

Special Joint Committee on Coronavirus Response:

I understand that you are collecting information and recommendations regarding “essential services.” The Oregon Landscape Contractors Association has shared the following information with the Governor’s Office. In addition to Palm Springs, Los Angeles and other cities have included specific references to landscaping in their Shelter at Home orders. We would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Bill Cross & Niki Terzoeff

<https://www.palmspringsca.gov/home/showdocument?id=72700>

ix. Plumbers, pool service, landscape maintenance, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, Essential Activities, and Essential Businesses;

Also attached is the NALP statement supporting Landscaping as an essential service:

https://www.landscapeprofessionals.org/images/LP/Virus/Documents/Landscape_Essential_Services_Letter_3_17_20.pdf

Landscapers are protectors of public health performing essential treatments to lawns and green spaces to reduce the transmission of dangerous and deadly diseases through pests like mosquitoes, ticks, and fleas.

Landscapers protect property and maintain greenspaces that could otherwise jeopardize public safety. Unkept fields and green spaces increase the chance of injuries. Crime rates are increased in areas where green spaces are not maintained. Tree removal is also a critical function of our industry to avoid damaging homes and their families.

Landscapers play a critical role in boosting morale and mental health during a difficult time for our Nation. Without landscape services fields, parks, businesses, and homes will become overgrown and unkept, which can have dramatic psychological effects on the mental and wellbeing of our communities.