



ILLINOIS LANDSCAPE  
CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

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Serving Landscape Contractors  
Since 1959

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**Executive Director**

Scott Grams

To Whom It May Concern:

Hoy Landscaping have been members of the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA) since September 1, 1991. They are members in good standing for the period July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013. ILCA is the only state professional organization exclusively for landscape contractors. Hoy Landscaping asked that I present this letter on why using a reputable contractor should take some of the guesswork out of your search for a landscape professional.

In the past few years, due to the low barriers of entry into the profession, many companies have sprung up that operate for cash, cut corners, or do not possess the proper licenses and insurance. Many consumers have been wooed by the lower prices these companies can offer. ILCA understands the need to save money in an extremely difficult time but there is a big difference between being prudent and reckless.

There are dangers to using a contractor who does not operate a legal business. For example:

- The property owner, not the contractor, is responsible for injuries or damage if the contractor does not carry the proper insurance.
- If the contractor does not possess a pesticide applicators license and applies chemicals, the project may be shut down.
- If the contractor does not possess a Nursery Dealers Certificate through the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the project may be shut down.
- If the company does not comply with federal and state labor laws, the project could be shut down.

Enclosed is a checklist that you and your landscape company should complete together. This should guide your decision as you choose a landscape company.

Best of luck in your search for a landscape professional – the only investment that grows over time.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Grams".

Scott Grams  
Executive Director, ILCA

*ILCA's Mission...to enhance the professionalism and capabilities of members by providing leadership, education and valued services while promoting environmental awareness within the landscape industry.*