

EcoBiz Landscaper Commercial Maintenance Customer Survey

Landscaping practices can have positive or negative impacts on the environment, regardless of whether your property is in the hills or adjacent to a stream. Landscapes that use fertilizers and pesticides, have the potential to leach these chemicals into runoff that leaves the site. Bare soils can erode, and leaf and other debris can get into drainage systems and take oxygen out of local waterways. Virtually all products and materials used in your yard can be carried by runoff into streams where they can harm fish and wildlife. The way a landscape is designed and maintained can significantly reduce its need for water and chemicals.

In order to provide you with exceptional service while protecting our fragile environment, please answer the following questions so we can tailor our maintenance programs to meet your needs at the lowest environmental cost.

Site Uses

The following questions help us determine what goals you have for your landscape so we can build an appropriate maintenance plan for your site:

1. Does your firm or site management company have Green Building, pollution prevention or environmental ethics and goals that your landscape maintenance needs to meet?

Yes No

If yes please list those goals:

2. Please rank the importance of all applicable site uses (1 Most important, 6 least important, or mark NA if it does not apply):

___ Green aesthetic for customers NA

___ Attractive landscaping NA

___ Wildlife habitat NA

___ Relaxing view for staff NA

___ Cooling of yard and buildings NA

___ Employee recreation NA

___ Other: _____

3. What type of landscape appearance are you interested in – mark all that apply:

Manicured

Diversity of plant types

Naturalized

Open with limited trees and overhang

Monoculture (one main plant type)

Other: _____

- Closed tree canopy
- Mixture of trees, shrubs and groundcovers

- Varying textures of plants
- Year round color interest

4. *How would you like your landscape to change from how it is maintained now?*

- Less water use
- Less chemical use
- Not so overgrown
- More sun
- More shade
- More interesting
- Closer to desired use goals
- Cost less to maintain
- Be more environmentally friendly
- Other: _____

Tolerance Levels / Maintenance Triggers

The following questions assess what level of plant damage and weed presence you are willing to tolerate in order to reduce maintenance and limit your site’s environmental impact:

1. *What level of plant and leaf damage is acceptable – i.e. curling, eaten or mildewed leaves, stems or branches:*

- None
- 1% of plants
- 5% of plants
- More

2. *What level of lawn and plant die off is acceptable:*

- None
- 1% of plants
- 5% of plants
- More

3. *What level of weed presence is acceptable:*

- None
- 1% of plants
- 5% of plants
- More

4. *What level of non-desirable insect presence is acceptable:*

- None
- 1% of area infested
- 5% of area infested
- More

Desired Integrated Pest Management Practices

Our company actively follows the principles of integrated pest management, a process that chooses from a variety of mechanical, biological and chemical activities to achieve the desired landscape goals. It is a process that strives to try the least environmentally damaging activities first based on confirmed site need for maintenance. Please answer the following so we can assess what type of maintenance activities to use first.

Are you open to:

1. *Suggestions for replacing plants that are prone to pest infestation and diseases or require a great deal of watering, pruning or cutting with plants that need less care? (such as replacing lawn with ground covers or laurel hedges with native shrubs)*

- Yes
- No

2. *Using treatments that are mechanical in nature to remove pests or diseases. Please mark all of the following you would consider (assuming your firm offers these services):*

- Hand weeding
- Propane burning / hot water weed removal for hardscape areas
- Mechanical barriers (copper bands on trees, edging materials)
- Mechanical removal (pruning, mowing, wash off, hand pick off, sweeping)
- Physical traps
- NONE

3. *Using treatments that are biological in nature to remove pests, weeds or diseases. Please mark all of the following you would consider (assuming your firm offers these services):*

- Predatory insects (ladybugs, nematodes)
- Companion planting (using plants that naturally repel insects, such as marigolds, alyssum)
- Biological traps (using pheromones, food scents or other mechanisms to draw in insects)
- Predatory bacteria products specifically formulated to kill a specific pest or disease (in liquid and solid forms)
- Organic herbicides and pesticides, such as corn gluten and neem tree oil
- NONE

4. *Using treatments that are chemical in nature to remove pests or diseases. Please mark all of the following you would consider (assuming your firm offers these services):*

- Plant derived products (pyrethrines)
- Chemical company products (DOW, EG Lilly)
- Non-toxic products such as dormant oil spray and insecticidal soaps
- NONE

5. *Using nutritional supplements that support plant growth and plant health. Please mark all of the following you would consider (assuming your firm offers these services):*

- Compost and/or compost teas (steer or chicken manure, mushroom compost, yard debris compost)
- Grass clippings / mulching mower products
- Other mulches, such as wood chips or bark
- Organic fertilizers (ingredients such as kelp meal, alfalfa meal, worm castings)
- Chemical company fertilizer products (Scotts, Ortho)
- NONE

Are there other environmental services that you want us to provide?

Thank you for taking time to answer these questions. We can now develop a specific maintenance plan for you that matches your goals and desires for your landscape.