

Field Staff Skills Training

Thursday, March 14, 2019

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.

Registration

8:00 – 8:15 a.m.

Welcome

Scott Grams, Illinois Landscape Contractors Association

8:15 – 9:45 a.m.

5 Math Rules and Plan Reading

Ralph Grathoff, Thornapple Landscapes

Attendees will learn five basic math rules including calculating square feet, square yards, cubic feet, cubic yards and tons. They'll also be introduced to a design print or plan, and how to read it. They'll gain an understanding of tools used in the field, interpreting the plant list or legend, types of measurements used on the print and common problems in the plant layout.

9:45 – 9:55 a.m.

Morning Break

9:55 – 10:40 a.m.

First Aid / Safety / Accident / Incident Reporting

English Instructor: Carlton Beach, Consultant

Spanish Instructor: Armando Actis, College of DuPage

Understand why safety is important on and off the job site. Review of OSHA rules and regulations, the Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators (JULIE), Material Data Safety Sheets, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and what to do if there is an accident on-site and how to document the incident.

10:40 – 11:15 a.m.

Instruments

English Instructors: Kevin Vancina, Vancina Landscaping; Steve Petraglia, The Barn Nursery & Landscape

Spanish Instructor: Julio Barrientos, Lurvey Landscape Supply

You'll learn how to identify various instruments used, how to properly set up and disassemble instruments, and know what shooting grades and rod readings are. Finally, attendees will learn how to record measurements and interpret them into the job site.

11:15 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Lunch

12:20 – 12:50 p.m.

General Etiquette & Customer Service

English Instructors: Terry Holum, Balanced Environments

Spanish Instructor: Ricardo Patino, Beary Landscaping

Understand the system of rules and conventions that regulate social and professional behavior, how to deliver good customer service and what the circle of communication is.

12:50 – 1:50 p.m.

Paver Maintenance

English Instructors: Greg Krouse, SEK Surebond; Dennis Tiliks, Wilson Nursery and Landscape Supply

Spanish Instructor: Julio Barrientos, Lurvey Landscape Supply

This session will introduce you to paver surface issues found in the field and proper procedures to remove stains, clean surfaces and apply sealer. A variety of cleaners, sealers and techniques will be covered during this class.

1:50 – 2:00 p.m.

Afternoon Break

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Planting & Pruning

English Instructors: Daniel Heth, Savatree

Spanish Instructor: Ozzie Acosta, McGinty Brothers

Attendees will learn basic pruning of trees and shrubs. They will also acquire the knowledge in proper planting techniques.

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Job Site Equipment Maintenance

English Instructors: Andrew Guelter, Stihl; Pete McNamara, Dependable Lawn Care

Spanish Instructor: Eloy Suarez, Russo Power Equipment

This session will walk you through simple steps to keep your equipment working properly before you leave for the job site.

Friday, March 15, 2019

8:00 – 8:10 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements

Scott Grams, Illinois Landscape Contractors Association

8:10 – 9:15 a.m.

Irrigation Components/Controller/Lateral Repair/Head Adjustment

English Instructors: Alex Mayfield, JM Irrigation

Spanish Instructor: Victor Romero, JM Irrigation

Attendees will learn to recognize common irrigation components, the types of controllers and how to maintain an irrigation system.

9:15 – 9:25 a.m.

Morning Break

9:25 – 11:05 a.m.

Plant & Shrub ID

English Instructors: Rory Klick, College of Lake County

Spanish Instructor: Fredy Lopez, Rosborough Partners

Help identify common and unique plants and shrubs popular in the region and in residential and commercial landscapes. The speakers will identify characteristics to help field staff identify the species and type of plant so that proper care may be taken during installation and maintenance.

11:05 – 11:15 a.m.
2nd Morning Break

11:15 – 12:00 p.m.

Diagnosing Lawn & Landscape Problems

English Instructors: Harold Enger, Spring Green

Spanish Instructor: Juan Carlos Rodriguez, Rosborough Partners

12:00 – 12:45 p.m.

Lunch

12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

Water & Pond Maintenance for Field Staff (English)

Tavia Tawney, Aquascape

Permeable vs. Standard Base Installations (Spanish)

Eduardo Tapia, Ryco Landscaping

1:45 – 2:45 p.m.

Permeable vs. Standard Base Installations (English)

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Water & Pond Maintenance for Field Staff (Spanish)

Tavia Tawney, Aquascape

2:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Afternoon Break

3:00 – 3:45 p.m.

Contractor Panel Discussion

Moderator: Steve Petraglia, The Barn

Panelists: Greg Roos, Bertog Landscapes; Eloy Suarez / Pete McNamara, Kevin Vancina, Vancina Landscaping; Ozzie Acosta, McGinty Bros; Eduardo Tapia, Ryco Landscaping

This open discussion allows you to ask questions about how to troubleshoot situations you've encountered. They will also cover mindful tips so you're not "that" guy on the job site.

3:45 p.m.

Evaluations & Raffle