



# Father and Son Pest and Lawn Solutions

## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

### WATERING INSTRUCTIONS

At this time sprinkler systems can remain shut off and irrigation pumps drained until March.

Are you having problems keeping your lawn healthy? Contact me for a **FREE LAWN CONSULTATION!** PM, call or text me at 850-240-7935



### What we are doing this month and why.

This month we are continuing to applying our Fall/Winter fertilizer formula which contains potassium. **Potassium** encourages the grass roots store energy the grass will need next spring to come out of dormancy. We are also continuing to apply **pre-emergent weed control** to suppress weeds. We will apply **pre-emergent weed control** throughout the year to keep constant pressure on weed populations. We are also applying **post emergent weed control** to control actively growing weeds.

**Mole crickets** are still active at this time. However, their activity slows down a bit in the cooler weather. We will treat them as needed. A cool and moist environment can increase Disease activity, especially in St. Augustine and we will continue to watch for it and apply fungicide as needed.

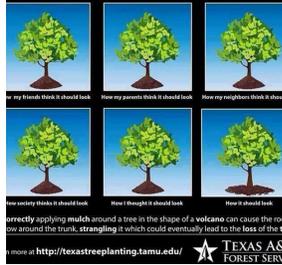
### WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH MY FREEZE DAMAGED PLANTS?



Cut out damaged plant material in spring on woody plants after there is no more chance of another freeze. You can tell what stems are dead by scratching the bark in late winter. If the material is green underneath, the tissue is still alive. They will lose their leaves due to the freeze experience, but will usually leaf out again in Spring. Keep the plants moist and apply a light

Keep the plants moist and apply a light fertilizer after all danger of frost has passed. More tender plants will end up like perennials will have some damage to the root. As with woody plants, wait until spring to trim back dead above ground tissue. In the spring, you will be able to tell what parts of the plant survived by the new growth coming up from the root stock.

### TREE MULCH



### HOW TO CORRECTLY APPLY MULCH AROUND A TREE OR SHRUB.

It's commonly thought that the proper way to apply mulch around a tree or shrub is to pile it up against the trunk to create a "volcano" around the plant. However, burying the trunk in mulch can cause decay, consequently killing the plant. The trunk should be kept clear of mulch all the way down to the top of the root ball. If you want to apply a heavy application of much to prevent weeds you can create a "whirlpool" around the tree where the mulch is pulled back away from the trunk and is thicker as it gets farther away from the tree.

### HAVING PROBLEMS WITH YOUR SAGO PALMS? IT'S MOST LIKELY A NUTRIENT DEFICIENCY.



Someone recently sent me this picture of their palm tree asking me what the problem was. Most problems in palms that show up as yellowing, brown spots and/or deformed fronds is from a lack of one or more specific nutrients. The absence of different nutrients

will produce different symptoms in palms. These particular symptoms are being caused by a lack of manganese. The soil we have here along the Emerald Coast is mostly sand and has very little nutrients so it's easy for plants and especially palms, to suffer from nutritional deficiencies. Adding the lacking nutrients to the plant won't correct the symptoms that are already present but will enable the palm to produce healthy new growth that will eventually replace the old, deformed growth. It's a good idea to leave the deformed growth on the palm and not trim it off because the whole plant still benefits from having those fronds.

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