

Drain Expenses

By: Melinda Sperl

Last year a customer told me that I was double the price of another landscaper on an estimate I did a while back. Because I was called back to this customer, I had to ask about the cheaper drain he had installed on the job that I had missed out on. While I only install a drain system constructed with solid PVC pipe, quality catch basins and sanitary angles to allow for removal of water from that yard for 20+ years, others were quoting half price to install a drain pipe that is perforated with a “sock” surrounding it. What is not said by this cheaper drain consultant is that this pipe will allow debris, plus tree and plant roots to penetrate that pipe then expand that pipe as they grow. The pipe then breaks leaving the homeowner with a totally useless drain system usually happening within 1-5 years.

I am a consumer too and I really understand expenses when I quote landscape jobs but I find that I just can't beat those cheaper guys nor can I cut the quality of our work. Remember that this customer called me back out after a year...

Happy Gardening!

Melinda Sperl is a Horticulturalist and the owner of Dream Landscape Design, Inc. You can reach Melinda at Melinda@dreamlandscapedesign.com or www.dreamlandscapedesign.com