

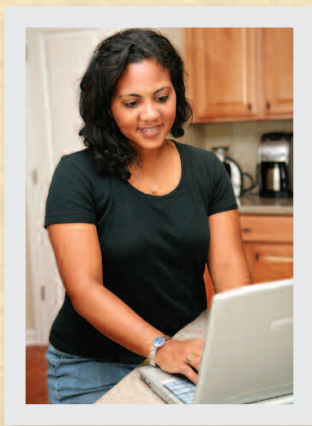


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“Just Say No” to Broadleaf Weeds

CONTROL THEM WITH OUR REGULAR MAINTENANCE AND POST-EMERGENTS

We'd all like to have a thick carpet of beautiful, green grass without a weed in sight, but the reality of the situation is that broadleaf weeds are very determined pests. No lawn is immune to them, their seeds are always present in the soil, and they germinate throughout the growing season.

Dandelions are probably the most familiar to you, but others such as chickweed, ground ivy, henbit, knotweed, plantain and thistle can all make an appearance in your turf when you least expect it.

Broadleaf weeds have trouble growing in dense, healthy lawns. Therefore, the first step in “Saying No” to them is to develop a hearty stand of grass through mutual ongoing care and maintenance. This should include regular fertilization, insect and disease control as necessary, adequate irrigation in the absence of rainfall (1" to 1½" per week), and proper mowing (removing no more than ½ of the grass blade at a time).

WHAT IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH?

Despite our best efforts to maintain a beautiful lawn, broadleaf weeds can still show up in your turf from time to time. When this happens, they need to be treated with a post-emergent herbicide. Post-emergents must be used when the weeds are actively growing (many broadleaf weeds can't be treated with pre-emergents like those used to prevent crabgrass seeds from sprouting).

Once applied, it can take up to three weeks for the weeds to die off completely. Repeated applications may also be necessary, since broadleaf weed seeds germinate continuously. If this is the case, call our office to schedule a free service call.

Remember, when it comes to broadleaf weeds, don't concede. It's easy to “Say No” to these annoying pests with good lawn care practices and post-emergents.



Thistle is just one of many broadleaf weeds that may invade your lawn.

REMEMBER...

- Broadleaf weed seeds are always present.
- Healthy lawns have fewer weeds.
- Post-emergents can be used for control.

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There's Nothing Nice About Nutsedge

Weed Out This Lawn Problem Right Away

If your lawn or garden's beauty is marred by a bright, yellow-green, grass-like weed, chances are you're in a battle with nutsedge. Also commonly called yellow nutsedge or water grass, this vigorous plant produces wide, triangular stalks in threes from a center point at ground level.

Nutsedge is a perennial weed that's hard to get rid of because it reproduces itself from tubers beneath the soil. These tubers can survive even the coldest winter. Nutsedge grows more rapidly in low, wet soil and, unchecked, will grow to as tall as 2'.

Getting rid of nutsedge fast – when plants first appear during the summer but before new tubers form – is important for long-term control. Chemical controls should be timed right so they can travel through the plant to eliminate the existing tubers. It's usually necessary to treat more than once per season, and you should avoid watering and mowing for a few days before and after treatment.

Also necessary to wage a winning fight are good cultural practices like avoiding overwatering. Nutsedge also won't tolerate shade, including the shade of healthy turf, so it helps to keep your good grass in great shape and mowed high.

Give us a call for a free estimate on extra nutsedge treatments.



Getting rid of nutsedge fast is important for long-term control.

The Allure of Roses

Who can resist the attraction of a rose? The beauty and fragrance of this flower have made it a garden favorite for thousands of years.

Today, over 5,000 varieties of roses are available, and new cultivars are patented (yes, patented!) every year.

WHICH ROSE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Roses have been bred over time for certain characteristics such as color, flower size, hardiness and growing habit. There are many types of roses, including floribundas, grandifloras, miniatures and climbing plants. The most popular, though, is probably the hybrid tea rose.

Hybrid tea roses grow about 4' to 5' tall and produce beautifully shaped flowers on single stems. They come in an exceptional range of colors, they're fragrant, and they bloom intermittently throughout the growing season.

CARING FOR YOUR ROSES

Rose bushes don't compete well with other perennials or tree roots. As a result, they'll perform best in a separate bed prepared especially for them. Good drainage is essential, so the bed should have ample organic matter worked into the soil, preferably several months before planting.

Roses need plenty of sunshine, so plant them where they'll get at least five to six hours per day. Early-morning sun is best because dew will dry sooner, reducing moisture-induced leaf diseases.

The best line of defense against insects and diseases is good health. But if faced with pests, call the office for a free estimate. Our systemic insecticide treatment, applied once a year, protects against aphids and white flies.

Are You Watering Correctly?

HERE'S HOW TO DO IT:

There's no magic to watering properly. It's really just a matter of ensuring that the water you do supply to your lawn, trees and shrubs is used efficiently.

During the hotter summer months, your lawn will need from 1" to 1½" of water per week either by rainfall or sprinkling. You can use a rain gauge to determine how much extra water will be needed each week. By soaking your soil to a depth of 6", you'll help your turf's roots to grow deeper and stronger.

Your trees and shrubs will also benefit from weekly irrigation when rainfall is scarce. Since their roots are much deeper than those of your lawn, it's a good idea to soak each area thoroughly with each watering.

AVOIDING WATER WASTE

When setting up sprinklers, try to avoid letting water run down your driveway, the sidewalk or the street. It's also important to avoid watering during hotter, windier parts of the day when chances of evaporation are high (early morning is best).



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