

PRESS RELEASE

VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF, IL

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Lake Bluff Amends Landscape Maintenance Regulations; Questions Residents Should Ask Every Landscape Contractor

Residents, businesses and visitors choose Lake Bluff for its beautiful lakefront, plentiful natural areas, fine residential neighborhoods, and small town charm. To provide reasonable time to residents and landscaping companies to beautify properties and to preserve the aural tranquility of the Village, the Village Board adopted the following amendments to the Landscape Maintenance Regulations:

- **Hours of operation:** any powered lawn maintenance equipment (leaf blowers, lawn mowers, trimmers, etc.) is permitted throughout the year Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Saturdays/Sundays/Holidays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (“permitted hours of operation”);
- **Maintenance performed by property owners:** property owners performing landscape maintenance activities themselves on their own property may operate between 6:00 p.m. and dusk.

Additionally, the Village offers the following tips for residents when hiring landscape contractors:

- Ensure your landscape contractor carries adequate general liability, automobile liability, and workman’s compensation insurance for job related injuries or health risks;
- Consider requiring a bond which will protect homeowners in the event the terms of the contract are not met by the landscape contractor. Ensure the bond is valid and the bond limit will cover the cost of completing or re-doing the work;
- Request the landscape contractor conduct a hazards assessment of your property prior to starting any work. A hazards assessment should include identifying uneven terrain, fall hazards,

overhead wires and legal and appropriate places to park trucks and related equipment, among other opportunities to promote safety;

- Understand the methods of training that landscape contractors require of their employees, as well as the company's drug and alcohol policy;
- Avoid having work performed when it's raining or wet outside; and
- Consider the reputation of the landscape contractor and speak to friends and neighbors or search the internet for references on past performance, as well as ask if the landscape contractor belongs to any professional organization for landscape companies.

For more information regarding the Village's new Landscape Maintenance Regulations, which become effective on April 2, 2016, concerning landscape activities, please contact Brandon Stanick, Assistant to the Village Administrator, at 847-283-6889.

To report a complaint regarding work conducted outside of the permissible hours, please contact the Lake Bluff Police Department at 847-234-8760, x2.

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