



- Professionalism & Networking
  - Knowledge & Awareness
    - Business Benefits
- Industry Certification
  - Education & Training
    - Legislative Advocacy



# What is the Rhode Island Nursery & Landscape Association?

The Rhode Island Nursery & Landscape Association, which represents a \$2.5 billion industry in Rhode Island, is one of the leading voices throughout the state for green industry.

RINLA's six hundred green industry members include wholesale and retail nurseries, garden centers, landscape contractors, arborists, masons, landscape architects, landscape designers, green engineers, compost/mulch manufacturers, fruit/ vegetable growers, suppliers and allied businesses.

RINLA members are professionals who take pride in their work and uphold the highest standards in horticulture, environmental practices and land stewardship. RINLA is also dedicated to the development and implementation of programs that provide skilled and licensed workers and contribute to the well-being of Rhode Island's communities and environment.

## Why should I become a member?

As a member of RINLA, you and your company will enjoy the advantages of our many services and activities. Our office is staffed full time during business hours and will function as an important extension of your business. We exist to serve your interests in government relations, education and training, promotions and public relations, professional certifications, networking, research, and much more.

# Join RINLA today at rinla.org

#### Or contact the RINLA office at 401-874-5220 or executivedirector@rinla.org

Rhode Island Nursery & Landscape Association PO Box 984, West Kingston, RI 02892

# RINLA RHODE ISLAND NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION



Join the most influential organization for promoting and supporting green industry professionals in Rhode Island.

# The top 10 reasons to join RINLA

**Increase Awareness of Your Business** RINLA's website has current information on its member businesses, making it easy for potential customers to find you and learn what your company does. Our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages are another "public face" of our organization.

2 Increase Awareness of the Profession RINLA'S website offers information on the organization – its history, its activities, and its vision for the future. Also, RINLA provides and participates in a variety of venues throughout the year where member business can interface with the public.

**B Protect the Environment** RINLA businesses are at the forefront of efforts to increase awareness about good landscape stewardship practices. The association's members will continue to explore new territory in sustainable agriculture and livable communities.



### **4** Professional Certifications and Continuing Education

RINLA has recently revamped and expanded the Rhode Island Certified Horticulturist program (RICH), which promotes the

highest ethical standards, increased professional skills, and continuing education in horticulture through current research-based horticultural information and practices. RINLA also offers opportunities to earn continuing education credits for pesticide applicator licensing.

#### Networking Opportunities

RINLA members have many opportunities to meet and network with peers and allied professionals at RINLA-sponsored events including monthly Twilight Meetings held at member businesses to highlight new and important topics that matter to your business success; also, the annual Winter Meeting & Expo, and other seminars and meetings throughout the year.

#### National and Local Outreach

RINLA is a member of both AmericanHort and the National Association of Landscape Professionals, which focus on federal legislation and national issues to build a more informed and proactive industry. On the local level, RINLA is Rhode Island's green industry voice in legislative and regulatory issues providing testimony regarding matters affecting the

green industry in Rhode Island.

Our lobbyist at the State House and other RINLA representatives regularly meet with state and local legislators to address current and future legislation relating to green industry and RINLA member businesses.

#### Workforce Development

To train and retain the next generation of green industry professionals, RINLA has developed the first in the nation multi-employer Registered Apprenticeship program for agriculture and plant-based industry, and the Growing Futures RI program leading to job placement and career opportunities with living wages. A new Associate Degree at CCRI and Career Catalyst entry level "boot camp" will assist students and future employees in training for careers in the landscape industry and provide member companies with trained, skilled workers.



8 Newsletter & Social Media Keep up-to-date on RINLA members and events, and read articles on topics of interest to the green industry in the quarterly newsletter. You will also receive email blasts and Facebook postings on RINLA news and activities.

**9 100+ Years of Horticultural Tradition** Since 1919, RINLA has been dedicated to promoting the highest professional standards (horticulture, licenses, certification, insurance, etc.) and also provides our members with many ways to further develop their professional skills and network with other green industry professionals.

### Staying Relevant and at the Cutting Edge

RINLA members will continue to play a vital and integral role in a sustainable Rhode Island addressing issues of nutrient management, water use and restrictions, business taxation, right to farm, invasive species, seasonal employees, and more.