

NCLCLB News

Your source for NC Licensed Landscape Contractor information.



FOCUS ON: Drainage...a lawful problem.

As warmer temperatures melt tons of heavy snows and ice, and spring rains just around the corner, NCLCLB turns its focus on drainage. Good drainage practices are not just good for the health and safety of your client's landscape, they are the law. As a NC Licensed Landscape Contractor you must adhere to the following:

21 NCAC 28B .0504 FINISH GRADE

When grading, the licensed contractor shall:

- (1) Grade the surface such that the finish grade is smooth and free of depressions and debris;
- (2) Insure positive water flow through the site, away from structures, and in such a manner that there is no puddling or ponding; and
- (3) Comply with all applicable local and national building codes and ordinances regarding slopes and drainage.

21 NCAC 28B .0506 DRAINAGE SYSTEMS AND CISTERNS

Licensed contractors shall:

- (1) Install drainage systems and cisterns in accordance with state and local codes and ordinances;
- (2) Install drainage conveyances in such a way that there is a positive flow;
- (3) Install drainage systems with measures that allow cleaning of the system;
- (4) Install drainage systems with adequate structural integrity so as to prevent crushing of the drainage system;
- (5) Install French drain systems to drain to daylight or into existing storm drainage; &
- (6) Insure that cisterns and closed drywells include an overflow outlet.

21 NCAC 28B .0508 WALLS

(a) When installing retaining walls, the licensed contractor shall:

- (5) Include a subdrain system that is constructed and sized to release the subsurface water behind the wall and not allow hydrostatic pressure to build behind the wall.

21 NCAC 28B .0509 PAVING

When paving, the licensed contractor shall:

- (1) Follow manufacturer's recommendations and specifications;
- (2) Choose paving materials that are appropriate for the project, based on the contractor's professional judgment;
- (3) Install paving on a well-compacted base that will prevent settlement;
- (4) Install paved surfaces to allow for surface drainage and to prevent ponding;

Helpful Resources

- State Building Codes: http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering_and_Codes.aspx
- Local Building Codes: Contact the municipality's inspections/permit office.
- NC Irrigation Contractors' Licensing Board:
<http://www.ncicl.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/BMPs112111.pdf>
- Drainage/Irrigation Material Vendors: Contact your vendor for materials information to be sure they meet the standards needed for your projects.

Maintaining Your License

Continuing Education

Licensed Landscape Contractors have six months left to complete their continuing education credits for the 2017-2018 license year. **Don't wait until the last minute to complete your education as classes do fill up.**

Landscape Contractor licensees need to complete seven (7) hours of Continuing Education (CEL) in a renewal year (August 1 - July 31):

- (3) CEs must be technical (landscape)
- (2) CEs must be business
- The (2) remaining credits can be technical or business.

Benefits to completing credits early:

- Choosing topics you're interested in, not just what is available to meet deadline.
- Saving money on travel and time away from the office.
- Finding available courses in your area before they sell out.
- Having ample time to submit license renewals without stress.

Visit www.ncicl.org for a list of continuing education classes.

Good References = Good Practices

NCLCLB has created three manuals that serve as study guides for license applicants, and comprehensive references for professionals working in the field.

1. Guide to Business, Law, and Project Management. Order online here:

nascla.siteym.com/store/ViewProduct.aspx?id=7547640

2. Manual of Professional Horticulture Practice: Contact the NCLCLB office to order. 919.266.8070.

3. Landscape Construction Manual of Practice. Order online here:

www.cengagebrain.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/en/micrositesus/1-2ASI7ER?catalogId=10057&langId=-1&storeId=10151

License Reinstatement

If you, or a colleague, were a Licensed Landscape Contractor in 2016-2017, but missed the August 1 renewal deadline and/or did not receive enough continuing education credits, you can still be reinstated. **But don't wait and miss the deadline!**

Visit ncicl.org/individual-license-reinstatement/ for forms and more.



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