



**A Homeowner's Guide to Hiring a Landscape Contractor**  
**By**  
**KERRI LANDSCAPE SERVICES**

When planning a landscape project, your desires, ideas and budget are to be taken into consideration; however, there are some questions that you, the homeowner, should always ask the contractors that you interview before you sign any contract. We at **KERRI LANDSCAPE SERVICES** are happy to provide you with the following questions, as well as the answers, relating to our company.

**Are you a licensed contractor? What is your license number? Is it current? Are you bonded? Do you have any other affiliations?**

**KERRI LANDSCAPE SERVICES** is licensed by the Contractors State License Board. We have been licensed since we began our business, our license number is: 663424. It is current and in good standing. We also have current business licenses with the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, and San Ramon. As a requirement to become a license contractor, you must be bonded.

**KERRI LANDSCAPE SERVICES** also belongs to the CLCA – California Landscape Contractor's Association, the Better Business Bureau, Rainbird Select Contractor – one of forty in California, and PAPA – Pesticide Applicators Professional Association.

**Do you have Worker's Compensation Insurance?**

Yes, we carry full worker's compensation insurance. Our carrier is Cook, Disharoon and Greathouse, 1900 Embarcadero, Suite 206, Oakland, CA 94606. Their telephone number is 510-437-1900.

**Will you provide me with a Certificate of Insurance?**

Yes, we would be happy to provide you with this information.

**Do you carry Liability and Disability Insurance?**

Yes, we carry \$2 million in liability and disability insurance. It is with Cook, Disharoon and Greathouse, 1900 Embarcadero, Suite 206, Oakland, CA 94606. Their telephone number is (510) 437-1900.

**How often will you be on site during our job?**

The Owner, Rich Kerri will be on-site daily, to allow projects to flow smoothly and efficiently.

**If you use an on-site supervisor, what sort of experience does he/she have?**

We have four on-site supervisors, each with their own crew. We have 5 supervisors who have minimum of 15 years of experience.



**How long have you operated under this business name?**

This is our tenth year. We began our business in January, 1994.

**Do you secure permits for your work?**

Yes, when necessary or requested.

**Are you most comfortable with commercial or residential projects? Large or small?**

We *only* work on residential projects. The size of the project is not an issue for us, no job is too small.

**What is your background in this field?**

Richard Kerri began working in landscaping in 1978. Then, entered the Landscape Architecture program at UC Davis. He graduated in 1983 with a BSLA degree. Upon graduating, he was hired by a bay area custom residential landscape contractor. During the eight years he worked there, he learned each position in the company, beginning as a laborer and moving through the ranks to head supervisor. Over following years, he worked with other landscape companies until opening his own business.

**Where do you purchase your materials? Do your vendors pre-lien your customers?**

We purchase our materials from Ewing Irrigation Products, Automatic Rain, Cochran Landscape Materials, Valley Crest Nursery, Devil Mountain Wholesale Nursery, Ray's Electrical and Plumbing, RC Ready Mix Concrete and Pleasanton Ready Mix Concrete, just to name a few. By law, vendors have the right to pre-lien a job when the purchase is over \$500. It is an inconvenience for the homeowner as well as the business owner; however, it is to give the vendors recourse in the event the contractor defaults. Our vendors do not pre-lien our projects as we have always maintained a good reputation with each of them, paying promptly.

**Do you provide samples of materials?**

Samples can be provided, if requested. Generally, the homeowner picks out the product at the vendor site provided by us. For instance, we would suggest that you use one of our masonry vendors should you require brick or aggregate in your project. We have a photo portfolio of projects we have done. This may be helpful in providing ideas to incorporate into your project.

**What guarantees do you offer on your work and/or materials?**

Please see addendum.

**Can you estimate how long the job will take?**

This is usually fairly easy to estimate once a contract is signed and a total is given. Each job has difficulties that need to be assessed. Weather is also something that occasionally will slow a job down, however, we try to make up time on weekends.



**Do you provide a schedule of phrases of work to be completed along with schedule of payment for said work?**

Our payment schedule is dependent upon the amount of work contracted. For the larger jobs, yes. For the small jobs, not always. Most of our small jobs are single payments at the end of the job. We do not ask for any payment in advance. Not only is this unethical but it is illegal.

**Do you provide 3 or 4 references, including addresses and phone numbers, of your most recent projects? These would be job completed within the last 18 months.**

Yes, we would be happy to provide you with as many references as you would like.