



OCTOBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

Professional Landscape Management

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FALL IS THE SEASON

Fall came without much fanfare or even evidence. We have only just come out of record or near record temperatures. Plants have seen a little relief from cooler nights and mornings however it is still not uncommon to see stressing plants and this will continue for a while.

Many plants are simply sunburned such as Myrtle, Natal Plum, and Privet while others have suffered from the high soil temperatures such as Lantana, Rosemary, many non-native trees.

The sunburned plants are a fairly simple yet sometimes tedious to remedy. Taking the time to cut out sunburned areas and even remove brown leaves will normally allow the plant to fill in over time and retain the original shape. Lantana should be renovated to allow new green growth to sprout and it will be blooming quickly. Rosemary on the other hand is somewhat delicate. The tiny leaf structure only exists on the outer top side of the plant. The remaining plant is very woody. Even though these take longer to grow back, they can be completely renovated or cut some of the dead out of them. They will eventually fill in if proper conditions exist.

Trees can be fertilized but that is only effective while they are actively growing. Deep root fertilization is a very effective way to give stressed trees that extra boost any time of the growing season. This can be very cost effective per tree.

Winter Rye is being planted and will also be fertilized about the time of the first mowing. If superior looking turf is your goal, a pre and post emergent treatment for weeds will help keep many weeds suppressed.

~ 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!



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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.

Winter Rye grass is being planted now. Irrigation will be running short intervals to keep the new seed wet until it germinates. When seed is allowed to dry after it is exposed to moisture, it become sterile. Please keep an eye out for irrigation problems during this time so we are able to remedy them quickly.



Once the roots of the new grass will hold onto the soil enough that the mower will not pull them out, the first cut will be made. The grass will most likely be over 2" at that time. Shortly following the first mow, fertilizer will be applied to encourage root growth and green up the blades.

An additional application will be made to ensure that the first frost does not rob the new turf of nutrients and turn yellow. Ok, talking about frost seems so unlikely at this point!

Winter flowers will be planted this month as well. Winter color is so much more dramatic than the summer color since it is generally too harsh for flowers in the summer.

October is a great month for planting new shrubs and trees. The weather is cooler and the winter will give them time to develop good root structure before the following summer. Renovation of large shrubs will begin this month as well. When shrubs are too large, they need to be renovated to start their growth again from the ground.

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

Asset Landscaping is one of the first companies to have people certified in Sustainable Landscape Management. The certification is "Certified Sustainable Landscape Management Professional".