

March 18, 2019

RE: SB 935 to modify the Modified Landscape License

For over 40 years I have been a part of the landscape industry, starting out in landscape maintenance, then as a human "Ditch Witch" for a landscape company, having my own business for a time and eventually becoming the Conservation Coordinator for Medford Water Commission (MWC). Along the way I have taught landscape irrigation for over 30 years. I am against allowing the Modified License landscape contractor design and install irrigation. I have seen too often the results of untrained, non-tested individuals, which describes the Modified Licensed landscape contractor. Sprinkler systems improperly designed and installed without the right pressure to correctly operate, or incorrect equipment choices with similar negative results, have time and again shown up when the public unknowingly hire "professionals" who do not know what they are doing.

Without testing to show proof of knowledge in hydraulics and proper equipment selection based on property conditions, the Modified Licensed landscape contractor should not be allowed to potentially waste hundreds of thousands of gallons of water, which has shown to be the case with poorly designed and installed sprinkler systems. Water, along with air, are the two things all life needs to exist, thus as a water purveyor MWC is mandated by the State of Oregon to protect against water waste:

CHAPTER 690 DIVISION 410 STATEWIDE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT 690-410-0060 Conservation and Efficient Water Use

(1) Policy — The elimination of waste and improving the efficiency of water use are high priorities. Use of water without waste is required by state statute and the prior appropriation doctrine.

If you wish more information, please feel free to can contact me, David Searcy, MWC Conservation Coordinator (541) 774-2435 or david.searcy@medfordwater.org.

Respectively,



David Searcy

"When the well runs dry, then we will know the true value of water"

~ Benjamin Franklin