

## **Consumer Comparison Checklist**

**All landscape lighting companies are not created equal. Be sure that when you compare price, you compare the quality of components, installation, and service.**

- Is the company licensed? The state of Florida requires an electrical license to install low voltage lighting. Contractors must at least have a limited energy license. This is not the same as an occupational license.
- Does the company have legal employees? Are they covered by workman's compensation? Can they provide you with proof? If not you could be sued if they are injured on your property.
- Does the company have liability insurance? Can they provide you with proof?
- Do they have references and photos of completed jobs you can look at?
- Are the fixtures made of quality materials, commercial grade solid brass, copper or 100% cast aluminum?
- Do the fixtures have a ¼ " thick tempered glass lenses with a protective moisture barrier?
- Do the fixtures utilize a high quality stainless steel outdoor socket? What is the manufacturers warranty on the socket? (Often manufacturers will put a long warranty on the fixture but only one year or less on the socket)
- Do the fixtures use an efficient yet powerful halogen MR-16 lamp? What is the expected life of the bulb? How much are replacements? (Be sure to check on the price of the bulb and the service call.)
- Do the fixtures have an insect barrier?
- Does the manufacturer provide at least a twenty-year warranty? (Be sure the warranty includes the socket as this is often the part of the fixture to fail.)
- Is the transformer specifically designed for landscape lighting? (Not a converted swimming pool transformer)
- Are the transformers UL and CE 1838 rated?  
(Landscape lighting wet location)
- Is the transformer enclosed in stainless steel? Do the transformers come with a lifetime warranty?
- Is the transformer multi-tap 12, 13 and 14 volts simultaneously?  
(Compensates for voltage drop and allows lamps to illuminate equally over long distances)
- Do the transformers have multiple circuit breakers? (One for each zone)
- Does the transformer utilize digital timer? Do the clocks have to be reset every time the power goes out or do they have a battery backup?
- Does the transformer have a factory installed power cord?
- Is the cable 10 and 12 gauge UL listed landscape lighting cable?
- Are all connections stainless steel and waterproof to prevent corrosion?
- Is the system designed and installed by factory-trained professionals?
- Does the installation accommodate for change and growth in the landscape? How?
- Is the installation itself warranted? For how long?
- Does the company offer maintenance programs? What services are provided and what is the cost?