

# Hiring an Irrigation Professional

## Installing an irrigation system

Capital Regional District | November 2020

**Follow these tips from the Irrigation Industry Association of BC to help you choose a contractor that best suits your needs:**

- Check for valid business licensing with your municipality.
- Ask for proof of liability insurance.
- Be sure the contractor addresses any of your concerns, such as the best system for water efficiency.
- Ask how to turn off the irrigation system in case of an emergency.
- Ask how to adjust the irrigation schedule and operate the irrigation controller once the installation is complete. Ensure the watering schedule days and times are in line with the [Water Conservation Bylaw](#).
- Make certain each contractor inspects your property prior to submitting a bid.
- Ask for and enforce a time frame for start and completion of the system installation.
- Beware of low-bidders – often shortcuts are taken to achieve this, which can mean costly adjustments and/or repairs later.
- Be sure your contractor has obtained and purchased plumbing and electrical permits for the work to be carried out.
- Be sure your contractor has included the installation and initial testing of a [back-flow prevention device](#).
- Ask for a written warranty (typical one year parts and labour).
- Ask to see a sketch of the proposed system to ensure only the landscaped areas are being watered.
- Check to see if the contractor is a member or certified through the [Irrigation Industry Association of BC](#)

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*Provision of this information does not represent an endorsement by the CRD of the conclusions reached by studies or a recommendation of any of products, techniques or contractors.*