

CREWS

Stormwater BMP Maintenance For Landscape Crews



QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CONTRACTOR

GENERAL EXPERIENCE AND CREDENTIALS

How long have you been in the landscape maintenance business?

- Ask about acknowledgements, awards or accolades earned for their work.

Are you licensed within your State?

- Ask for a copy of their license and contact the issuing authority to ensure it is current and in good standing.

What types of insurance do you carry?

- General liability insurance – ask for a copy of contractor’s general liability insurance certificate.
- Workers’ compensation insurance – ask for copy of current worker’s compensation certificate.

What kind of written warranty or guarantee do you offer?

How do you typically communicate with your clients about projects and keep them informed along the way?

CREWS BMP EXPERIENCE

How many years of experience do you have in maintaining actual BMPs?

- How many BMPs have you designed or consulted on versus maintained?
- Does your work include private, public, or community spaces?

What type of specific BMP services do you offer?

- Site assessment and analysis including evaluation?
- Design plan?
- Permitting process?
- Plant selection?
- Maintenance advice?

Can you provide a list of references for current BMP projects?

- Include contact names and actual addresses so you can go and physically view the work.
- Ensure you ask references the following:
 - » Was work completed in a timely manner?
 - » Was work of sufficient quality within contracted price?
 - » Were you satisfied with the way the project was managed and communications along the way?

CREWS BMP PROJECT-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

What is the typical range of costs for maintaining a BMP?

- Are you able to offer a fixed cost vs. estimated?
- What's your typical payment schedule?

What is the expected frequency for this type of maintenance?

Who will be actually doing the work on my property?

- Who will the Team be comprised of? Get names and their experience levels.
- Will you be hiring sub-contractors for this work? How do you choose your sub-contractors?

OTHER KEY TIPS:

Approach multiple contractors for quotes. You want to have a good understanding of the market to ensure that you are getting a reasonable quote.

Make sure all project material selections are spelled out and signed in a written contract. Ensure your contract includes plans, costs, and timelines. If you don't understand the contract, have a private attorney review it.

Pay no more than 1/3 down as a deposit. Never pay cash.

**This document was adapted from The Living Shoreline Implementation Plan by The Chesapeake Bay Program.*