



Home & Garden

Hiring a Landscaper?

By Amanda Pipkin Anderson

Among the delights of Dilworth are our gardens and yards. Behind our homes we can create lush private sanctuaries for ourselves, friends, and family, and complement these with well-ordered and colorful semi-public front yards where each of us plays our part in creating the attractive, walkable streetscape that makes Dilworth special.

While gardens provide opportunities for planning and imagining new features all year round, fall is a great time to start new outdoor projects. However, there are a few things to be aware of especially if you are planning a large-scale garden renovation.

This brief essay sets out some basic contractual suggestions for a successful project and warns of some common pitfalls if a contractor doesn't live up to your expectations.

First and foremost, homeowners should be wary of hiring unlicensed landscape contractors. Effective August 2015, North Carolina enacted a new law providing the consumer with greater protection. This legislation created a new Licensing Board that has the authority to come to the aid of consumers with complaints, but only if you hire a licensed landscape contractor.

How to find a licensed professional

A list of licensed companies and individuals is available at

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