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**Statement of Objectives
for
Landscaping/Grounds Maintenance Services
Revised on July 29, 2009**

1 Purpose

The purpose of this contract is to obtain landscaping/grounds maintenance services to achieve and maintain a clean, neat and professional standard at the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL) year round.

2 Scope

The Contractor shall provide all supervision, administrative and technical support, labor, tools, transportation, materials, supplies and equipment, and shall plan, schedule, coordinate and assure effective completion of all services described herein.

2.1 Grounds

The grounds at the USACIL consist of approximately three (3) acres of Bermuda grass and shall be properly maintained free of weeds with the proper seasonal fertilization applications. Services shall be conducive to seasonal requirements. The Contractor shall determine how often the work is to be performed, how much labor is needed to perform the tasks, what methods will be used to complete the job and which supplies, materials and equipment are needed.

2.2 Basic Services

Basic services include: grass cutting, trimming, edging, tree and shrub pruning, mulching, fertilization, grassing, turf and bed weed control, parking lot and unconditioned areas (North lot) weed control, insect and disease control, leaf and debris removal, perennial cutback, plating of seasonal flowers, aeration, and winter visits.

3 Objectives

The Contractor shall perform on a continuous cycle, throughout the year, to maintain evenly cut green grass, neatly trimmed and edged; weed-free grass and weed-free beds of healthy, correctly pruned, fertilized, cultivated, mulched plants and flowers; straight standing, mulched, healthy trees free of insects and disease; and grounds free of leaves, pine cones, needles, straw, and other debris. The grounds shall reflect an overall well-manicured appearance.

3.1 Grass Cutting

All grassed areas shall remain at a uniform height Approx 1½-2 inches. Grass cutting is to be accomplished free of scalping, rutting, bruising, and uneven and rough cutting. No grass trimmings shall be left in any of the beds or in the courtyards. Sidewalks shall be swept or vacuumed free of any resulting dirt and debris.

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3.2 Trimming

Trimming operations shall be considered a part of grass cutting and grass cutting will not be considered complete until all trimming operations are accomplished. Grass and weeds shall not be permitted to grow above the ground cover; therefore, all ground cover plants shall be kept trimmed from borders, sidewalks, streets and/or parking areas.

3.3 Edging

Edging shall also be considered a part of grass cutting and grass cutting will not be considered complete until all edging operations are accomplished. All sidewalks, driveways, street edges, curbs, and other paved areas shall be edged to maintain a clear zone immediately adjacent to the paved surface. Edged lines shall be neat and clean, providing a clear zone free of scalping, rutting, bruising, and uneven and rough cutting. Extreme care shall be exercised to prevent damage to concrete during the edging process.

3.4 Tree and Shrub Pruning

3.4.1 Tree Pruning

The Contractor shall prune all trees as necessary to keep the lowest limbs 7 feet above ground level. This includes any broken limbs resulting from, but not limited to, ice or snow storms, winds and rain. All cut or fallen limbs shall be hauled away by the Contractor.

Contractor shall paint tree wounds that are larger than 1 inch in diameter with tree wound paint.

3.4.2 Shrub Pruning

The Contractor shall prune all shrubs removing dead, diseased, or damaged branches. Dead shrubs shall be removed and any stumps cut below ground level and the remaining holes covered with dirt.

3.5 Mulching

Shrubs, hedges, and flowerbeds shall be mulched, by the Contractor, as necessary to maintain a healthy appearance. All bed edging shall be realigned as needed. Mulch in bed areas, such as wood bark chips, pine straw, etc., shall be well groomed after cultivation.

3.6 Fertilization

The Contractor shall ensure that correct soil conditions are maintained for each tree, shrub, flower, grass or plant in order to promote optimum growth, correct environment, and obvious good health for the species of plant.

Fertilizer used shall contain the appropriate nutrients and shall not be offensive to the smell. Fertilizer shall be delivered in the original, unopened containers bearing the manufacturer's chemical analysis, name, trade name, trademark, and indication of conformance to state and federal laws. In lieu of containers, fertilizer may be furnished in bulk if accompanied by a certificate indicating the above information with each delivery.

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3.7 Grassing

The Contractor shall periodically re-seed or re-sod bare or thinning spots in the turf (up to 10 square feet) to maintain uniform appearance to the surrounding area.

3.8 Turf and Bed Weed Control

The property shall be maintained weed-free by the Contractor, with special focus on entrances and other high-visibility areas. The Contractor shall apply herbicides to kill all weeds, wild onions and other foreign grasses in all areas of the property, including grass and weeds in parking areas or paved walkways around building.

Trees shall be sprayed to control common bark beetle and other damaging insects. Herbicides shall be applied to eradicate pre-emergence, post-emergence, and broadleaf weed. Contractor shall replace all plant(s), tree(s), etc. damaged or killed as a result of using herbicides with plant(s), tree(s), etc. of equal species and size, at no additional cost to the Government.

3.8.1 Control Methods

The Contractor shall utilize only herbicides registered by the EPA and applicable state lead agency for the use intended. Use shall be in strict compliance with label directions for the control of the target weeds. Any proposed changes in approved herbicide usage shall be submitted for approval at least five (5) working days in advance of the anticipated need.

3.8.2 Herbicide Use Records

The Contractor shall maintain records of all herbicide usage on a Contractor provided form. This form shall be filled out as weed control operations are performed, and all entries must be available upon request for inspection.

3.9 Insect and Disease Control

The Contractor shall implement a continuous program and provide services necessary for the control and eradication of insects to include ants in the unconditioned area on the North area of the site, using only those pesticides that comply with the provisions of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Pesticide Control Act of 1972, Public Law 92516, and the regulations issued there under. Contractor personnel performing these services shall be licensed pest control technicians.

The Contractor does not have the responsibility for the control of disease; however, in his/her observation of the trees, shrubs and grass, the Contractor shall note the presence of such disease and shall immediately report same to the COTR and CO.

3.10 Leaf and Debris Removal

As necessary to maintain a clean, neat appearance, the Contractor shall rake up and haul away all dead leaves and limbs as well as other debris located on the property. The Contractor shall also sweep all driveways, parking areas and sidewalks where grass trimmings are evident and remove grass trimmings and other debris from the property.

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3.11 Perennial Cutback

The Contractor shall cutback perennials at the end of their season to prevent bugs and promote healthy flowering the next season.

3.12 Aeration

The Contractor shall perform aeration of turf at commercially acceptable times of the year to promote optimum growth of grass and grass seed.

3.13 Winter Visits

The Contractor shall inspect the grounds and remove leaves and other debris. The Contractor is not responsible for snow removal or ice treatments to the property.

3.14 Seasonal Color Plantings

The Contractor shall plant seasonal colored and flowering plants on either side of the front entrance.

4 Period of Performance

The period of performance for this effort is a base of one (1) year and four (4) option years.

5 Place of Performance

4930 N 31st Street
Forest Park, GA 30297

6 Background

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory, located at Fort Gillem, Georgia.

7 Constraints

7.1 Base Requirements

The Contractor and all personnel shall abide by the following Base requirements:

- No firearms
- Vehicle may be checked
- Contractor personnel shall have valid federal or state issued IDs
- Cell phone use is permitted, but hands-free devices must be used while in operation of motorized vehicles and equipment
- All Contractor equipment and personnel shall enter the base through Flankers Gate located on Flankers Rd.
- Any other requirements received upon entry to the base

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7.2 Environmental Requirements

The Contractor and all personnel shall abide by the following environmental requirements:

- Material safety data sheets (MSDS) shall be provided to the COTR
- Company, individual licenses, chemical formulation documentation, and amounts on weed control and fertilizer shall be provided to the COTR before application

7.3 Damage to grounds and property

The Contractor shall be responsible for all damage to government and occupant personal property as the result of the Contractor, Contractor personnel, and equipment used by Contractor or Contractor personnel.