

# CHOOSING A LANDSCAPING COMPANY

***Once the weather finally breaks in late winter and the air begins to warm up, everyone's excited to go outside and enjoy the fresh air. As a homeowner, take a moment to look around and enjoy the nice green grass and well-maintained landscape you've worked hard to keep looking great. Or... was that just a dream?***

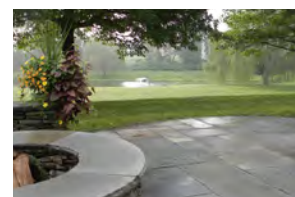
If you've noticed that your lawn and landscape haven't quite survived the winter as well as you'd like, or you want to add some new trees, shrubs, hardscaping, a pond or other features to your landscape, now is the time to start researching landscaping companies. We know not everyone enjoys spending their time mowing, weeding, pruning, and maintaining their landscape, and that's where a professional landscaping company can hop in and save you time and money.

To ensure you're receiving the best service, we've put together a list of items to help you choose a professional landscaper.

## 1 Experience

There are dozens of landscaping companies in South Central PA. How can you begin to separate them? Look for someone with the experience and expertise necessary to ensure great work. How does their portfolio look? Have they won any awards?

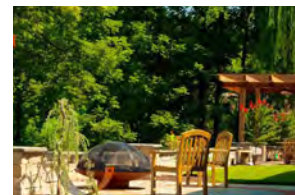
*Hively Landscapes is an established company that has maintained an active presence in the community for 50 years. We're proud recipients of numerous state and local design awards, and have completed over 6000 projects of all sizes. We're also proud of our team's dedication to the community through volunteerism.*



## 2 The Design

You want to work with a company that has the proper tools to get the job done, and that includes in the design phase. Does the company have professional designers, or are they well-intentioned hobbyists who provide seat-of-the-pants, open-ended estimates? Are they licensed and insured?

*Hively has four full-time, professional, college-educated designers on staff who follow the same list of design standards for every plan, regardless of the project budget. We can provide scale CAD designs and 3D modeling with rendering, a proper proposal that outlines all costs, and we adhere to PA state Home Improvement Contractor Laws. (PA Home Improvement Contractor #029699)*



## 3 The People

The team is the most important part of any program. Are the employees specialists, or do they dabble in every area? Do the workers care about their job and your landscape? Are they experienced, or are they just working a seasonal job while going to school? Can they take care of pests or problems that might come up?



*Hively crew leaders have an average tenure of over 12 years. Each crew is specialized in the area they are working in, whether it is landscaping, hardscaping, or maintenance. We have four PA state licensed chemical applicators and all our production staff are certified pesticide technicians. All employees at Hively have passed state criminal background checks and are subject to random drug screenings. Safety is vital to our culture, and we hold weekly safety and crew accountability meetings.*

## 4 The Quality

Often you may find that the quality of work completed by someone other than yourself is not up to par. Browse reviews of the landscaping companies you're considering and you might see this reflected in their reputations. The work always speaks for itself. Do the company's portfolio and reviews hold up to what they're claiming? Are they members of industry organizations? Is their knowledge up-to-date, or have they been left in the past?



*Hively has written installation standards with regular training and accountability to ensure all projects maintain our high standard. The design staff is required to pursue continuing education. We've been a member of the York Builders Association for over 25 years. Our team features a registered landscape architect, five Pennsylvania certified horticulturists, and ICPI & NCMA certified paver and wall block installers. We offer a three year warranty on hardscape workmanship quality, and an extended plant material warranty is also available. We encourage you to look at our reviews and ratings on popular rating websites, including Google and Houzz's five stars, and the 4.9 rating we've received on Facebook. Some samples of landscaping work are also available on our photos page:*

<http://www.hivelylandscapes.com/gallery.php>

We hope you find this resource useful as you search for the perfect landscaping company to partner with. If you're interested in working with one of the best, give us a call at 717-292-5696 and we'll be happy to discuss options that match your budget!

