



PRIME'S CLIPPINGS

January 1, 2012

Volume 2012, Issue 1

www.PrimeLandscapeServices.com

817.461.4000 office

817.274.5459 fax



Here's to a great New Year!



Greg Hamann, owner

We hope everyone enjoyed the end of year festivities and are as excited as we are about the fresh beginnings and opportunities that a New Year brings. We always look forward to the relatively quiet month of January as a time to

improve our operations and procedures so that we can provide you the best possible services in 2012 and beyond.

This is also the time of year when good gardeners and smart homeowners make their plans and start

their home improvement projects for the New Year.

So take this time to reflect on last year's successes and make your plans for an exciting 2012.

Happy New Year!

Our goal is to fulfill the needs of the customer by providing timely, quality services and products.

Thanks for your business!

Our Annual Mulch Special Is Here !

Mulching your beds is absolutely the best thing you can do for the health of your soil and plants.

Remember: mulch reduces weeds, improves soil structure, conserves moisture, protects plants from extreme cold and sum-

mer heat, and gives your beds a neat appearance.

Take advantage now! Mention our newsletter for 20% off

normal prices.

Prices Include Delivery and Installation!

(extra charges may apply for weeding or leaf clean ups if needed)

How much do I need? We recommend adding 2" to existing mulch or 3" to un-mulched areas. A 2 cu ft bag will cover about 10 sq ft 2" deep or 7 sq ft 3" deep

DISCOUNTED PRICE

Hardwood: \$4.40 per 2 cu ft bag

Dark brown, enriches soil as it decomposes

Cedar: \$5.50 per 3 cu ft bag *new larger bags!*

Great cedar smell, lighter color, lasts longer

Red or Black Mulch: \$4.80 per bag

For a decorative look

January Chores:

- Finish leaf clean-ups
- Mulch beds
- Trim crape myrtles
- Make major pruning changes to overgrown shrubs
- Prune low limbs on trees
- Prune dormant perennials and fountain grasses
- Plant and transplant trees and shrubs
- Apply pre-emergent and broadleaf herbicides
- Change water and clean water gardens and koi ponds



- * Landscaping
- * Sprinklers
- * Drainage
- * Stone Masonry
- * Pools
- * Waterfalls
- * Weed Control
- * Fertilizing
- * Lighting
- * Pruning—and more!

Help Your Trees and Other Valuable Landscape Plants Recover From 2011

The unforgiving Texas drought has killed 100 million to 500 million trees statewide, according to a preliminary survey by the Texas Forest Service. The drought wasn't the only culprit -- the hottest summer on record and prolonged high winds helped sap trees and other ornamental landscape plants. The cool rainy conditions we have had so far this winter are helping, but we don't know yet whether we will have more severe weather again this summer. In fact, a severe freeze like we had last February, an abnormally wet winter like 2009, or a dry winter like last year's could add further stress to weakened plants. The fact is, our landscapes could really use some TLC *now*.

Start from the bottom up

The roots are key to a healthy plant. They anchor the plant, provide storage of energy reserves, absorb water and mineral nutrients, and then transport the water and dissolved minerals to the rest of the plant. Anything we can do to enhance the root system will pay dividends for the remainder of the plant. The three enhancements that we can provide are balanced nutrition (fertilizing in the proper amounts), water, and biostimulants. Biostimulants and mycorrhizae have been the subject of extensive research over the last twenty-plus years and are now being incorporated into a broad range of plant nutrient products.

Benefits of Organic Biostimulants

Plants can't move around to find better conditions to grow in, but are subject to the soils they are planted in. Often times soils are compacted, lacking in nutrients, and lacking in biological activity. Biostimulants feed the soil microflora that help

make uptake of nutrients more efficient, and increase antioxidant activity in plants boosting internal defenses against environmental stresses and disease. Hormones can stimulate new growth, root development or cell enlargement. And remember that fertilizer is not actually plant food. You are providing nutrients that the plant can use in the photosynthesis process to produce its food.

The word "Mycorrhiza" is given to a mutual association between a fungus (Myco) and the roots (rhiza) of the plants. This association is symbiotic because the relationship is advantageous for both organisms. The plant gains increased exploration of the soil (rhizo sphere) with the intricate net of hyphae that increases the uptake of water and nutrients from the soil interphase. The fungus uses the carbon provided by the plant for its physiological functions, growth and development. Mycorrhizae provide enhanced plant efficiency in absorbing water and nutrients from the soil, reduced fertility and irrigation requirements, increased drought resistance, and increased pathogen resistance. All these factors promote plant health and vigor, and minimize stress.

What You Can Do

We recommend deep root soil injection for your trees and shrubs this winter with our proprietary blend of organic nutrients, hormones, humic acid, and mycorrhizae. We use a high pressure pump and stainless steel probe to inject our liquid formula into the top twelve inches of the root zone, the area most active in nutrient and water uptake. As the biostimulants increase root mass and function, the existing mineral nutrients become more available

and are supplemented by our slow release organic fertilizers. The injection also loosens the soil and reduces compaction, an added benefit. The result is a healthier plant with a better chance to recover and thrive in the coming year.

This is one of the best things you can do to preserve your investment in your landscape, and yes, it is surprisingly affordable! Prices start at just \$150.00, and that will cover a typical house with a few trees and moderate foundation plantings.

Call Today!



Neat facts about trees

"The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day." —*U.S. Department of Agriculture*

"Each urban tree with a 50 year life span provides an estimated \$273 a year in reduced costs for air conditioning, erosion control, storm water control, air pollution and wildlife shelter." - *City of Portland, Oregon* (And that number is substantially higher for north central Texas.)

However, here is a really sad fact. At the savings estimated above, *it takes the entire annual benefit of 422 trees to pay for just 1 minute of the cost of running our do-nothing congress!* Guess at this rate we could never have enough trees. How about a new forestry program – "Plant a tree, cut a congressman"?!

A Word About Crape Myrtle Pruning

Crape myrtles are traditionally pruned in January. The horticulturally correct method is to treat a standard tree-form crape like any other tree. Prune entire branches to allow more sunlight into the canopy and reduce overcrowding, remove low branches that are in the way, remove water sprouts and suckers, and strip the seed pods if their appearance bothers you or cut tips of limbs no larger than a pencil. However, many properties and some homeowners want their crapes kept within a certain size range and this limit requires "topping" or more drastic cutting of the crowns. Since we have to administer both techniques, be sure to let us know if you have a preference.