



March 17, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

NALP is the national trade organization representing the \$82 billion landscape industry in the United States. Member companies specialize in lawn care, landscape maintenance, tree care, irrigation, and water management. Landscape professionals work daily throughout the Nation servicing homes and businesses to maintain their landscapes, sustain the environment, and take pride in our communities by enhancing and maintaining healthy green spaces.

As a Nation, we are all struggling to combat the rapid transmission of the coronavirus “COVID-19,” and we understand and acknowledge that in some instances, drastic steps are being taken, including shutting down businesses deemed non-essential. We are communicating with you today to assure you that landscape services are essential services and must continue during any emergency declaration or quarantine scenario. Landscapers are partners during this critical time in assisting in the protection of public health and public safety. Without the landscape industry conducting these valuable services, we will undoubtedly see increased instances where people may be harmed or become sick from other illnesses compounding our already stretched medical resources.

Recently, Counties in and around the greater San Francisco metropolitan area enacted a temporary “lockdown.” We anticipate other municipalities and states to take similar precautionary steps. The “lockdown” issued by these counties exempt “essential services,” pertinent for the landscape industry is the below portion of the exemption:

ix. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, Essential Activities, and Essential Businesses

For the foregoing reasons, landscape services should be deemed “essential.”

Landscapers are protectors of public health performing essential treatments to lawns and green spaces to reduce the transmission of dangerous and deadly diseases through pests like mosquitoes, ticks, and fleas.

Landscapers protect property and maintain greenspaces that could otherwise jeopardize public safety. Unkept fields and green spaces increase the chance of injuries. Crime rates are increased in areas where green spaces are not maintained. Tree removal is also a critical function of our industry to avoid damaging homes and their families.

Landscapers play a critical role in boosting morale and mental health during a difficult time for our Nation. Without landscape services fields, parks, businesses, and homes will become overgrown and unkept, which can have dramatic psychological effects on the mental and wellbeing of our communities.

Spring is a critical time of year for our industry due to the abundance of growth in the spring that requires prompt maintenance and care. Any halt or delay in landscape services during this time of year only magnifies potential safety problems and become much more difficult to maintain later in the year.

Lastly, our industry is taking aggressive steps within our organizations to stop the transmission of COVID-19. Because our industry functions outside this greatly reduces the chances to come into contact with other individuals. Within the industry, strong policies are being put in place to maintain social distancing with both clients and within our teams that are working in the field.

We are all in this together, and the Landscape industry stands with our public officials to stop the rapid transmission of COVID-19 while also continuing to perform those essential functions that are necessary within our communities throughout the Nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Britt Wood", written in a cursive style.

Britt Wood
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Landscape Professionals



GREEN HORIZONS LANDSCAPE & MAINTENANCE, INC. considers the health and safety of our employees and customers our priority. With that in mind, we would like to provide you with the following information on how we are taking precautions regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19).

We realize that the COVID-19 situation is constantly changing and we are doing our best to stay informed and make any necessary or recommended adjustments to our operations while continuing to service our valued customers and communities. Currently our office and our jobs sites are all conducting work and where possible office employees are working from home remotely or working a staggered shift.

Keeping the Workplace Safe

We have advised our employees to protect against bacteria and viruses by doing the following:

- Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds with soap & water or hand sanitizer alcohol based with minimum 60% alcohol at all job-site locations.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and immediately discard
- Avoid touching your face (eyes, nose and mouth)
- Additional cleaning of personal work space items that are frequently touched, such as car doors, steering wheel, phones, hand tools, and power tools with cleaning spray or wipes.
- We have also adopted a “no hand-shake policy.” Consider a fist bump, elbow bump or bow instead.

Communication

The Company recognizes that effective communication is a key element during this and has established the following guidelines:

- We have provided our employees with a Fact Sheet on what the Coronavirus is, symptoms to look for, who is at risk and how it is spread.
- Any Employee who may show signs or symptoms of illness would be instructed to stay home and take adequate sick days or Emergency FMLA as required (HR6201) Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

We are following recommendations from the County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health and will continue to stay informed. As management, we are doing our best to make changes to our operations as necessary and thank you for your flexibility and understanding as we navigate this difficult time with our communities. As new developments occur, we are committed to taking care of our employees while continuing to provide a service to our valued customers. If you have specific questions or concerns, please contact us by email customerservice@greenhorizonsmaint.com