, which was acquired by CampFire* in 2013.
- In 2008, Pat Faust was named president of the company. He has been with Landscape Structures since 1996 and was previously vice president of operations.
- In November 2008, Landscape Structures was honored with the Tekne Green Award for its commitment to manufacturing environmentally-preferable playgrounds. The Tekne Awards honor superior technology advancement and leadership in Minnesota.
- In 2008, Landscape Structures developed a Learning Academy for parks and recreation professionals and landscape architects to gain valuable information and continuing education credits.
- Annually since 2009, NPRA has awarded the Barb King Environmental Stewardship Awards to a deserving park and recreation agency and individual for their environmental leadership.
- In 2011, Landscape Structures received the Design for All award and Disability Matters Marketplace award for its commitment to providing inclusive playgrounds.
- In 2015, Landscape Structures entered the water and splash play market with Aquatix® by Landscape Structures (formerly Aquatic Recreation Company).
- In 2016, SkyWays® by Landscape Structures was launched in Dallas, Texas, to manufacture commercial shade products.
- Landscape Structures was named "Partner in Play" by KABOOM! in 2018.
- SkyWays by Landscape Structures earned the AISC Approved Fabricator Certificate in 2019.
- The Hedra® playsystem received a GOOD DESIGN® Award from the Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies.
- In 2022, Landscape Structures received a Minnesota Manufacturing Award for the product innovation of the We-Go-Swing®.
- Today, Landscape Structures is the leading manufacturer of commercial playground equipment in the world, employing more than 700 people who produce the company's products within their nearly 600,000 square feet of manufacturing and distribution space in Delano, Minn., and Dallas, Texas. Landscape Structures park and playground equipment is sold by a network of more than 50 independent representative organizations around the world.

To see a full list of innovations and awards, visit playlsi.com/en/our-story/company-timeline/.