



Laughing with you

We got our copy of *LM*'s April issue yesterday and I was looking through it (as I always do), and I have to tell you I really enjoyed your Editor's Note this month ("Art of simplicity," page 4). It was very clever, light-hearted and I actually did laugh out loud.

Jody Shilan

*Executive Director, New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association
Editor, FromDesign2Build.com
Elmwood Park, N.J.*

Be careful whom you encourage

"The old college try" (April) is a good article. You mention a number of firms that have been successful and I know most of them; yes, they deserve compliments.

I have my own story: I think we need to be careful about encouraging people to do work without really knowing even half of what they need to know. There



is the mention of insurance, which is so vital. Then there is OSHA, and then there are the organic problems, as well as chemistry. There are legal problems, such as writing contracts and how to collect money. You may be able to mow a lawn first class, but there is a lot more to it. Do you need a license in the community you

are working? Today there are so many government rules that it's impossible for a young person to comply with even half of them.

I think those people who have been successful should give those young people a chance in their company and give them some training so that they will be prepared when they go out on their own. Unfortunately,

we have so many small firms that are janitors rather than professional people and we need to help them to become professional. Those inexperienced people do harm to the gardening profession.

Ernest Wertheim, ASLA

*Wertheim, van der Ploeg & Klemeyer
San Francisco*

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