PERMITTED PRACTICES IN CALIFORNIA

Permitted Practice for Professionals, Practitioners, and Unlicensed Persons

This document has been prepared by the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC), the licensing and regulatory agency for the practice of landscape architecture in California. The purpose of this document is to provide a quick reference regarding the various professionals, practitioners, and unlicensed persons who may offer landscape design services and the permitted scope and/or limitations that pertain to each. Please note that a licensed professional is required when the scope of a particular project demands the applicable professional services. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document, it does not have legal effect. Should any difference or error occur, the law will take precedence. For more information, contact the LATC at (916) 575-7230 or latc@dca.ca.gov, or visit www.latc.ca.gov.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Hold a professional license to practice landscape architecture

May perform professional services for the purpose of landscape preservation, development, and enhancement, such as consultation, investigation, reconnaissance, research, planning, design, preparation of drawings, construction documents and specifications, and responsible construction observation

APPLICABLE STATUTE: Section 5615 of the Business and Professions Code (BPC)

ARCHITECTS

Hold a professional license to practice architecture

May offer, perform, or be in responsible control of, professional services which require the skills of an architect in the planning of sites

Are exempt from the Landscape Architects Practice Act insofar as they are providing services in which they are licensed to do so which may include landscape construction documents and landscape drawings with specifications and details

APPLICABLE STATUTES: Sections 5500.1 and 5641.3 of the BPC

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Hold professional registration to practice professional engineering

Are exempt from the Landscape Architects Practice Act insofar as they are providing services in which they are licensed to do so

May perform professional services, as defined under BPC 5615, as long as the work is incidental to an engineering project and may include landscape construction documents and landscape drawings with specifications and details

APPLICABLE STATUTES: Sections 5615, 5641.3, and 6701 et seq. of the BPC

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS

Hold a C-27 (landscaping contractor) license

May design systems and facilities for work to be performed and supervised by that contractor which may include landscape construction documents and landscape drawings with specifications and details

Are exempt from the Landscape Architects Practice Act insofar as they are providing services in which they are licensed to do so

APPLICABLE REGULATION/STATUTES: Section 832.27 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 8 and Section 5641.4 and 7027.5 of the BPC

NURSERYPERSONS

Hold a license to sell nursery stock May prepare planting plans or drawings as an adjunct to merchandizing nursery stock and related products

APPLICABLE STATUTES: Section 5641.2 of the BPC and Section 6721 et seq. of the Food and Agriculture Code

UNLICENSED PERSONS

Landscape/Garden Designers, etc.

May prepare plans, drawings, and specifications for the selection, placement, or use of plants for single-family dwellings

May prepare drawings for the **conceptual** design and placement of tangible objects and landscape features for single-family dwellings

May **NOT** prepare construction documents, details, or specifications for tangible landscape objects or landscape features

May **NOT** prepare grading and drainage plans for the alteration of sites

Personal Property Owners

May prepare any plans, drawings, or specifications for any property owned by that person

Golf Course Architects

May engage in the practice of, or offer to practice as, a golf course architect

May perform professional services, such as consultation, investigation, reconnaissance, research, design, preparation of drawings and specifications and responsible supervision, where the dominant purpose of such services is the design of a golf course, in accordance with accepted professional standards of public health and safety

Irrigation Consultants

May engage in the practice of, or offer to practice as, an irrigation consultant

May perform professional services, such as consultation, investigation, reconnaissance, research, design, preparation of drawings and specifications and responsible supervision, where the dominant purpose of such service is the design of landscape irrigation, in accordance with accepted professional standards of public health and safety

APPLICABLE STATUTES: Sections 5641, 5641.1, 5641.5, 5641.6 of the BPC