



Jonathan Mintz  
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September 14, 2009

Via email:

Re: A License is not required to mow lawn

Dear Ms. [REDACTED],

I am writing in response to your inquiry as to whether mowing lawn is an activity that requires a Home Improvement Contractor's ("HIC") license from the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs ("DCA" or "the Department.") The answer to your question is that mowing lawn does not require an HIC license.

Under NYC Administrative Code ("Code") §20-386, Home improvement "means the construction, repair, replacement, remodeling, alteration. . .improvement, or addition to any land or building. . .and shall include. . .landscaping. . ."

Landscaping requiring a license pursuant to the Code involves a change to the natural features of the land. Such activities include, but are not limited to, the planting or removal of trees or shrubs, the laying of sod, and the creation of gardens. Activities involving maintenance of the grounds, such as cutting grass, pruning trees or shrubs, and lawn care are not landscaping within the terms of the Code and do not require a license.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]