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## Department of Permits, Licenses, and Inspections Bulletin

**Policy:** Special Inspections for Required Landscaping

**Date:** July 5, 2016

### **Purpose of this Bulletin:**

The Pittsburgh City Code Title Nine mandates specific landscaping and screening requirements for certain developments. The determination of compliance with approved landscaping site plans during inspection, requires specialized knowledge which is outside of the standard requirements of the Building Code. As such, Special Inspections shall be required for Landscaping, in accordance with IBC 1705.15, when identified as a condition of approval for a permit by the Department of City Planning.

### **Statement of Special Inspections:**

The applicant shall submit a statement of special inspections, prepared by the registered design professional in responsible charge, as required by PLI, as a condition for issuance of a permit. This statement shall include "Landscaping" for inspection of conditions of approval by the Department of City Planning.

### **Qualifications for Special Inspections:**

The Special Inspector shall be a licensed design professional- Architect, Landscape Architect, or Civil Engineer, registered in the State of Pennsylvania, who shall demonstrate competence to the satisfaction of the building official for the inspection of the landscaping requirements on each specific permit application.

The registered design professional in responsible charge, or engineers of record involved in the design of the project, are permitted to act as the special inspector for the work designed by them.

### **Reporting Requirement:**

The Special Inspector for Landscaping shall submit a completed PLI Initial Special Inspection Report form to the building official, prior to issuance of a permit.

The Special Inspector shall keep records of inspections, and shall furnish inspection reports to the building official, and to the registered design professional in responsible charge, at weekly intervals during the course of the work. Reports shall indicate that work inspected was or was not completed in conformance to approved construction documents. Discrepancies shall be brought to the immediate attention of the contractor. A final report documenting required special inspections, correction of any discrepancies, and a statement of compliance on PLI Final Special Inspection Report form, shall be submitted to the building official prior to the issuance of a final Certificate of Occupancy.

See PLI Special Inspector Requirements, Instructions and Standard forms for additional information.