



Father & Son Pest and Lawn Solutions JULY NEWSLETTER



JULY 2026

WATERING INSTRUCTIONS

High temperatures are in the 90s with less frequent rainfall right now so we recommend watering 4-6 times per week. That frequency can be reduced if rain increases. Applying 1/2 inch of water during each irrigation cycle is recommended and most irrigation systems will do this if set to run for 45 minutes per zone. The best time to water your lawn is early morning when the dew is on the ground. Watering this time of day doesn't increase the number of hours the grass is wet in a day, reducing the likelihood of disease. Also, there is less evaporation of the irrigation water, so more water penetrates the soil and there is less wind which can blow the irrigation stream off course.



WHAT IS THE BEST SHRUB TO CREATE A GOOD PRIVACY SCREEN?

My all time favorite is a Japanese Clerya for several reasons. First, they are affected by very few insects or diseases (a big consideration for this area!). New growth is a pretty red color that adds contrast to the mature green leaves. Japanese Clerya bloom in the summer and although the flowers are small, they have a pleasant sweet aroma. Japanese Clerya grow at a fairly fast rate, especially if they are watered and fertilized well and can create a nice solid hedge in just a few growing seasons. These shrubs also have a tight growing pattern and can easily be pruned into an endless variety of shapes and patterns. They can be maintained at heights as small as 4 feet but can grow up to 30 feet high. I have had Japanese Clerya in my yard for over 25 years and never had any problems with them and they are still a beautiful feature of my landscape!

SHOULD YOU BE CONCERNED IF YOU FIND GRUBS IN YOUR SOIL?



Anyone who has turned over a shovel of dirt in their yard has probably discovered at least one grub worm in the soil. Most grubs are the larval stage of a beetle. They live in the soil and feed on plant roots for up to 3 years before pupating and turning into a beetle. In Northern

areas of the county, the populations of these insects do pose a problem, and the populations of grubs can be so dense that they cause the grass to decline and require treatment. However, in our area, the populations of these beetles is not significant enough to pose a threat to the health of the lawn and require no action to control them.

WHAT IS THIS WEIRD THING GROWING ON THE SIDE OF MY PALM TREE?

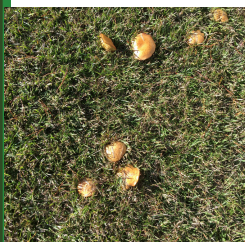


Palms are unlike any other trees. Technically, they are a grass not a tree. They have no bark. And they are able to sprout roots from anywhere along their trunk they stays moist or touches the soil. This is called adventurous root growth. If a palm tree is getting hit by a sprinkler on a regular basis, the site on the trunk that is getting wet may start to sprout roots. The site will look strange but there is no harm being done to the tree. The best thing to do with adventurous root growth is to redirect the sprinklers if possible to preserve the appearance of the trunk.

WHAT WE ARE DOING THIS MONTH & WHY?

This month we continue applying our spring and summer fertilizer formula. This formula contains nitrogen. Nitrogen is the primary nutrient that encourages the lawn to produce top growth. We are also continuing to apply pre-emergent weed control to suppress weeds. We 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 the main turf damaging insect that is active at this time along with some chinch bug activity. We will monitor and treat these pests as needed. Disease is not as active now that high temperatures are above the 70 - 80 degree range. We will continue to watch for disease and apply fungicide as needed.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO ABOUT MUSHROOMS GROWING IN YOUR LAWN?



Mushrooms grow off of decomposing roots and stumps under the ground and pop up when moisture and temperature conditions are conducive for the spores to grow (usually cool, wet spring and fall weather). They don't harm the grass and there is no product they make to treat them with. Once the weather turns cold or warms up, depending on the season, they will go away. In the mean time the only other option is to pluck them.

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