

## **If you are a landscape contractor...**

...and you provide plants to your customers contact the Nevada Dept. of Agriculture to obtain a nursery stock dealer license today – failure to obtain a license may result in your business being subject to fines of up to \$1,000.00. Inspectors are also available to discuss the requirements for selling nursery stock. Knowing and implementing the steps to protect nursery stock from pests and providing proper care will keep YOUR business in compliance with Nevada's nursery laws.

Visit the Nursery Program Website at [www.agri.nv.gov](http://www.agri.nv.gov) for a nursery stock dealer's license application

**OR CALL**

**Northern Nevada: (775) 353-3672**

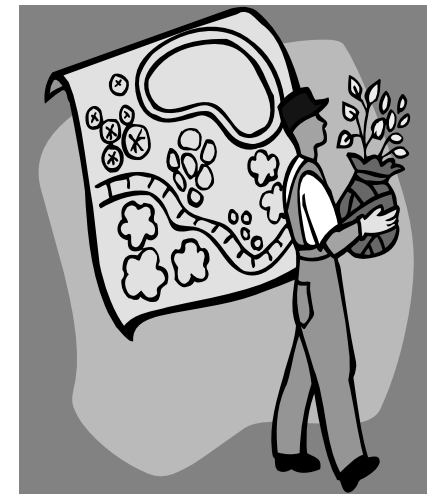
**Southern Nevada: (702) 668-4590**

*Revised 8/2009*

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*Nevada Department of  
Agriculture*

# **Nevada Nursery Laws for Landscape Contractors**



## **Guidelines for Compliance**

# If you are a landscape contractor, Nevada's nursery laws may apply to you.

Nevada's nursery laws aren't just for businesses that sell plants at garden centers or "big box stores". **If you provide your customers with nursery stock – trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, or grass sod the regulations apply to you.** Even if you purchase all of your plants from local nurseries **you must obtain a nursery stock dealer's license from the Nevada Department of Agriculture.** The regulations also say that nursery stock must be purchased from an inspected, licensed source, and cannot be infested with insects, diseases, and weeds.



Landscape contractors must maintain their stock, both on a job site and in a holding yard so that its vitality is protected and stress is minimized – keeping plants watered, protected from environmental extremes, mechanical damage, and free from harmful pests.

## Why Landscape Contractors?

Nursery stock sold by landscape contractors is not immune from harmful pests and is subject to the same mechanical and environmental damages that can make stock from other sources unlikely to thrive once planted. Regulations overseeing the source of stock, its condition, and the care it is given before it is sold or installed are there to provide protection to consumers, the green industry, and the state of Nevada.

**Is This Something New?** No. The requirement that landscape contractors adhere to Nevada's nursery laws has been in existence for many years. But due to the increase in the number of businesses selling nursery stock statewide and a limited number of inspectors many landscape contractors have never been contacted by Nevada Department of Agriculture and are unaware that Nevada's nursery laws apply to their business.

## What are the Regulations?

Nursery laws and regulations are found in Nevada Revised Statutes 554 and 555, and Nevada Administrative Code 554 and 555. Some excerpts follow.

**Nursery Stock Dealer License (NRS 555.236)** Any person, including a landscape contractor, who provides nursery stock to his/her customers, must obtain a nursery stock dealer's license from the Department of Agriculture. **Failure to do so may lead to fines of up to \$1,000.00 per violation.**

**Inspection Certificates (NRS 555.246)** Shipments of stock entering Nevada must have an inspection certificate from the origin state verifying the source has been inspected, found free of harmful pests, and meets federal and Nevada quarantines .

**Freedom from Pests (NAC 555.160)** All stock should be commercially clean of common pests and weeds, and free of injurious pests and noxious weeds. Infested plants should never be installed in a landscape and should not be accepted if delivered in that condition.



**Care and Condition (NAC 555.150 and 555.155)** Nursery stock must be stored or displayed under conditions that protect its health & vitality and shouldn't be damaged by rough handling. In addition,

- ◆ Plants in containers must be protected from extreme heat and cold and must have enough light to maintain normal growth;
- ◆ Woody-stemmed plants must not have damage to the cambium in excess of 50% of the circumference of the trunk;
- ◆ Root balls of "ball and burlap" stock must be kept moist and covered up to 75% in a moisture retentive material;
- ◆ Containers or root balls must be free of noxious weeds, and relatively free of common weeds.
- ◆ Container grown stock must have a well-established root system reaching the sides of the pot and a firm ball when the container is removed.