

To Whom It May Concern:

Landcraft Design LLC has been a member of the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA) since Jan 30, 2018. They are members in good standing for the period July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. ILCA is the only state professional organization exclusively for landscape contractors. Landcraft Design LLC 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 during difficult times, but there is a big difference between being prudent and being 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 applicator's license and applies chemicals, the project may be shut down.
- If the contractor does not possess a Nursery Dealer's 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 may 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,



Scott Grams, Executive Director, ILCA

