



Winter 2008

Outdoor Lighting Commodity Group

Creating professionalism, education & growth

For those of you who are not familiar with our group, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce a group of companies and individuals, with an expanse of knowledge of the outdoor lighting industry. These participants have, and will, face challenges relating to the industry, and have formed together in the interest of bringing professionalism, education and growth to our industry. This industry has potential for huge growth, providing the best outdoor lighting, design and installations to the educated consumer.

Landscape Ontario's Outdoor Lighting group was formed to address issues facing landscape lighting professionals in our province. Our industry must be prepared for problems associated with

growth, and we expect eventual regulation from bodies such as the Electrical Safety Authority. Other issues include quality of the lighting design and installation, legal issues with different jurisdictions requiring different licences, etc.

Recently, the Lighting group was instrumental in working with the Electrical Safety Authority on low-voltage installation requirements. This was a long procedure, which involved a great deal of commitment, communication and education to ensure that those who are dedicated to providing outdoor lighting at a professional level were protected.

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We are committed to providing the consumer with a resource for finding reliable design and installers, who are committed to providing the best service possible.

Following are the benefits of being a member of the Outdoor Lighting sector group, current or in the works:

- Members meet once a month and receive updates on current issues.
- Marketing material, promoting professionalism in the industry.
- Training programs.
- Open floor at meetings for manufacturers to showcase products.
- Networking with outdoor lighting professionals

The Outdoor Lighting group operates under the umbrella of Landscape Ontario, and at this time there is no obligation or cost for group membership. Your attendance would be most appreciated — strength in numbers...

Enquires can be directed to John Higo, chair, johnh@turfcare.ca or the editor, Susan Smith, susan@ambiancelighting.ca.

Safety do's and don'ts for lighting contractors and employees

Electrocution risks ...

Follow all rules and regulations i.e. OESC regulations
If line voltage is involved contact a licenced electrician to do the work.

Do not take someone's word that the power is off, always use a voltage meter.

Make sure the receptacle being used is one with a GFI protection.

Develop a hazard checklist for all jobs.

Using an Amp-probe, ensure that you have correct amperage at your chosen GFI receptacle.

Be careful when changing broken lamps.

Do not overrate fixtures.

Use proper CSA-approved fixtures.

Watch for high voltage lines, especially when using ladders.

Do not stand on fences, use proper ladders.

Use fixtures with metal spikes.

Ladder safety ...

Ensure that the ladder is properly tied off.

Use a spotter. Most ladder work should include two people.

Ensure that the individual on the ladder is tied off.

Ensure your employees have proper ladder training.

Weather ...

Do not work on trees when it is snowing, raining or there is a chance of lightning.

Other hazards ...

Know your legal, personal competency and safety limits.

Use safety glasses when working around trees, protection from branches and sharp needles.

Do not jump off vehicles, ladders or trees.

Watch out for overhead fixtures.

