

# Texas Rural Living—Landscape & Irrigation

## October Newsletter

### A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE...

Hello Friends:

Well here we are once again, awaiting yet another season change. Change...that is probably one statement over the course of the last several political years that we've all grown to dislike...but you know...change does happen and some changes are for the better.

If you watch the Weather Channel, as I do most every day, you will have noticed that they are already giving the Fall Color Change maps for this autumn season. That is one change that we all enjoy. Have you ever taken the time on Sunday afternoon to just go for a simple drive through out Bosque County? With our rolling hills and tall grass prairie within this county, we too have a spectacular Fall Color Change map...its just not broadcast on national TV...and I'm glad for that.

We often think of fall as a time of winding down and coming to a stop until next year. While it is a good time to look back at the year and see what things you have been able to accomplish and what has changed in your life, it is also a good time to start planning ahead for the busy holiday season and the even for the new year ahead.

Embrace the change of the seasons and enjoy the beauty of what's around us.

From my desk...

*Clint*

Clint D. Tunnell

President/LI 15510

### HOLIDAY LIGHTING...

As you know, the holiday season is just around the corner. With that comes the joy of sharing special moments and making memories with family and friends, but also the addition of the time consuming tasks of preparing your home and property for the holiday season.

Last year Texas Rural Living embarked on the new journey of providing holiday lighting services and was met with overwhelming success. We all, whether admitting it or not, find a sense of nostalgia when pulling the holiday boxes down out of the attic and go-

ing through memories of holidays past and looking forward to the holidays in the future. There is something about flipping on the switch of holiday lights for the first time each season that can bring a grown person back to their childhood in seconds.

We can provide simple holiday lighting installations to more complex and diverse installations meeting the seasonal desires of our customer.

Give the office a call to discuss holiday lighting on your property and to develop a plan that can be enjoyed not only this year...but for years to come.



603 North Highway 6  
Clifton, Texas 76634  
(254) 675-3934  
texasruralliving@embarqmail.com  
www.texasruralliving.com



Volume 2, Issue 8

October 1, 2010

*Special points of interest:*

Clifton Main Street Fall Fest Celebration

3rd weekend in October

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## LAWN MAINTENANCE NEWS...

As summer turns to fall, please keep in mind that the last week of October concludes the 2010 seasonal lawn maintenance services. We will again provide maintenance to your property the weeks prior to Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you have any further maintenance requests, please feel free to contact the office.

We thank you for your patronage and business during this past lawn maintenance season and look forward to continuing our relationship during 2011. During 2010 we implemented several new services to our lawn maintenance division and are beginning to see the results. The Turf Plan was a major accomplishment this year and the overall turf quality on the properties that we maintain has increased tremendously. As we begin to move into the 2011 season, I will keep you updated on what we will have to offer for your property during next years season as well as new ideas for the upcoming year. Stay tuned...



## LANDSCAPE INFORMATION...

### AGASTACHE:

Agastache is known to be a great butterfly and hummingbird plant. Its ease of maintenance and its drought tolerance make it a wonderful plant for the landscape. There are numerous varieties available ranging from pink, to blue and even orange. Agastache grows best in full sun

and dry conditions. It ranges in size from 18" to 36" tall and wide. Agastache is also a deer resistant plant and will bloom for about 20 weeks through out the growing season. It makes an excellent accent plant when used with Black-eyed Susans and the Knock Out roses.



'Apricot' Agastache

## IRRIGATION CONVERSATION...

### FALL WATERING SCHEDULES:

Over the course of the next several weeks we will be coming by adjusting your irrigation control clock for fall settings. This is an important step in the management of your lawn and landscape by helping conserve water and save you money.

simple repair. If any major repairs are needed, such as a valve not coming on or a major leak in the system, we will notify you of the problem and give you an estimate of the repairs before we complete them.

We will also run a diagnostics test on your system while we are there to check out the system and make sure that everything is working properly. A broken lateral pipe or busted head can be a costly problem when compared to the cost of a

If you are not sure if you are on our Property Irrigation Information sheet, give the office a call or email and we will let you know if you are already on the list or we will be happy to add you.



## HELPFUL HINTS AROUND THE YARD...

Since Halloween falls at the end of this month, make your home a treat to visit. Before the ghosts and goblins ring your door bell, give your stoop a quick safety check.

Move any wax candles, even those inside the jack-o-lanterns, away from steps and doors. This will help prevent any costumes from coming into contact with the open flame.

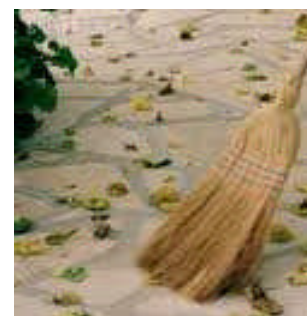
Just for the night, move any flower pots, sprinklers, waters hose etc. from the yard to the garage to help prevent any tripping hazards as the children make they way to the door.

Keep leaves swept from porches and sidewalks. They can become slippery when wet

and could cause someone, including yourself, to fall.

Also this month, October 3-9 is Fire Prevention Week. To save your home from a dangerous flare-up, follow these tips: Clean lint from your dryer after each load, keep flammables like drapes and table clothes at least 3 feet away from space heaters; check lamps for frayed or bare wires; and make sure not to over load any one plug or circuit in your home. And most importantly, make sure the you have a quality smoke detector installed in your home with a fresh battery.

Follow these few tips and have a safe fall.



## 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**



## BROWN PATCH...it's here!

Well folks...it's here. We are once again in that time of year when we start having to deal with brown patch. Brown patch is most common in St. Augustine but can be found in other varieties as well.

Last year, with the excessive rainfall during September and October, brown patch ran very rampant. It took over most yards that it invaded, with the real damage visible earlier this spring.

Brown patch occurs during late summer and fall as night time temperatures begin to fall and the moisture content in the turf and soil increase. It is usually identified by a dying circle or patch in the turf.

While we can not guarantee the prevention of brown patch in your turf, we can offer a fungicide application before the cool season begins to help prevent the onset of brown patch. As with any fungicide application, it can get expensive so it is best that we measure the square footage of your yard and give you an estimate on the cost of the application.

The application can also be made after the fungus has set into the turf. If this occurs, contact the office immediately before severe damage





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.**

## HALLOWEEN FUN FACTS AND TRIVIA

- Orange and black are Halloween colors because orange is associated with the Fall harvest and black is associated with darkness and death.
- Jack o' Lanterns originated in Ireland where people placed candles in hollowed-out turnips to keep away spirits and ghosts on the Samhain holiday.
- Pumpkins also come in white, blue and green. Great for unique monster carvings!
- Halloween was brought to North America by immigrants from Europe who would celebrate the harvest around a bonfire, share ghost stories, sing, dance and tell fortunes.
- Tootsie Rolls were the first wrapped penny candy in America.
- The ancient Celts thought that spirits and ghosts roamed the countryside on Halloween night. They began wearing masks and costumes to avoid being recognized as human.
- Halloween candy sales average about 2 billion dollars annually in the United States.
- Chocolate candy bars top the list as the most popular candy for trick-or-treaters with Snickers #1.
- Halloween is the 2nd most commercially successful holiday, with Christmas being the first.
- Bobbing for apples is thought to have originated from the roman harvest festival that honors Pomona, the goddess of fruit trees.
- Black cats were once believed to be witch's familiars who protected their powers.

***YOU ARE APPRECIATED!***