



## Hardscape Illinois

### Overview

The term "hardscape" has gone mainstream. A decade ago, the word conjured up a confused look on behalf of the client. Now, clients ask for hardscaping by name. There is no other program like Hardscape Illinois. This seminar bridges the knowledge gap for natural stone. The course is designed for any landscape professional interested in deepening his or her knowledge of natural stone and how it fits into a finished landscape. The course is not merely about product awareness. It will delve deeper into how to achieve the best results when using the material in both base preparation and flatwork construction. As with landscaping, the money spent on what you don't see is more important than the money spent on what you do see. The program was developed by hardscape contractors and suppliers to equip attendees with the knowledge necessary for dealing with this beautiful but challenging material.

### Audience

The course is designed for foremen, designers, sales professionals, owners and senior managers. The sessions will cover construction techniques as well as material and product awareness. Landscape designers and sales professionals will also gain tremendous value by gaining a better understanding of how to design with and sell natural stone.

### Schedule

**8:00a.m.-8:30a.m. Registration**

**8:30a.m.-8:40a.m. Welcome, Introductions and Opening Remarks**

*Kevin Vancina, Vancina Landscaping*

New this year...Collect punches from each vendor during the day. All exhibitor logos must be punched to qualify for the raffle drawing - \$250 cash prize. There will be Q&A at the end of each presentation.

**8:40a.m.-9:10a.m. Meet the Sponsors + New Products Showcase**

Event sponsors will briefly introduce themselves and their companies at their table. They will discuss new products and materials in the natural stone marketplace and how these are making for easier installation and healthier margins.

**9:10 a.m.-9:25a.m. Natural Stone Materials 101**

*Daniel Wood, Lurvey Landscape Supply*

A brief introduction and overview of Natural stone types including: Limestone, Sandstone, Bluestone, clay and others.

**9:25a.m.-10:10a.m. Site Preparation for Flatwork**

*Jon Hirsch, Krugel Cobbles*

Understand the fundamentals of bidding, planning and executing a base preparation for a hardscape project. Excellent hardscape projects begin with what the client will never see. This session will explain various pre-dig hazards and how they can lead to costly delays. Understand how selecting the proper access to a site will help your crews and your bid. Removals are half of the battle. Learn how to match material to equipment. Learn to develop a plan for spoils and debris. Basing and gravel are essential to a

proper installation. Understand when to use aggregate, fines, and all points in between. Lastly, understand how weather conditions can severely impact a hardscape job.

**10:10a.m.-10:25a.m. Break**

**10:25a.m.-11:05a.m. Dimensional and Irregular Materials for Horizontal Applications and Flatwork**

*Daniel Wood, Lurvey Landscape Supply*

*Jim Larson and Brandon Hornung, Capital Stoneworks*

The session will detail: Bluestone; Natural cleft vs. thermal, nominal dimension vs. full dimension; Available colors; Surface textures and edge treatments; Limestone; Production of natural bed layer vs sawn and with a surface texture; Nominal dimension vs full dimension; Commonly available colors/types; Surface textures and edge treatments.

The session will also briefly cover the other available materials types: Travertine, Marble, Sandstone, Quartzite, Slate, Basalt, Granite and Porphyry.

The session will cover use of irregular bluestone and limestone. It will also examine construction, cutting techniques and patterns.

**11:05a.m.-12:00p.m. Methodology for Flatwork, Construction using Dimensional and Irregular Stone**

*Jon Hirsch, Krugel Cobbles, Inc.*

The session will provide construction methodologies. It will cover construction techniques, craftsmanship tips and other factors to consider when performing flatwork.

**12:00p.m.-1:00p.m. Box Lunch and Vendor Fair**

Have all vendors punch your punch card to be eligible for the raffle prize of \$250 cash.

**1:00p.m.-2:00p.m. Clay Pavers, Curbing and an intro on Imported Stone**

*Marc Caifano, Lurvey Landscape Supply*

*Greg Hirsch, Hirsch Brick and Stone*

This session will cover clay pavers whether wire cut, pressed, molded, straight edge, beveled, lugs, no lugs, tumbled, reclaimed, and in various sizes. The second half of the session will examine cobbles, pavers & curbing, limestone (sawn, split, tumbled), bluestone (tumbled, thermal), granite (cobbles, sawn, split, thermal). Stone methodology, keeping lines straight and curbing with polysand, lines & curbing and imported stone as a material option.

**2:00p.m.-2:10p.m. Break**

**2:10p.m.-3:00p.m. Big Rocks, Outcropping and Wallstones**

*Jim Larson and Brandon Hornung, Capital Stoneworks*

*Paul Laiblin, Scott Byron & Co.*

The session will cover a variety of construction materials for natural stone construction projects.

Materials will be examined for dry wallstone, slab steps, outcropping, boulders. The session will examine proper uses of fieldstone/reclaimed, random vs. spec pieces, limestone, granite and other materials. It will discuss how to properly sling boulders, creative use of skid-steers and slides, and examples of how NOT to build to avoid repeating these common mistakes.

**3:00p.m.-4:00pm Lessons Learned Session, Q&A, Evaluations, Raffle**

*Kevin Vancina, Vancina Landscaping*