

Presort Standard  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit Number  
6965  
Columbus, Ohio

State of Ohio  
Board of Landscape  
Architect Examiners  
77 S. High St., 16th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Tel: 614/466-2316  
Fax: 614/644-9048  
[www.arc.ohio.gov/lae](http://www.arc.ohio.gov/lae)

**Board Members**

**Walter H. Roch von Rochsburg**, President  
Worthington

**Timothy S. Schmalenberger**, Secretary  
Hilliard

**Scott Sonnenberg**  
Plain City

**Dennis J. Mersky**  
Akron

**Staff**

Amy M. Kobe, Exec. Director  
Dee Karvois, Business Manager

Chad B. Holland, Investigator  
Cheryl L. Thaxton, Executive Secretary



# OBLA Newsletter

## It's Time to Renew Your License

Landscape architects must renew their Ohio licenses before October 31, 2005.

For the first time, online renewal is available permitting renewal anytime – 24/7!

Every landscape architect holding a current license received a password and user ID in the mail this past September. These are necessary for access to the online renewal site. If you did not receive your user ID & password in the mail, your current address must not be on file. Contact the Board office ASAP!!

The fee for renewing the landscape architect license remains unchanged at \$125. Late renewals are subject to a 20% penalty after November 1, 2005, and must pay \$156.25. Licensees are not required to complete continuing education for this cycle's renewal. The requirement is not in effect until November 1, at which time, registered landscape architects have two years to earn the necessary 24 credits.

Practicing without a valid and current license is a serious offense and the Board punishes violators accordingly.



## Have you moved? Changed employers? Notify the Board!

Change your information online (24/7) –

Use your secure user ID and password to login at <https://license.ohio.gov/secure/login.asp>.

You may also visit [www.arc.ohio.gov/lae](http://www.arc.ohio.gov/lae) and click address change or email changes to Cheryl Thaxton at [cthax@mail.peps.state.oh.us](mailto:cthax@mail.peps.state.oh.us).

If you prefer lo-tech options, fax them to 614-644-9048, or you can mail your address change. For documentation purposes, we would rather not accept telephone updates.

It is important to include your email address because we plan electronic publication of future newsletters.

## Board Attends CLARB Annual Meeting

Representatives of the Ohio Board of Landscape Architect Examiners have returned from the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) Annual Meeting. Ohio is fortunate to have board member Dennis Mersky, Akron, serving as the Region IV member to the CLARB Board of Directors.

At the two day meeting in Los Angeles, attending board members considered a resolution to amend the CLARB Bylaws pertaining to the Nomination of Officers. Region IV supported this resolution but the CLARB board position differed. Recognizing the current nominating system needs improvement, the CLARB board decided to waive the resolution until the 2006 Governance Committee meets. The committee plans to develop recommendations for a new resolution at the 2006 Annual Meeting.

A second resolution affects candidates for licensure. This resolution stated "...that for candidates not licensed by June 2006, any sections of the exam completed prior to 1992 will no longer be accepted for transition credit towards satisfaction of the examination standard for CLARB Certification." If you think this change affects you, please contact the Board office and we will gladly review your exam records with you.

## Does your Firm Need a Certificate of Authorization?

Every landscape architecture firm offering or providing services in Ohio must obtain a Certificate of Authorization. This includes corporations, partnerships, professional associations, and limited liability companies. A sole proprietor who is incorporated or an LLC is also required to obtain a Certificate of Authorization.

To qualify for a Certificate of Authorization, more than 50% of the shareholders, partners, or managers must be registered Ohio design professionals. This includes landscape architects (LA), architects, engineers, and surveyors. A corporation's board of directors must also meet the same requirements. At least one designated LA must be a member of the board of directors. In addition, the firm must designate an LA as being in responsible charge of the firm's landscape architecture activities and decisions.

Certificates of Authorization renew annually and expire on the last day of June each year (June 30). The initial application fee is \$100. Annual renewals are \$50. Late renewals require a new application along with copies of the firm's articles of incorporation or partnership agreement, names of partners/shareholders /managers and the number of shares each owned by each, along with a notarized affidavit of responsibility. Obtain application materials by visiting the board's website <http://arc.ohio.gov/lae>. For details or questions, contact Chad Holland at 614-466-1476 or, via email, at [choll@mail.peps.state.oh.us](mailto:choll@mail.peps.state.oh.us).

## Rules on Continuing Education are online at –

<http://www.arc.ohio.gov/lae/pdfs/LA Continuing Education final 8-8-05.pdf>

**More questions.** If you are in doubt about a program or provider, please contact the board for further assistance. Call the Board office at 614/466-2316 or send an email to [Amy.Kobe@arla.state.oh.us](mailto:Amy.Kobe@arla.state.oh.us).

## How to Earn Continuing Education (CE) Credits

An often-asked question is "How do I fulfill my Continuing Education Requirement? This is not as difficult as it sounds. Here is just a partial list of some of the ways a landscape architect can earn CE credits:

-  Attend a seminar sponsored by your local section of the ASLA or AIA Chapter (we accept AIA credits, as well as courses offered by related professional organizations).
-  Attend a seminar or workshop offered by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio Department of Agriculture, or the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.
-  Complete an on-demand self-study course offered by C2Ed ([www.c2ed.com](http://www.c2ed.com)).
-  Take a course at your local university or college.
-  Write an article or book, teach a class, or give a presentation. Document the time you spent preparing. Of course, this must be relevant to the profession.
-  Attend a seminar sponsored by a materials supplier. Some vendors even come to your office and supply lunch!
-  Take an online course. Many materials suppliers offer free online courses that also have HSW credits. Visit vendor websites to see if courses are available online.
-  Take a "Designer Shorts" course offered by the CLARB Foundation.
-  Complete a monograph offered by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). Several NCARB monographs are relevant to the landscape architecture profession. ([www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org))
-  Because Ohio does not pre-certify CE programs, for audit purposes, be sure you receive a Certificate of Attendance or proof of completion for every seminar.

The Ohio Board of Landscape Architect Examiners website has the new continuing education rule. Visit the site to read or download a copy. Go to <http://www.arc.ohio.gov/lae/laws.htm> and click "continuing education."

**How many Continuing Education units will be required?** Twenty four (24) contact hours every two year renewal period. That is only one credit per month! Do not put off earning credits—it is harder to find courses if you wait until the last minute.

**What is a contact hour?** A contact hour must be no less than fifty (50) minutes of instruction time.

**Is anyone exempt from this requirement?** Yes, provided we receive appropriate documentation the following are exempt:

- Individuals in the process of taking the registration exam (LARE)
- A newly registered landscape architect whose first renewal period is less than two years from the original date of licensure
- Individuals on active military duty
- Individuals with a physical disability that prevents one from practicing
- Individuals licensed by reciprocity that meet another state's CE requirements

**Must landscape architects submit a record of their courses with their renewal forms?** No, but maintain documentation for current and prior renewal periods in the event of an audit. LA's must sign an affidavit at the time of renewal attesting to completion of the requirement. Falsifying the affidavit is a violation of the Board's Code of Conduct and may result in fines, suspension or license revocation.

**How does the Board plan to verify completion of the requirement?** Random audits will occur at the end of each renewal period. The first audits will cover credits earned between November 1, 2005 and October 31, 2007. The audits will take place after November 1, 2007.

**What types of activities are accepted?** Activities that increase the registrant's knowledge and understanding of technical or professional subjects and that contribute directly to the improvement of the registrant's professional knowledge and competence. Teaching or publishing, with certain limitations, is also acceptable.

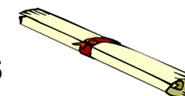
**What type of documentation should I maintain?** For audit purposes, retain, certificates of attendance, proof of completion and documentation of course content (e.g., agenda, outline, summary). An AIA transcript is also accepted. The AIA offers a record keeping service for non-members. There is a fee. Contact AIA/CES at 202-626-7478.

**What if I do not meet the requirement?** The board may issue a monetary fine, suspend, or revoke the individual's license.

**Do courses or providers require board prior authorization?** No, the board does not (pre)certify providers or programs. However, the board accepts, without additional stipulations, certified courses by creditable organizations (e.g., American Institute of Architects, American Society of Landscape Architects) provided the coursework directly relates to the individual's professional responsibilities.

## WE CONGRATULATE THESE RECENTLY OHIO LICENSED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

1102 Mikyoung Kim	1109 Paul Kissinger
1103 Jay Smith	1110 Travis Mathews
1104 Robert Mains	1111 Steven Middendorf
1105 Michael Rubino	1112 Marvin Briggs
1106 Ivan Valentic	1113 John Ware
1107 Brian Fridenmaker	1114 Lucinda Sanders
1108 Brian Hill	1115 Jennifer Larsen



## REGULATORY MATTERS

One way the Ohio Board of Landscape Architect Examiners fulfills its mission to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public is to enforce the state laws governing its profession's standards for education, experience, service, conduct, and practice requirements. All those registered in accordance to Chapters 4703.3 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code must follow the standards. It is the practice of the Board to publish violations of these statutes in the (this) newsletter. Below are recent actions:



### LA LICENSE REVOKED

File No. LA 04-01, Timothy J. Shepperd, Cert. No. 691, Dublin, Ohio

After an administrative hearing, the Board revoked Mr. Shepherd's certificate of qualification to practice landscape architecture because he paid his bi-annual renewal with a check that was returned due to insufficient funds. Despite many attempts to get Mr. Shepperd to honor his financial obligations, he failed to submit certified funds to the Board to replace his returned check. Mr. Shepherd's conduct was in violation of O.R.C. 4703.32 (A), 4703.41 (A), (B), (C), (F), 4703.45 (A) and O.A.C4703:1-1-04 (A), (B), 4703:1-3-04 (C) (4), (D) (1), (E) (3).

### LA FINED – LAPSED LICENSE

File No. LA 05-01, Joseph E. Looby, License # 856, Columbus, Ohio

After an investigation, the Board determined that Mr. Looby had allegedly provided landscape architectural services with a license that had lapsed in 1998. This is a violation of Ohio Revised Code sections 4703.32, 4703.331, 4703.41 and Ohio Administrative Code sections 4703-1-3-2. This matter Board reinstated the license upon completion of the NCARB "Professional Conduct" monograph and payment of a Board sanctioned \$500 fine.

---

---

## 2005 Board Meeting Calendar

Board meetings are open to the public  
All are encouraged and invited to attend

October 13, 9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting	Riffe Center, Columbus
December 1, 9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting	Riffe Center, Columbus

---

---

**Important News Affecting Exam Candidates** – A Resolution passed at the CLARB Annual Meeting in September affects candidates seeking to meet Council certification requirements; candidates with examination credit prior to 1992 must complete the examination process and become licensed prior to January 1, 2008. Candidates not meeting the requirements by that date will have to retake the LARE.

---

---

### CLARB (Remaining) 2005 & 2006 LARE Exam Schedule and Fees

November 14 Tentative red line review of June LARE graphic portions  
(Date will be included with mailing of June exam scores)

December 5-6	Graphic exam	Section C, E
April 4-5, 2006	Multiple Choice exam	Sections A, B, D
June 12-13, 2006	Graphic exam	Section C, E

**Exam Fees** – Section A-\$75, B-\$110, D-\$185-\$110, D-\$185 C-\$245, E-\$245

### CLARB Exam fees are subject to change after September 2006

October 3-4, 2006	Multiple Choice exam	Sections A, B, D
December 4-5, 2006	Graphic exam	Section C, E

---

---

**Fertile Ground** – This grass roots initiative seeks to create an inspirational, resourceful, and interactive bond between the landscape architectural academic and professional worlds.

The group is building a continuing, living resource of people who care about the profession, this includes present and past faculty, graduates, and professionals, – all of which are wellspring of knowledge, talent, and forward thinking that can be drawn upon by all. A conduit for learning and networking, this resource serves as an ongoing communication among professionals, educators, candidates, and friends.

The potential benefits of such a community are endless – a community, of information on innovative trends, technical developments, and inspirational design.

This movement is just beginning, for more information or to become involved, contact Sue Grant, ASLA, at [SueGrant@juno.com](mailto:SueGrant@juno.com), ASLA.

## KATRINA RESPONSE - STATUS REPORT FROM ASLA

The Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi ASLA chapter leadership recently participated in a conference call with national officers and staff to discuss immediate needs and longer-term recovery plans and issues. Imminent needs, particularly in Louisiana, continue to be providing food and shelter for evacuees and other victims. Financial contributions to local food banks, as well as to relief organizations like the Red Cross and Salvation Army are needed. ASLA Louisiana in particular is still in the process of trying to contact/locate members from areas most affected by the hurricane.

If you know of any members displaced from the hurricane that either have moved, temporarily or permanently, into your area, forward that information to Jennifer Collins at [jcollins@asla.org](mailto:jcollins@asla.org).

ASLA National has created a web "bulletin board" with offers of employment, space, equipment, etc., for displaced members. To post an offer, forward information to web editor Dave Connell at [dconnell@asla.org](mailto:dconnell@asla.org).

On Saturday, October 8, there was a meeting/open forum on disaster response/recovery in conjunction with the Fort Lauderdale annual meeting. The goals of the meeting were: 1) to share what's needed and what's being planned post-Katrina; and 2) to talk more broadly about the role of ASLA and the profession in disaster response/recovery. Chapter leaders and all interested members were invited to attend.

The Louisiana Chapter is planning a January or February symposium to bring together experts, chapters, schools, and others interested in assisting recovery efforts and to link schools, etc., with individual communities needing planning/recovery assistance. There has been a terrific outpouring of support and many offers of assistance coming in from schools, firms, and individual members. We are encouraging everyone to coordinate with the local chapter leaders to make sure efforts don't get duplicated. © 2005 OCASLA, 614.436.4431

As a post script, this article was written before Hurricane Rita caused additional damage to Louisiana and to Texas.

### Continuing Education Required for 2007-2008 Renewals

All Ohio registered design professionals, including Landscape Architects, Architects, Engineers and Surveyors now have a Continuing Education requirement. The requirements and deadlines vary by profession. Below are the guidelines for Landscape Architects:

**When will the requirement go into effect?** The first renewal period affected begins on November 1, 2005, and ends on October 31, 2007. Credits earned prior to November 1, 2005, will not be accepted.