

Texas Rural Living—Landscape & Irrigation

May Newsletter

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE...

Hello Friends

I hope this finds you all doing well and having a great spring. As you can already tell, we are busy as always, just like you. My apologies for not getting the newsletter to you on the 1st. I don't think I got to sit down at my desk until Saturday morning...the 1st! Every once in a while we do take a small break and try to evaluate the progress we are making and the quality of our work. If you see something that needs attention, let me know.

As we start to move into the summer months and we all start getting busier than we already are, feel free to let the office know when you and your family will be gone or may be having guests over for the weekend or a party. We will try to accommodate your schedules best we can, allowing you to have a more relaxing summer; enjoying your time with family and friends.

By the way, if you've missed a newsletter or would like to look at a past newsletter again, go to our website and click on the newsletter link.

Take care and enjoy this beautiful spring weather!

From my desk...

Clint

Clint D. Tunnell
President/LI 15510

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...

Pre-emergent Herbicide...

A pre-emergent is a herbicide that does not allow seeds to germinate. To control weeds successfully, properly timing the pre-emergent herbicide application is the key. Pre-emergent herbicides only work if they are applied to your lawn before the weed's growth period begins. The 2010 Turf Plan offers 3 pre-emergent applications, February, April and Sep-

tember. These application are intended to control the onset of weeds for early spring, summer and fall. If a seed has already germinated, a pre-emergent herbicide will not affect that weed. In this case a post-emergent application may be needed.



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Special points of interest:

- May 28th: Graduation

Be sure to check with your local school for their commencement exercise times and locations.

Inside this issue:

What Does That Mean	1
Lawn Maintenance Information	2
Landscape Information	2
Irrigation Conversation	2
Helpful Hints	3
Services Provided/Irrigation Diagnostics	3
Graduation Quotes	4

LAWN MAINTENANCE NEWS...

GRUBWORMS—

We are getting to that time of year that grubs worms can become a problem. Grub worms have had a great year and we are beginning to see signs of them already this spring in our landscaping work. Don't wait until the damage has been done to treat for grub worms. Brown patches or even sometimes yellow spots in the yard can be a sign of grub worms. They will eat away on the root zone of the turf grass, causing it to stress and in some cases die. If you feel you may have a problem with grub worms or to have your turf and landscape evaluated, please call the office.



LANDSCAPE INFORMATION...

AGAPANTHUS (Lily of the Nile)—

Agapanthus is a rapid grower that forms a clump of arching strap-like leaves. From its glossy green leaves, an long erect stem emerges, bearing dark violet pom-pom flower heads that reach 3 feet or taller. The

graceful plant is perfect in containers, or grown to edge a fence or wall. It is well-suited to mass plantings as it naturalizes easily. Agapanthus attracts bees, birds and butterflies and is a very low maintenance landscape plant.



IRRIGATION CONVERSATION...

WATER USAGE REPORT—

With permission from Tony & Brenda Eubanks, I would like to update you on the savings they have experienced with their recent irrigation upgrades and improvements.

During November 2008 we changed out all of their sprinkler heads with the pressure reducing heads that I have mentioned in previous newsletters. This upgrade reduced the pressure at the head thus eliminating the waste of water due to atomizing, allowing more of the water be-

ing sprayed to actually be used. With the help of City Secretary Pam Harvey, we ran an Audit History of the Eubank's water account to see if the upgrades proved successful.

From January to December 2008 the water usage report showed 332,900 gallons were used. During January to December 2009 the water usage report showed 244,200 gallons used. The irrigation schedule that was used from both 2008 & 2009 did not change, giving us pretty accurate information. This is a water savings of 88,700 gallons. Now for the

important part to the homeowner, this calculates to a savings of \$383.37 for the year.

We have also installed an Rain Bird Smart Clock, as mentioned in previous newsletters, to their system last October. We are anxious to see the water savings this next fall with this upgrade as well. Stay tuned...and give us a call to perform an audit on your system and let us help you conserve water and save money.



HELPFUL HINTS AROUND THE YARD...

LANDSCAPE RENOVATIONS—(this article was in our last newsletter but I think it is worth repeating)

Have you ever remodeled the kitchen? How about changing the color of the walls in the living room or bedroom. Are your towels in the bathroom the same color as they've always been or have you changed them to stay with the current trends? Many people love to keep the inside of their homes updated and fresh...but often forget that the outside might need attention as well.

If you watch HGTV...and we are all guilty of it, you have probably heard many times that paint is an inexpensive way to

make a great change in the appearance of any home.

There are also inexpensive ways to update your landscape without having to take your existing plant life out and start with a new design. For example, taking out over grown shrubs and replacing them with smaller, fresher looking plants makes a huge difference. Also, blending some of the dated landscape with more of the current trends in landscaping can give your home more curb appeal without draining your bank account.

On one of our properties, we recently took out two over grown shrubs that

were around 20 years old. We left the remaining landscape just as it was and installed a variety of ornamental grasses in place of the shrubs we removed. This drastically changed the appearance of the property, gave it a new look and the homeowner loved the fact that they didn't have to start over; just do some 'landscape renovations'. Give us a call and let TRL 'renovate' your existing landscape this spring!

SERVICES PROVIDED TO OUR CUSTOMERS...

The following is a list of services provided by Texas Rural Living. If you have a project but do not see it on the list, please contact us.

- Lawn Maintenance**
- Landscape Design**
- Landscape Installation**
- Landscape Maintenance**

- Landscape Renovations & Updates**
- Irrigation Design**
- Irrigation Installation**
- Irrigation Repair and Maintenance**
- Irrigation Retrofits for water conservation**
- Ornamental & Turf Plant Pest Control**
- Winter Clean Up and Leaf Removal**
- Holiday Lighting**



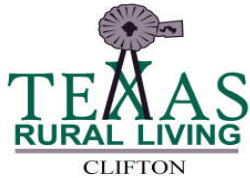
IRRIGATION DIAGNOSTICS



Even with above average rainfall this winter, spring is an excellent time to have your irrigation system checked to make sure it is working properly and efficiently. If you have not gotten on the irrigation diagnostics test list during the months of March and April, be sure to do so during May so that when it does stop raining...like it always does...we can help maintain that beautiful lawn and landscape. Irrigation Diagnostics Tests are FREE and we will be happy to give you an estimate of any repairs that may need to be done. Help conserve water and save MONEY!



May Newsletter



A *professional* lawn, landscape & irrigation company goes beyond taking over a chore that the property owner does not want to perform.

A *professional* company looks forward to a long-term working partnership - with the property owner - to create a property to be proud of and enjoyed, for years to come.

WE ARE A PROFESSIONAL COMPANY.

DID IT FREEZE IN APRIL...?

According to an old wives tale, if it thunders in February it will freeze in April. Well...I marked it down on my calendar at the office. Monday, February 8, 2010...did you hear it thunder? Even though the temperature did not drop to 32 on the 8th of April, the temperature did fall back into the 30's on the 8th of April...maybe they do know what they are talking about.

GRADUATION TIME...

May is always a very special month for a lot of people. Students, both in high school and college get the chance to reflect on their hard work over the past years and take time to get recognition for what they have achieved. Here are a few good quotes that should be shared with all graduates.

“Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is not path and leave a trail.” —Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.” —Henry David Thoreau

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” —Eleanor Roosevelt

“Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with the loss of enthusiasm.” —Winston Churchill

“Go for it now...the future is promised to no one.” —Wayne Dyer

“All of our dreams can come true...if we have the courage to pursue them.” —Walt Disney

“If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it.” —William Arthur Ward

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” —Nelson Mandela

“Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.” —Robert Louis Stevenson

“If opportunity doesn't knock...build a door.” —Milton Berle

Remember that it is also our responsibility to make sure that this year's graduates are successful. Be sure to continue to motivate these individuals and continue to encourage them as they began their journey towards their success.

YOU ARE APPRECIATED!
