



**STANDARDS OF APPRENTICESHIP  
adopted by**

**TERRA DYNAMICS, INC**

(sponsor name)

<u>Occupational Objective(s):</u>	<u>SOC#</u>	<u>Term</u>
<b>LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION WORKER</b>	<b>37-3011.00</b>	<b>4000 HOURS</b>



**APPROVED BY**  
**Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council**  
**REGISTERED WITH**  
**Apprenticeship Section of Specialty Compliance Services Division**  
Washington State Department Labor and Industries  
Post Office Box 44530  
Olympia, Washington 98504-4530

**APPROVAL:**

JANUARY 20, 2011  
Initial Approval

JANUARY 15, 2015  
Committee Amended

\_\_\_\_\_  
Standards Amended (review)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Standards Amended (administrative)

By: ED KOMMERS  
Chair of Council

By: ELIZABETH SMITH  
Secretary of Council

## **TERRA DYNAMICS, INC.**

### INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

The director of the Department of Labor and Industries appointed the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council (WSATC) as the regulatory body responsible for developing, administering, and enforcing apprenticeship program standards (Standards) for the operation and success of apprenticeship and training programs in the State of Washington. Apprenticeship program sponsors function, administer, or relinquish authority only with the consent of the WSATC. Furthermore, only apprentices registered with the supervisor or recognized under the terms and conditions of a reciprocal agreement will be recognized by the WSATC. Parties signatory to these standards of apprenticeship declare their purpose and policy is to establish and sponsor an organized system of registered apprenticeship training and education.

These Standards are in conformity and are to be used in conjunction with the Apprenticeship Rules, chapter 296-05 WAC (Washington Administrative Code); Apprenticeship Act, chapter 49.04 RCW (Revised Code of Washington); The National Apprenticeship Act, 29 U.S.C. (United States Code) 50; Apprenticeship Programs, Title 29 Part 29 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations); and Equal Employment Opportunity in Apprenticeship and Training, Title 29 Part 30 CFR which govern employment and training in apprenticeable occupations. They are part of this apprenticeship agreement and bind all signers to compliance with all provisions of registered apprenticeship. Additional information may need to be maintained by the program sponsor that is supplemental to these apprenticeship standards. This information is for purposes of ensuring compliance with decisions of the WSATC and the apprenticeship laws identified above.

If approved by the council, such amendment/s and such changes as adopted by the council shall be binding to all parties. Program sponsors shall notify apprentices and employer training agents (if applicable) of changes when they are adopted by the council. If and when any part of these Standards becomes illegal, as pertains to federal and/or state law, that part and that part alone will become inoperative and null and void, and the Department of Labor and Industries (Department) may adopt language that will conform to applicable law. The remainder of the Standards will remain in full force and effect.

Sections of these standards identified as bold "insert text" fields are specific to the individual program standards and may be modified by a sponsor submitting a revised standard for approval by the WSATC. All other sections of the standards are boilerplate and may only be modified by the WSATC.

See WAC 296-05-003 for the definitions necessary for use with these Standards.

Sponsor Introductory Statement (Optional): **NONE**

#### **I. GEOGRAPHIC AREA COVERED:**

The sponsor has no authority to conduct training outside of the geographical area covered by these Standards. The sponsor may enter into an agreement [portability agreements –

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see WAC 296-05-303(4)(g)] with other sponsors for the use of apprentices by training agents that are working outside of their approved geographic area. Also, the WSATC may recognize and approve out-of-state apprenticeship programs and standards if certain conditions are met and the out-of-state sponsoring entity requests it (see WAC 296-05-327). Apprenticeship program sponsors will ensure compliance with the provisions of any agreement recognized by the WSATC.

**The area covered by these Standards shall be King, Kitsap, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, and Thurston counties.**

### **II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Minimum qualifications must be clearly stated and applied in a nondiscriminatory manner [see WAC 296-05-316(17)].

Age: **At least 18 years of age.**

Education: **High School Diploma or GED, or equivalent.**

Physical: **Must be able to meet the physical requirements of the occupation.**

Testing: **None**

Other: **A. Applicants must possess and provide proof of having a current valid Driver's license.**

**B. Applicants must provide proof of valid automobile insurance.**

**C. Applicants must be able to pass a drug/alcohol test in accordance with Terra Dynamics company policies, administered by US Healthworks.**

### **III. CONDUCT OF PROGRAM UNDER WASHINGTON EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PLAN:**

Sponsors with five (5) or more apprentices must adopt an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Plan and Selection Procedures (see Part D of chapter 296-05 WAC and 29 CFR Part 30).

The recruitment, selection, employment and training of apprentices during their apprenticeship shall be without discrimination because of race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin, age, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran or military status, the presence of a disability or any other characteristic protected by law. The sponsor shall take positive action to provide equal opportunity in apprenticeship and will operate the

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apprenticeship program as required by the rules of the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council (chapter 296-05 WAC) and Title 29, Part 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

### A. Selection Procedures:

**Exempt per WAC 296-05-405(1)(a) for sponsors with fewer than five apprentices.**

### B. Equal Employment Opportunity Plan:

**Exempt per WAC 296-05-405(1)(a) for sponsors with fewer than five apprentices.**

### Discrimination Complaints.

Any apprentice or applicant for apprenticeship who believes they have been discriminated against may file a complaint (WAC 296-05-443).

## IV. TERM OF APPRENTICESHIP:

The minimum term of apprenticeship must not be less than 2000 hours of reasonably continuous employment in each occupation identified in these Standards. The term of apprenticeship must be stated in hours of employment [WAC 296-05-316(1)].

**The term of apprenticeship shall not be less than 4000 hours of reasonable continuous employment.**

## V. INITIAL PROBATIONARY PERIOD:

All apprentices are subject to an initial probationary period, stated in hours or months of employment for which they receive full credit toward completion of apprenticeship.

Advance credit/standing will not reduce the initial probationary period. The initial probationary period [WAC 296-05-316(22)]:

1. Is the period following the apprentice's registration into the program and during which the apprentice's appeal rights are impaired. The initial probation must not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the term of apprenticeship or one year from date of registration, unless an exemption by the WSATC has been granted for longer probationary periods as specified by Civil Service or law.
2. Is the period that the WSATC or the supervisor of apprenticeship may terminate an apprenticeship agreement at the written request by any affected party. The sponsor or the apprentice of the apprenticeship agreement may terminate the

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agreement without a hearing or stated cause. An appeal process is available to apprentices who have completed the initial probationary period.

**All apprentices employed in accordance with these standards shall be subject to a probationary period of the first 800 hours of employment.**

**VI. RATIO OF APPRENTICES TO JOURNEY LEVEL WORKERS:**

Supervision is the necessary education, assistance, and control provided by a journey-level employee that is on the same job site at least seventy-five percent of each working day, unless otherwise approved by the WSATC. The sponsor will assure that apprentices are under the supervision of competent and qualified journey-level workers on the job who are responsible for the work being performed, to ensure safety and training in all phases of the work. Apprentices will work the same hours as journey-level workers, EXCEPT where such hours may interfere with related/supplemental instruction [WAC 296-05-316(5)].

**The ratio of apprentices to journeypersons shall not exceed one apprentice to each journeyperson on a jobsite.**

**VII. APPRENTICE WAGES AND WAGE PROGRESSION:**

The apprentice will be paid a progressively increasing schedule of wages based on specified percentages of journey-level wage consistent with skills acquired [WAC 296-05-316(27)]. These may be indicated in hours or monthly periods set by the sponsor. The entry wage will not be less than the minimum wage prescribed by the Fair Labor Standards Act, where applicable, unless a higher wage is required by other applicable federal law, state law, respective regulations, or by collective bargaining agreement.

The sponsor may accelerate, by an evaluation process, the advancement of apprentices who demonstrate abilities and mastery of the occupation to the level for which they are qualified. When the apprentice is granted advanced standing the sponsor must notify the employer/training agent of the appropriate wage per the wage progression schedule specified in these Standards.

Step	Number of hours/months	Percentage of journey-level rate
<b>1</b>	<b>0000 - 1000 hours</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>1001 - 2000 hours</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>2001 - 3000 hours</b>	<b>85%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>3001 - 4000 hours</b>	<b>95%</b>

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**VIII. WORK PROCESSES:**

The apprentice shall receive on the job instruction and experience as is necessary to become a qualified journey-level worker versed in the theory and practice of the occupation covered by these Standards. The following is a condensed schedule of work experience, which every apprentice shall follow as closely as conditions will permit.

Employers/training agents shall only use registered apprentices to perform the work processes as stated in this section. [WAC 296-05-303(5)(f)]

<b><u>A. Landscape Construction Worker</u></b>	<b><u>APPROXIMATE HOURS</u></b>
1. Analyze and read landscape blueprint.....	200
2. Adjust design issues ..... Layout plants for best balance and maintenance.	200
3. Constructing or maintaining lawns, yards, gardens, or other landscape surfaces.....	400
4. Mixing and spreading mulches, ground cover, soil amendments, decorative bark, or decorative rock .....	400
5. Seeding, sodding, or hydroseeding .....	200
6. Applying chemicals or fertilizers .....	200
7. Planting trees, shrubs, or plants .....	400
8. Installing, servicing or repairing above ground lawn or landscape sprinkler systems.....	200
9. Installing, servicing, or repairing underground lawn or landscape sprinkler systems to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade.....	400
10. Assemble or placing pre-manufactured trellis work, play equipment, benches, or picnic tables.....	50
11. Constructing rock walls to a maximum height of four feet .....	50
12. Land clearing and/or grubbing to a maximum depth of six inches below finished grade .....	200
13. Spreading top soil to maximum depth of six inches below finish grade.....	400

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<b>14. Trenching to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade.....</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>15. Installing French drains of other subsurface water collection systems to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade .....</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>16. Hauling top soil, plants, or other landscaping materials in trucks with only one rear axle .....</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>17. Maintain and repair tools.....</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>18. Practice safe work habits.....</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>19. Keep job records an write reports.....</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Total Hours:</b>	<b>4000</b>

**Note: All of the forgoing work processes herein noted are understood to mean as it pertains to the trade herein involved in these standards.**

**This occupational training program is intended to train and provide work within the Washington State Prevailing Wage Landscape Construction Scope of Work (WAC 296-127-01346), as clarified by Washington State Department of Labor and Industries Landscape Construction Prevailing Wage Policy Memorandum date May 19, 2010. This WAC and a copy of that Memorandum is attached to these Standards as Exhibit A.**

**In accordance with this same WAC and Policy, any power equipment used in conjunction with this apprenticeship program shall not exceed ninety horsepower.**

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**IX. RELATED/SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION:**

The apprentice must attend related/supplemental instruction (RSI). Time spent in related/supplemental instruction shall not be considered as hours of work and the apprentice is not required to be paid for time spent in related/supplemental instruction.

The sponsor and training agent must provide for instruction of the apprentice during the related/supplemental instruction in safe and healthful work practices in compliance with the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act, and applicable federal and state regulations.

Clock hours of actual attendance by the apprentice in related/supplemental instruction classes at the community/technical college or other approved training locations shall be reported to the Department on a quarterly basis. Such reports will clearly identify paid versus unpaid and supervised versus unsupervised RSI time for industrial insurance purposes.

For industrial insurance purposes, the WSATC will be considered as the employer should any supervised apprentice, not being paid to attend RSI, sustain an injury while participating in related/supplemental classroom activity, or other directly related activity outside the classroom. The activities must be at the direction of the instructor.

In case of failure on the part of any apprentice to fulfill the obligation to attend RSI, the sponsor has authority to take disciplinary action (see Administrative/Disciplinary Procedures section).

The methods of related/supplemental training must consist of one or more of the following (please indicate by checking those that apply):

- Supervised field trips
- Approved training seminars (specify)
- A combination of home study and approved correspondence courses (specify)
- State Community/Technical college
- Private Technical/Vocational college
- Training trust
- Other (specify): **Washington State University Urban IPM and Pesticide Safety Education Program; Washington Association of Landscape Professionals Technical Skills Program; Vendor Training, Integrated Safety Group.**

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**144** Minimum RSI hours per year defined per the following (see WAC 296-05-316(6)):

- twelve-month period from date of registration.\*
- defined twelve-month school year: (insert month) through (insert month).
- two-thousand hours of on the job training.

*\*If no selection is indicated above, the WSATC will define RSI hours per twelve-month period from date of registration.*

Additional Information:

**The apprentice must maintain CPR and First Aid Certifications. The apprentice shall receive the training for new certification or renewal of these certifications as part of their related supplemental instruction.**

**In the event that no tuition waiver applies to the apprentice's supplemental instruction, as approved by the Committee and Training Director, the sponsor will pay for a minimum of 50% of the tuition costs.**

### **X. ADMINISTRATIVE/DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES:**

Sponsors may include in this section requirements and expectations of the apprentices and training agents and an explanation of disciplinary actions that may be imposed for noncompliance. The sponsor has the following disciplinary procedures that they may impose: Disciplinary Probation, Suspension, or Cancellation.

Disciplinary Probation: A time assessed when the apprentice's progress is not satisfactory. During this time the program sponsor may withhold periodic wage advancements, suspend or cancel the apprenticeship agreement, or take further disciplinary action. A disciplinary probation may only be assessed after the initial probation is completed. During the disciplinary probation, the apprentice has the right to file an appeal of the sponsor's action with the WSATC (as described in WAC 296-05-009).

Suspension: A suspension is a temporary interruption in progress of an individual's apprenticeship program that may result in the cancellation of the Apprenticeship Agreement. Could include temporarily not being allowed to work, go to school or take part in any activity related to the Apprenticeship Program until such time as the sponsor takes further action.

Cancellation: Refers to the termination of an apprenticeship agreement at the request of the apprentice, supervisor, or sponsor. [as described in WAC 296-05-316(22)].

#### **A. General Procedures**

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1. **Should it become necessary to lay off an apprentice, he/she shall be offered reemployment before a new apprentice may be hired.**
2. **Apprentices must possess a valid Driver License and maintain valid automobile insurance at all times during their apprenticeship. Once certified, apprentices are to maintain valid CPR and First Aid Certification. Failure to maintain such requirements could result in disciplinary action, suspension, or cancellation of the apprenticeship agreement.**
3. **Failure to maintain employment with Terra Dynamics, Inc. apprenticeship will result in cancellation of the apprenticeship agreement.**

### B. Local Apprenticeship Committee Policies

NONE

### C. Complaint and Appeal Procedures:

All registered programs must establish procedures explaining the program's complaint review process. Complaints that involve matters covered by a collective bargaining agreement are not subject to the complaint review procedures in this section.

Complaint (after initial probation completed) – WAC 296-05-009 and 296-05-316(22)

Prior to: 20 calendar days of intention of disciplinary action by a sponsor

- Sponsors must notify the apprentice in writing of action to be taken
- Must specify the reason(s) for discipline, suspension, or cancellation
- Decision will become effective immediately
- Written reason(s) for such action must be sent to the apprentice

Within: 30 calendar days request for reconsideration from the sponsor

- Apprentice to request sponsor to reconsider their action

Within: 30 calendar days of apprentice's request for reconsideration

- Sponsor must provide written notification of their final decision

If apprentice chooses to pursue the complaint further:

Within: 30 calendar days of final action

- Apprentice must submit the complaint in writing to the Department
- Must describe the controversy and provide any backup information
- Apprentice must also provide this information to the local sponsor

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Within: 30 business days for supervisor to complete investigation

- If no settlement is agreed upon during investigation, then supervisor must issue a written decision resolving the controversy when the investigation is concluded

If the apprentice or sponsor disputes supervisor decision:

Within: 30 calendar days of supervisor's decision, request for WSATC hearing

- Request must be in writing
- Must specify reasons supporting the request
- Request and supporting documents must be given to all parties
- WSATC must conduct the hearing in conjunction with the regular quarterly meeting

Within: 30 calendar days after hearing

- WSATC to issue written decision

## **XI. COMMITTEE – RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPOSITION**

NOTE: The following is an overview of the requirements associated with administering an apprenticeship committee and/or program. These provisions are to be used with the corresponding RCW and/or WAC.

The sponsor is the policymaking and administrative body responsible for the operation and success of this apprenticeship program. A committee is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the apprenticeship program and they must be knowledgeable in the process of apprenticeship and/or the application of chapter 49.04 RCW and chapter 296-05 WAC. Sponsors must develop procedures for:

### A. Committee Operations (WAC 296-05-316): (Not applicable for Plant Programs)

Convene meetings at least three times per year of the program sponsor and apprenticeship committee attended by a quorum of committee members as defined in the approved Standards. If the committee does not indicate its definition of quorum, the interpretation will be “50% plus 1” of the approved committee members. Conference call meetings may be conducted in lieu of regular meetings but must not exceed the number of attended meetings and no disciplinary action can be taken during conference call meetings.

### B. Program Operations (Chapter 296-05 WAC - Part C & D):

1. The program sponsor will record and maintain records pertaining to the administration of the apprenticeship program and make them available to the WSATC or Department on request.

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Records required by WAC 296-05-400 through 455 (see Part D of chapter 296-05 WAC) will be maintained for five (5) years; all other records will be maintained for three (3) years.

2. The sponsor will submit to the Department through the assigned state apprenticeship consultant the following list:

Forms are available on line at

<http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/FormPub/default.asp> or from your assigned apprenticeship consultant.

- Apprenticeship Agreements – within first 30 days of employment
  - Authorization of Signature forms - as necessary
  - Approved Training Agent Agreements (sponsor approving or canceling) – within 30 days
  - Minutes of Apprenticeship Committee Meetings – within 30 days of meeting (not required for Plant program)
  - Request for Change of Status - Apprenticeship/Training Agreement and Training Agents forms – within 30 days of action by sponsor
  - Journey Level Wage Rate – annually, or whenever changed
  - Request for Revision of Standards - as necessary
  - Request for Revision of Committee - as necessary
  - Related Supplemental Instruction (RSI) Hours Reports (Quarterly):
    - 1st quarter: January through March, by April 10
    - 2nd quarter: April through June, by July 10
    - 3rd quarter: July through September, by October 10
    - 4th quarter: October through December, by January 10
  - On-the-Job Work Hours Reports (bi-annual)
    - 1st half: January through June, by July 30
    - 2nd half: July through December, by January 31
3. The program sponsor will adopt, as necessary, local program rules or policies to administer the apprenticeship program in compliance with these Standards that must be submitted for Department approval and updating these Standards. The apprenticeship program manager may administratively approve requests for revisions in the following areas of the Standards:
    - Program name
    - Sponsor's introductory statement (if applicable)
    - Section III: Conduct of Program Under Washington Equal Employment Opportunity Plan
    - Section VII: Apprentice Wages and Wage Progression
    - Section IX: Related/Supplemental Instruction
    - Section XI: Committee - Responsibilities and Composition (including opening statements)
    - Section XII: Subcommittees
    - Section XIII: Training Director/Coordinator

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4. The sponsor will utilize competent instructors as defined in WAC 296-05-003 for related/supplemental instruction. Furthermore, the sponsor will ensure each instructor has training in teaching techniques and adult learning styles, which may occur before or within one year after the apprenticeship instructor has started to provide instruction.

### **C. Management of Apprentices:**

1. Each apprentice (and, if under 18 years of age, the parent or guardian) will sign an apprenticeship agreement with the sponsor, who will then register the agreement, with the Department before the apprentice attends the related/supplemental instruction classes, or within the first 30 days of employment as an apprentice. For the purposes of industrial insurance coverage and prevailing wage exemption under RCW 39.12.021, the effective date of registration will be the date the agreement is received by the Department.

The Department must be notified within 30 days of program approval, of all requests for disposition or modification of agreements, with a copy of the minutes approving the changes, which may be:

- Certificate of completion
  - Additional credit
  - Suspension (i.e. military service or other)
  - Reinstatement
  - Cancellation and/or
  - Corrections
2. Rotate apprentices in the various processes of the skilled occupation to ensure the apprentice is trained to be a competent journey-level worker.
  3. Periodically review and evaluate apprentices before advancement to the apprentice's next wage progression period. The evidence of such advancement will be the record of the apprentice's progress on the job and during related/supplemental instruction.
  4. The sponsor has the obligation and responsibility to provide, insofar as possible, continuous employment for all apprentices in the program. The sponsor may arrange to transfer an apprentice from one training agent to another or to another sponsor when the sponsor is unable to provide reasonably continuous employment, or they are unable to provide apprentices the diversity of experience necessary for training and experience in the various work processes as stated in these Standards. The new sponsor or training agent will assume all the terms and conditions of these Standards. If, for any reason, a layoff of an apprentice occurs, the apprenticeship agreement will remain in effect unless canceled by the sponsor.

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5. An apprentice who is unable to perform the on-the-job portion of apprenticeship training may, if the apprentice so requests and the sponsor approves, participate in related/supplemental instruction, subject to the apprentice obtaining and providing to the sponsor written requested document/s for such participation. However, time spent will not be applied toward the on-the-job portion of apprenticeship training.
6. Hear and adjust all complaints of violations of apprenticeship agreements.
7. Upon successful completion of apprenticeship, as provided in these Standards, and passing the examination that the sponsor may require, the sponsor will recommend that the WSATC award a Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship. The program will make an official presentation to the apprentice that has successfully completed his/her term of apprenticeship.

### D. Training Agent Management:

1. Offer training opportunities on an equal basis to all employers and apprentices. Grant equal treatment and opportunity for all apprentices through reasonable working and training conditions and apply those conditions to all apprentices uniformly. Provide training at a cost equivalent to that incurred by currently participating employers and apprentices. Not require an employer to sign a collective bargaining agreement as a condition of participation.
2. Determine the adequacy of an employer to furnish proper on-the-job training in accordance with the provisions of these Standards. Require all employers requesting approved training agent status to complete an approved training agent agreement and comply with all federal and state apprenticeship laws and the appropriate apprenticeship Standards.
3. Submit approved training agent agreements to the Department with a copy of the agreement and/or the list of approved training agents within thirty days of committee approval. Submit rescinded approved training agent agreements and/or the list of approved training agents to the Department within thirty days of said action.

### E. Composition of Committee: (see WAC 296-05-313)

Apprenticeship committees must be composed of an equal number of management and non-management representatives composed of at least four members but no more than twelve. If the committee does not indicate its definition of a quorum, the interpretation will be "50% plus 1" of the approved committee members.

Apprenticeship committees shall elect a chairperson and a secretary who shall be from opposite interest groups, i.e., chairperson-employers; secretary-employees, or

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vice versa; EXCEPT, this does not apply where the Registration Agency represents the apprentice(s).

For plant programs the WSATC or the Department designee will act as the employee representative.

Quorum: **Shall consist of at least 1 employer and 1 employee representative.**

Program type administered by the committee: **Individual Non-Joint**

The employer representatives shall be:

**Vern Orr, Chair  
PO Box 2479  
Auburn, WA 98027**

**Gabe Wood  
PO Box 2479  
Auburn, WA 98027**

The employee representatives shall be:

**Jon Hartley, Secretary  
Landscape Construction Worker  
10202 58th Ave. Court E  
Puyallup, WA 98373**

**Antonio Ortiz  
Landscape Construction Worker  
119 Wayne Ave. SE  
Pacific, WA 98047**

**XII. SUBCOMMITTEE:**

Subcommittee(s) approved by the Department, represented equally from management and non-management, may also be established under these Standards, and are subject to the main committee. All actions of the subcommittee(s) must be approved by the main committee.

**NONE**

**XIII. TRAINING DIRECTOR/COORDINATOR:**

The sponsor may employ a person(s) as a full or part-time training coordinator(s)/training director(s). This person(s) will assume responsibilities and authority for the operation of the program as are delegated by the sponsor.

**Don Marshall, Training Director  
Environmental Horticulture Program  
Lake Washington Technical College**

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**EXHIBIT A**

**WAC 296-127-01346**

**Landscape construction.**

For the purposes of the Washington state public works law, chapter 39.12 RCW, landscape construction involves the beautification of a plot of land by changing its natural features through the addition or modification of lawns, trees, bushes, etc.

**(1) Landscape construction Includes:**

- **Constructing or maintaining lawns, yards, gardens or other landscaped surfaces.**
- **Mixing and spreading mulches, ground covers, soil amendments, decorative bark or decorative rock.**
- **Seeding, sodding or hydroseeding.**
- **Applying chemicals or fertilizers.**
- **Planting trees, shrubs or plants.**
- **Installing, servicing or repairing above ground lawn or landscape sprinkler systems.**
- **Installing, servicing or repairing underground lawn or landscape sprinkler systems to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade.**
- **Assembling or placing premanufactured trellis work, play equipment, benches or picnic tables.**
- **Constructing rock walls to a maximum height of four feet.**
- **Land clearing.**
- **Spreading top soil to a maximum depth of six inches below finish grade.**
- **Trenching to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade.**
- **Installing french drains or other subsurface water collection systems to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade.**
- **Hauling top soil, plants or other landscaping materials in trucks with only one rear axle.**

**(2) Landscape construction does not include:**

- **Any activity or task (including those mentioned above) when performed preparatory to any nonlandscaping construction work.**
- **Constructing roads, footpaths, trails or rock walls more than four feet high.**
- **Custom fabrication of trellis work, play equipment, benches or picnic tables.**
- **Constructing restrooms, shelters or similar structures.**
- **Installing sewer systems, storm sewer systems, catch basins, vaults or drainage systems for impervious surfaces (such as parking lots).**
- **Installing drainage systems or underground sprinkler systems more than three feet below final grade.**
- **Land clearing, dozing, grading, excavating or hauling except as permitted above.**
- **Tree falling or bucking.**
- **Subgrade preparation**
- **The use of power equipment with more than ninety horsepower.**

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**EXHIBIT A - Continued**

- **The use of trucks with more than one rear axle except hydroseeders.**
- **Demolition of structures.**
- **Asphalt or concrete work except incidental anchorage for play equipment, benches or picnic tables.**
- **Welding.**
- **Installing agricultural irrigation systems.**
- **Encapsulation of landfills.**

**[Statutory Authority: Chapter 39.12 RCW, RCW 43.22.270 and 43.22.051. 00-15-077, § 296-127-01346, filed 7/19/00, effective 7/19/00]**

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**EXHIBIT A - Continued**



**PREVAILING WAGE POLICY MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** May 19, 2010  
**TO:** All Interested Parties  
**FROM:** David J. Soma, Industrial Statistician/Prevailing Wage Program Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Landscape Construction

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**Policy Disclaimer**

This policy is designed to provide general information in regard to the current opinions of the Department of Labor & Industries on the subject matter covered. This policy is intended as a guide in the interpretation and application of the relevant statutes, regulations, and policies, and may not be applicable to all situations. This policy does not replace applicable RCW or WAC standards. If additional clarification is required, the Program Manager for Prevailing Wage should be consulted.

The July 23, 2009 Landscape Construction policy is rescinded. This document is effective as of the date of print. Letters and clarifications posted on the L&I web site provide continuing guidance. Changes may occur after the date of print due to subsequent legislation, administrative rule, or judicial proceedings. The user is encouraged to notify the Program Manager to provide or receive updated information. This document will remain in effect until rescinded, modified, or withdrawn by the Director or his or her designee.

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**Application of the Landscape Construction Scope of Work**

The Landscape Construction scope of work, WAC 296-127-01346, is organized with (1) an introductory paragraph that establishes a context for potential uses of the scope; (2) a description of specific tasks that may be within the scope for Landscape Construction if they are not otherwise excluded by (3) a list of activities that are not included in Landscape Construction.

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**EXHIBIT A - Continued**

**1) The Landscape Construction scope's introductory paragraph reads:**

**For the purposes of the Washington state public works law, chapter 39.12 RCW, landscape construction involves the beautification of a plot of land by changing its natural features through the addition or modification of lawns, trees, bushes, etc.**

**2. Work performed within the Landscape Construction scope of work:**

- **Constructing or maintaining lawns, yards, gardens or other landscaped surfaces.**
- **Mixing and spreading mulches; ground covers, soil amendments, decorative bark or decorative rock.**
- **Seeding, sodding or hydroseeding.**
- **Applying chemicals or fertilizers.**
- **Planting trees, shrubs or plants.**
- **Installing, servicing or repairing above ground lawn or landscape sprinkler systems.**
- **Installing, servicing or repairing underground lawn or landscape sprinkler systems to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade.**
- **Assembling or placing premanufactured trellis work, play equipment, benches or picnic tables.**
- **Constructing rock walls to a maximum height of four feet.**
- **Land clearing.**
- **Spreading top soil to a maximum depth of six inches below finish grade.**
- **Trenching to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade.**
- **Installing french drains or other subsurface water collection systems to a maximum depth of three feet below finish grade.**
- **Hauling top soil, plants or other landscaping materials in trucks with only one rear axle.**

**3. The Landscape scope of work makes exclusions that will override the list of allowed tasks in (2) above.**

**Landscape Construction does not include:**

- **Any activity or task (including those mentioned above) when performed preparatory to any nonlandscaping construction work.**
- **Constructing roads, footpaths, trails or rock walls more than four feet high.**
- **Custom fabrication of trellis work, play equipment, benches or picnic tables.**
- **Constructing restrooms; shelters or similar structures.**
- **Installing sewer systems, storm sewer systems, catch basins, vaults or drainage systems for impervious surfaces (such as parking lots).**
- **Installing drainage systems or underground sprinkler systems more than three feet below final grade.**

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**EXHIBIT A - Continued**

- Land clearing, dozing, grading, excavating or hauling except as permitted above.
- Tree falling or bucking.
- Subgrade preparation.
- The use of power equipment with more than ninety horsepower.
- The use of trucks with more than one rear axle except hydroseeders.
- Demolition of structures.
- Asphalt or concrete work except incidental anchorage for play equipment, benches or picnic tables.
- Welding.
- Installing agricultural irrigation systems.
- Encapsulation of landfills.

**NOTE: the scope of work for Utilities Construction, WAC 296-127-01389, places the "cleanup and restoration of right of way (e.g., restore landscaping)" for such work exclusively in Utilities Construction and that work may not be performed as Landscape Construction.**

**4). The following are specific areas where the department has received frequent questions regarding this scope of work. These activities are not allowed as Landscape Construction under WAC 296-127-03146.**

**a. "Land Clearing" that cannot be performed as Landscape Construction such as:**

- Clearing preparatory to other construction
- Use of equipment over 90 horsepower;
- Tree falling and bucking; and ,
- Dirt or materials work beyond the up to six (6) inches of topsoil allowed to be graded in the Landscape Construction scope of work.

**b. Erosion control work, including the following, cannot be performed as Landscape Construction:**

- Erosion control blankets or fabric;
- Jute matting installation;
- Silt fence installation and maintenance;
- Trenching and installation of straw wattles;
- Sediment trap installation;
- Straw bale barriers;
- Brush barriers;
- Construction or other storm water filtration;
- Straw application for erosion control;
- Sand bag installation;
- Erosion control fence;

**EXHIBIT A - Continued**

- **Construction project dust control;**
- **Water bars;**
- **Pipe slope draining;**
- **Outlet protection;**
- **Interceptor dike and/or swale;**
- **Check dam installation;**
- **Turbidity curtain installation;**
- **Level spreader installation;**
- **Silt dikes installation;**
- **Storm drain inlet protection;**
- **Slope protection; and**
- **Storm water infiltration.**

**Note: Seeding or hydroseeding, mulch/bark application, sod installation, planting vegetation and landscape maintenance associated with these erosion control activities may still be performed under the Landscape Construction scope unless the work is exclusive to another scope of work such as the scope for Utility Construction, WAC 296-127-01389.**

- c. **Except for those tasks allowed as Landscape Construction in WAC 296-127-01346, stream or river channel modifications, wetlands creation or enhancement projects, as well as construction of environmental mitigations, habitat improvements, swales, etc. *cannot* be performed as Landscape Construction.**
- d. **Except for spreading up six (6) inches of topsoil, and mulches, and planting, golf course construction (land grading and contouring not permissible under the Landscape Construction scope of work) cannot be performed as Landscape Construction.**

**Whenever your fact set is less than a perfect match from those specifically addressed above, check with the Industrial Statistician/Prevailing Wage Program Manager for specific answers. The Department is happy to provide guidance on your fact set. Please identify the actual circumstances and describe them in full to the Department. You may contact us by phone: 360-902-5335 or by e-mail at: PW1@LNI.WA.GOV.**