



# Ruppert Landscape Forms Internal Software Development Team

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*Laytonsville, MD* – Ruppert Landscape is pleased to announce the addition of a software development team within the company’s IT department. This team will be led by **Emil Saweros** and team members will include **Melanie Halsey, Luke Ardizzone** and **Jordan Marshall**.

“This is an exciting step for our growing IT team, positioning us to deliver better custom solutions through their full life cycle and take advantage of the increased opportunity that specialized software can provide,” said director of IT, **Dan Spruill**. “Our recently enhanced Ruppert mobile app with embedded communication solutions as well as our new web-based cost collection/allocation system have been major contributors to business operations and have paved the way for the creation of this specialized team dedicated to the success of our future software development efforts.”

**Emil Saweros**, a six-year Ruppert employee with over 20 years of combined IT experience, was selected to lead the software development team and was subsequently promoted from software developer to director of software development. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Cairo University and a master’s degree in computer science from Loyola University, and is currently studying to obtain a doctoral degree in information technology (D.Sc.) at Towson University. His doctoral thesis will focus on big data, data visualization, and mobile and web development. In addition, he holds two degrees in computer programming and networking and is a Microsoft Certified Solution Developer and Applications Developer (MCSD/MCAD). In 2015, he was honored with the company’s Corporate Impact Award for his outstanding contributions and dedication to the organization. As director of software development, he will be responsible for leading the software development team and managing the creation, delivery and support of software projects. He currently resides in Frederick, MD with his wife, Sherin, who is expecting their second child in August, and their son, Daniel.

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**Melanie Halsey**, a 10-year Ruppert employee, has been promoted from systems support to software support manager. During her tenure at Ruppert, she has garnered varied experience through positions in the landscape management division, accounting and payroll departments, and most recently, in IT. As software support manager, she will be responsible for working with the software development team to plan, test, roll out, and provide ongoing support for all new software applications. Halsey resides in Frederick, MD with her husband, Doug, and their daughters, Brooke and Brynn.

**Luke Ardizzone**, a resident of Derwood, MD, has been hired as software developer. He will graduate this year from the University of Maryland Baltimore County with a bachelor's degree in computer science and has interned with Ruppert's IT department during summer/winter breaks for the last four years. As software developer, he will be responsible for designing, coding and testing new software applications; maintaining existing software systems; participating in project estimation and scheduling; creating technical specifications and test plans; and creating and delivering data-driven reports.

**Jordan Marshall**, a resident of Frederick, MD has been hired as technical writer. She holds a bachelor's degree in Arabic/Global Governance and Conflict from Hood College and is fluent in Spanish and Arabic. As technical writer, she will be responsible for preparing instruction manuals and other supporting documentation in order to communicate technical information to end-users.

"We're extremely proud of the innovative solutions that our IT team is producing, always with an eye towards providing better service for our people and our customers," said company president, **Phil Key**. "I look forward to seeing the technological advancements performed by our newly formed software development team."

**Ruppert Landscape**, a family and employee-owned business, provides commercial landscape construction and management with 20 branches serving eight primary markets in Philadelphia, Baltimore, D.C., Richmond, Raleigh, Charlotte, Atlanta and Houston. The company has a long-standing tradition of growing its team and giving back to the community. Visit us at [www.ruppertlandscape.com](http://www.ruppertlandscape.com).

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