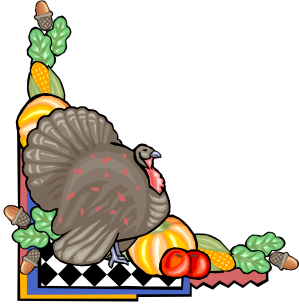


PRIME'S CLIPPINGS

Volume 2010, Issue 11

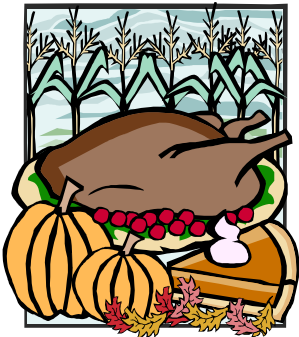
November 1, 2010

Happy Thanksgiving !



before

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



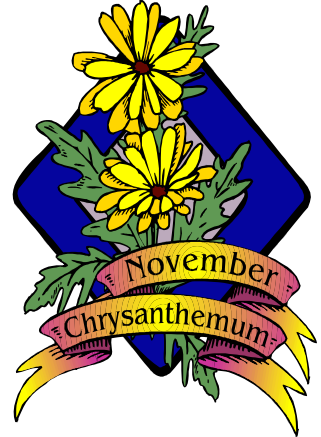
after

Thank you for your business.

Pleasant Days

With Thanksgiving approaching, hectic holidays are not far away. We will still have many pleasant days in November, so enjoy this mild month when you can. Gardeners enjoy the change of seasons as a chance to plant pansies, kale, and other cool sea-

son plants that we can't use during our hot summers. And vegetable gardeners recognize this as the time to plant spinach, carrots, cabbage, and other cool season vegetables. The lack of rain has been a little disappointing so far, but otherwise Fall is off to a great start.



In your garden

Our average annual date for the first frost is around November 17th, so by the end of this month we may see the end of begonias, impatiens, and many other warm season plants. If your annuals still look good, you may want to wait until a frost to put in pansies. You may also want to wait until more leaves are down if you are going to plant pansies in shaded areas. However, get them

planted before real cold weather hits so they will establish before winter.

Also, remember as temperatures cool decrease your watering to discourage fungal problems. You may also want to set your automatic sprinklers to come on a little later in the morning so that the grass doesn't stay wet at night. The sun is coming up later and grass does best if it

dries within a few hours of being watered. Another valuable tip is to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors and your sprinkler controller on the weekend that we roll our clocks back for daylight savings time. It is an easy way to remember this simple chore. Not all controllers have a replaceable battery. If you are not sure whether or not yours does, call us for the answer.

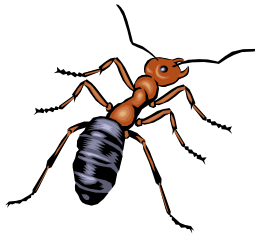
Time for bulbs !!

Remember, if you want a beautiful show of annual tulips or naturalizing perennial daffodils, paperwhites or jonquils, now is the time to order them! Bulb prices start as low as \$.75 each in-

stalled, with a minimum order of 100 bulbs. We will be picking up our bulb orders this month and start planting after Thanksgiving. Call to place your order today!



Fire ants are on the prowl! And you thought Halloween was scary!



After every fall rain you are likely to see a new fire ant mound pop up. Ants are busy

foraging for winter, and rain loosens the soil, making it easier for the ants to migrate and tunnel. There is one good aspect of this though, and that is the potential for some serious long-term control.

This is a great time to apply bait-type controls.

Baits have a very minimal environmental impact and offer long term control.

Although there are several products for controlling individual mounds, most of these products are highly toxic and only kill the ants that come in contact with the poison. Many of the ants escape only to return in another place.

The best overall approach as recommended by the Texas Department of Agriculture is the "Texas Two Step." Treat individual mounds that are in problem areas with a mound treatment but also broadcast a bait product throughout the entire lawn.

Fire ants are not just annoying, they are destructive *and* dangerous. They can inflict serious and painful injury to young children and adults who may be allergic, and are renown for colonizing outdoor electrical equipment and shorting it out. *A Texas Dept of Agriculture study from 2000 estimated annual damages from fire ants at over 1.2 Billion!*

Don't risk damage to your air conditioners, lighting and sprinkler systems, or injury to you and your family.

Call to schedule a treatment now while conditions are optimal!

If You Have Trees, Please Read This!

Every year we like to remind our clients about how we handle leaf clean ups. Leaves are falling fairly evenly now, and mulch mowing them into the lawn is the most cost effective way of dealing with them as long as it is done regularly. Soon there will be some really heavy leaf drops and we may need to spend extra time to clean them up if you have a lot of trees. We appreciate your business, and we will always try to work as quickly as we can to keep the cost reasonable, but please note:

When the crews have to spend more time on the yard than they usually do, we will charge extra for leaf clean ups. Our hourly rate is \$30.00 per man hour.

If you do not want your leaves cleaned up, please call us.

Of course, no extra charges will apply to our commercial and residential customers that are set up on a prorated 12 month full maintenance contract.

Want to make budgeting for your lawn care simple and save money in the summer? Call for a free quote on a 12 month contract.



November Jobs

- Mow regularly and keep leaves mulched up.
- Prune dead limbs before all leaves are down.
- Plant new shrubs, perennials, and trees.
- Transplant shrubs and trees.
- Apply pre-emergent for weeds.
- Don't forget to feed the birds!



It is I, Hernando the chinch bug, saying farewell for this year! It's just a little too cold for me. And apparently, my little friend Fernando the grub worm did not eat your lawn this year, but just like the terminator, *We'll be back!*



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