

# RainScapes

## Choosing a Professional



DEP works to provide residents the best guidance when searching for qualified designers and installers for their desired RainScape project. Professionals can be located through a variety of organizations.

### **Tips to follow when selecting a landscape professional:**

- Are they licensed to do this work in the State of Maryland?
- Can they provide a list of references?
- What is their previous experience?
- Have they ever installed a RainScapes project before? If so, how many? What kind/type?

Many people wonder who to contact for professional services. They are not sure if they should be looking for a Landscape Architect, Landscape Designer or a Landscape Contractor.

All three provide very different services and licensure requirements in the State of Maryland vary. Here is a general breakdown:

- **Landscape Architect.** A professional, licensed by the State of Maryland, who can design and develop detailed construction plans and specifications. A Landscape Architect is not licensed to provide installation/construction services. For more information, to search for a landscape architect or determine if they are licensed in Maryland visit:
  - [American Society of Landscape Architects: MD Chapter](#)
  - [American Society of Landscape Architects: Potomac Chapter](#)
  - State of Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation Landscape Architects [Public Inquiry Search](#)
- **Landscape Designer.** A person who provides landscape design and horticulture services, such as design concepts, planting plans, and selection of materials. For more information and to search for a landscape designer, visit:
  - [Association of Professional Landscape Designers](#)
  - Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council's (CCLC) Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professionals [Directory](#)
- **Landscape Contractor.** A professional, licensed by the State of Maryland, to install/construct and maintain landscapes. For more information, to search for a landscape contractor or determine if they are licensed in Maryland visit:
  - State of Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation Home Improvement [Public Inquiry Search](#)
  - MD, DC, VA [Landscape Contractors Association](#)
  - [MD Nursery, Landscape and Greenhouse Association](#)
  - Additional information for locating a qualified professional can also be found by visiting the National Green Infrastructure Certification Program ([NGICP](#)) website.

*Do your research and you will be well on your way to helping to protect our local water quality and having a beautiful and successful RainScapes project what you can enjoy for years to come!*