

## FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT

## **BU.S. LAWNS®**

U.S. LAWNS, INC.
A Florida Corporation
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U.S. LAWNS franchisees will operate a business to provide landscape maintenance and related services to commercial and residential customers.

The total investment necessary to begin operation of a U.S. LAWNS Standard Franchise is \$59,500 to \$141,300. This includes \$40,000 to \$54,000 that must be paid to us or our affiliates. For honorably discharged veterans the total is \$54,500 to \$136,300 including \$35,000 to \$49,000 that must be paid to us or our affiliates. The total investment necessary to begin operation of a U.S. LAWNS Conversion Franchise is \$40,800 to \$91,300. This includes \$30,000 to \$44,000 that must be paid to us or our affiliates. The total investment necessary to begin operation of a U.S. LAWNS Small Conversion Franchise is \$45,800 to \$96,300. This includes \$35,000 to \$49,000 that must be paid to us or our affiliates.

If you are an existing franchisee and meet our then-current criteria, you are eligible to enter into an Area Development Agreement with us to develop between one and three U.S. LAWNS Landscape Businesses. The total investment necessary to enter into an Area Development Agreement is \$11,500 to \$72,000. This includes \$8,500 to \$66,000 that must be paid to us or our affiliates.

This disclosure document summarizes certain provisions of your franchise agreement and other information in plain English. Read this disclosure document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive this disclosure document at least 14 calendar-days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to, the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale. **Note, however, that no governmental agency has verified the information contained in this document.** 

You may wish to receive your Disclosure Document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, contact Pam Dolan at the above address and telephone number.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Do not rely on the disclosure document alone to understand your contract. Read all of your contract carefully. Show your contract and this disclosure document to an advisor, like a lawyer or an accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this disclosure document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as "A Consumer's Guide to Buying a Franchise", which can help you understand how to use this disclosure document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission. You can contact the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C.20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at <a href="www.ftc.gov">www.ftc.gov</a> for additional information on franchising.



There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

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## **How to Use This Franchise Disclosure Document**

Here are some questions you may be asking about buying a franchise and tips on how to find more information:

QUESTION	WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION	
How much can I earn?	Item 19 may give you information about outlet sales, costs, profits or losses. You should also try to obtain this information from others, like current and former franchisees. You can find their names and contact information in Item 20 or Exhibit D.	
How much will I need to invest?	Items 5 and 6 list fees you will be paying to the franchisor or at the franchisor's direction. Item 7 lists the initial investment to open. Item 8 describes the suppliers you must use.	
Does the franchisor have the financial ability to provide support to my business?	Item 21 or Exhibit A includes financial statements. Review these statements carefully.	
Is the franchise system stable, growing, or shrinking?	Item 20 summarizes the recent history of the number of company-owned and franchised outlets.	
Will my business be the only U.S. LAWNS business in my area?	Item 12 and the "territory" provisions in the franchise agreement describe whether the franchisor and other franchisees can compete with you.	
Does the franchisor have a troubled legal history?	Items 3 and 4 tell you whether the franchisor or its management have been involved in material litigation or bankruptcy proceedings.	
What's it like to be a U.S. LAWNS franchisee?	Item 20 or Exhibit D lists current and former franchisees. You can contact them to ask about their experiences.	
What else should I know?	These questions are only a few things you should look for. Review all 23 Items and all Exhibits in this disclosure document to better understand this franchise opportunity. See the table of contents.	

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