



AUGUST 2011 NEWSLETTER

Professional Landscape Management

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www.AssetLandscaping.com

FINAL THROES OF SUMMER

We like to think summer is winding down because the Monsoons are coming and going with the humidity but we still have a couple of months left.

Having said that, let's consider the time of year and how it affects your landscape. All plants and turf have been heavily relying on artificial irrigation and will continue for a month or more. While the cities claim the water is safe for you and I, some of the things in the water are not good for your landscape. High PH, Chlorine, Sodium, and the list goes on. All of these things negatively affect your landscape but the water is needed to live too. What can you do? Fortunately the desert has some natural remedies for this. About the time your plants and trees are beginning to look neglected, along come the monsoon rains. Rain washes the soil profile clean so all of those ingredients are washed down and clean (somewhat) water is absorbed by the soil and plants. This also allows the important minerals to be absorbed by plant life. This is one contributing factor to the Sage blooming. This also improves the health of all of the plants. Unfortunately it germinates weeds too!

Yes, here comes weed season. Even with pre-emergent, we are going to have weeds. This is just a fact of life. You have been given fair warning. These will be treated with systemic post emergent or manually removed or both.

Fall is within sight even if we are just dreaming about it!

THIS MONTH IN LANDSCAPING

On our web site at www.AssetLandscaping.com, you will find a link to our landscape planner outlining areas that are common to focus on each month. Also check out the archived newsletters for additional timely information. Asset Landscaping is often requested to provide articles for local, regional and national publications. Many of these are archived on our Newsletter page as well. Please contact us if you would like an article for your publication.

Toward the end of last month, the last of the Winter Rye grass went away along with any thoughts of cool temperatures. For this reason, some shaded areas are patchy or bare. Because Bermuda grass needs 8 hours of direct sunlight, shaded areas are a struggle for Bermuda. Remedies are, eliminating the shade such as tree pruning or removal, planting a more shade tolerant grass such as St. Augustine however it should not be overseeded and has such a different texture compared to common Bermuda. The other option is to convert this area to granite. Now is the perfect time to do this.



August is time to pre-emerge the granite areas. This is the best time to get the rain needed to activate the chemicals. While not 100% effective, it sure makes a huge difference!

Fertilizing the turf for the last time before scalping season will take place. Low nitrogen but high in nutrients for healthy roots is important. Queen Palms should be fertilized at this time as well for the best results.

It is time to make the decision on winter lawns. To overseed or not, that is the question. If you do not overseed, apply pre-emergent to the turf to reduce winter weeds in the turf.

~ BACKFLOW INSPECTIONS ~

Need your backflows inspected? We can provide that service now! With this service electronic reporting will be included with the backflow serial numbers for your records. Contact us when it is time for your required backflow inspections!

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

Contact us for your introduction to maintenance practices that will enhance your property and your bottom line using maintenance standards adopted by the Arizona Landscape Contractors Association. AZLCA.COM



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