



Lawn, Tree & Pest Management Professionals

P.O. Box 271792
Oklahoma City, OK 73137-1792

Phone: 405-680-0077
Fax: 405-680-0082
Email: info@agrilawn.com

We're On the Web!
www.AgriLawn.com

<< Stamp
Here >>



Lawn, Tree & Pest Management Professionals

*Make Your Lawn An
AgriLawn Today!*

Volume 1, Issue 1
May, 2008

Inside this Issue:

Designing A Tropical Garden.....	Page 1
Thought for the Month.....	Page 1
Avoid 8-Year Car Loan.....	Page 2
A Bit of Laughter.....	Page 2
Spring Lawn Application...	Page 2
Cats Rule.....	Page 3
Landscaping Question Corner.....	Page 3
Client of the Month.....	Page 3
Tax Rebate Check On The Way.....	Page 3
Famous Birthdays.....	Page 4

Thought for the Month...

The winner ain't the one with the fastest car. It's the one who refuses to lose.

~Dale Earnhardt



"Due to the space-age materials used in making this model, this one collects less dust than other exercise equipment."

THE GREEN SCENE

Monthly Newsletter From Your Friends at AgriLawn

Designing A Tropical Garden

The reason we think of certain vacation spots as a "tropical paradise" is because of the serene and soothing sensations they inspire. Locations such as Hawaii, Belize and the Florida Keys provide a unique, relaxing environment that seems to be removed from the rest of the world.

But this indulgent environment doesn't have to be exclusive to your annual vacation. Quite the contrary, you can design your own tropical paradise right in your own backyard.

Basic Environmental Needs

The key to a healthy tropical garden is warm temperatures, light, water and really good irrigation., but that doesn't mean that gardeners in cooler climates can't still enjoy the beauty of a tropical setting.

The secret is to find plants that work with your climate and create a design that provides an optimum environment for growth.

Must-Have Plants

Obviously you can't have a tropical garden without a few palm trees and luckily there are some species that survive well in a variety of climates. The Butia Palm for example can withstand colder temperatures as low as 18 degrees.

Queen palms are another climate-friendly choice and can get up to 25 feet in as little as seven years. The Washingtonia Robusta is another good choice, tolerating both colder temperatures as well as hotter, dry climates. Other must-have plants include Canna, Secrecia, Hibiscus, Caladiums and Coreopsis.

Designing Your Layout

To get the full effects of your tropical paradise, you'll want to incorporate a functional design as well.

Hardscape elements can include a small bungalow or "hut", perhaps with a bamboo roof for added texture. Walkways, rocky borders and of course, plenty of seating all help to create an inviting retreat that allows you to sit back and enjoy your new area.

When designing a tropical garden, remember that many of your plants will eventually grow into lush, dense foliage and brush so plant accordingly and place taller plants toward the back of your garden to create a "living" fence that provides privacy as well as beauty.

You'll also want to ensure that your plants have plenty of sunlight. Keep in mind that some palms grow very tall and very bushy - great for creating a shady sitting area but not so good

(continued on page 2)

What's Inside...

- Designing A Tropical Garden
- Avoid 8-Year Car Loan
- Want to grow caladiums? Discover how in our Landscaping Question Corner!
- Are YOU our client of the month???
- And More!!

Famous Birthdays in May

Does your birthday fall in May? Did you know you share it with some pretty famous people? Here's a few names you might know with May birthdays:

- Tim McGraw, 1967
- David Beckham, 1975
- Bono, 1960
- Cate Blanchett, 1969
- Pete Townshend, 1945
- Bronson Pinchot, 1959
- Janet Dailey, 1944
- Stevie Nicks, 1948
- Sondra Locke, 1947
- Melissa Etheridge, 1961
- Sharon Gless, 1943
- Mitch Albom, 1958
- Ramsey Lewis, 1935

Happy Birthday!

Beneficial Aeration!

Ever tried to grow something in concrete?

Oklahoma is notorious for its clay soil. Over time, and with frequent watering and foot traffic, our soils become very compacted. Compacted soil prevents water and nutrients from penetrating to turf grass roots and reduces the effectiveness of weed control and fertilization. For this reason, AgriLawn recommends scheduling an annual aeration for optimal lawn performance.

**Call us at 680-0077 and
schedule yours today!**

Why should you aerate your lawn?

- Reduces harmful thatch buildup
- Increases turf root development
- Improves overall turf health
- Reduces soil compaction problems
- Increases water retention
- Can lower overall water bills

**Call us at 680-0077
and schedule yours
today!**

We'd Love To Hear From You!!

Whether you'd like to discuss your property or additional services or just want to drop us a note and say "Hi," we'd love to hear from you...

AgriLawn, Inc.
P.O. Box 271792
Oklahoma City, OK 73137-1792
Phone: 405-680-0077
Fax: 405-680-0082
Email: info@agrilawn.com
www.AgriLawn.com

MEMBER:



The Green Scene newsletter is published 12 times per year for valued clients and guests of AgriLawn, Inc. For subscription information, please contact us by phone, fax or e-mail per the above. Any portion of this newsletter may be reproduced or cited if full contact information is listed.

Copyright © 2008 AgriLawn, Inc

(continued from Page 1)

for sun-thirsty plants underneath. Those rocky borders mentioned earlier might be a good solution for these areas as well as garden art and paved walkways. These shady spots are also a wonderful place to put a waterfall, completing the "tropical" feeling you're looking for.

Lighting

One of the best things about a tropical garden is that its as beautiful at night as it is during the day. To get the most from your tropical garden at night, install some well-placed string lights and tiki torches to light up your garden and complete your tropical design.

Do You Want To Win A Mystery Prize?

Take our trivia challenge and you could win!

Each month we will give you a new trivia question. The first 3 people to call our office with the correct answer will win a mystery prize. Take your best guess, then call us at 405-680-0077 or email alally@agrilawn.com.

Q: What president's mug graces a \$100,000 bill?

Avoid 8-Year Car Loan

In 2007, nearly 82 percent of auto loans were for 5 to 6 1/2 years. Some were for 7 to 7 1/2 years, and a few were actually for 8 years or more, according to the Power Information Network, a unit of J.D. Power and Associates.

The long-term loans allow lower payments. But most people like to trade up in three or four years. With a five-year contract, the vehicle might be worth more than the loan balance, giving them a down payment on the new car. With a seven-year contract, the loan balance at the end of three years is more than the car is worth. Then that balance is rolled into a new loan, making it difficult to have equity in the new vehicle.

A Bit of Laughter...

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead and in front of him. Finally, the attendant motioned the minister toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "Sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

AgriLawn's Spring Application

AgriLawn is applying a spring pre-emergent and treating existing broadleaf weeds including dandelions, henbit, chickweed and clover. We also include a high nitrogen fertilizer to encourage spring green up and healthy growth.

Please allow 10-14 days for broadleaf weeds to begin wilting and dying. Any remaining winter grassy weeds will continue to die throughout the spring. **If it doesn't rain within 7-10 days water thoroughly (approximately 1 inch) to ensure the pre-emergent enters the soil.**

If there are a large amount of weeds in your lawn, wait 1-2 weeks following the application and then mow down to 1 inch. Later this spring when the mowing season begins we recommend you de-thatch or lower the first mowing of Bermuda grass lawns to .75-1.0 inches. Fescue lawns need to be maintained at 3-4 inches.

There is no such thing as 100% weed control or a "weed free" lawn so be skeptical when you hear such claims. Certain weeds are controllable only at specific times during the year. With our lawn program you'll notice fewer overall weeds year in and year out.

Many factors, including water and mowing practices, weather conditions, growth stage and type of weeds, play a role in good weed control. Our goal, as professional turf managers, is to provide you a beautiful lawn by keeping weeds under control and supplying the nutrients needed to promote a thick, healthy turf.

Thanks For The Kind Words

"We have been satisfied customers for many years. I can't think of anything to improve the service."

- Claudia B. from Oklahoma City

Cats Rule

The pet census made by the American Veterinary Medical Association shows that cats outnumber all other pets in American homes. There are about 82 million cats in our homes, up from 71 million in 2001. In second place are the 72 million pet dogs, up from 62 million in 2001.

After the big two, birds come in third with 11 million in American homes, followed by 6 million rabbits and 2 million turtles. About 60 percent of homes have one pet, and 21 percent of these have five or more, which may include the pet in sixth place, the gerbil.

Tax Rebate Checks On The Way

If you haven't already received your tax rebate check, it will be coming soon. As part of the Economic Stimulus Plan, those who paid 2007 income taxes will get rebates of \$600 to \$1,200. Rebates phase out for individuals with more than \$75,000 in adjusted gross income, and for couples with more than \$150,000. Those qualifying for a rebate are eligible for another \$300 per child.

In 2001, the last time rebate checks were sent, consumers spent about two-thirds of their rebates, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research. The rebates played a big part in ending the eight-month-long 2001 recession by November of that year. This time around, the bureau predicts that consumers will spend half of their checks within the first year. If that happens, the stimulus law would be a substantial boost to the overall economy even though it's less than in 2001.

Lawmakers hope consumers will take their rebates and buy big ticket items such as flat screen televisions or large appliances. A big surge in spending could give the economy a boost, economists say. But one survey by the International Council of Shopping Centers and USB Securities found that 43 percent of consumers would use the money for debts, and 26 percent would save it.

Congratulations To Our Client Of The Month!

Every month, we choose a very special Client of the Month. It's our way of acknowledging good friends and saying "thanks" to those who support AgriLawn with referrals, word of mouth and repeat business. Watch for your name here in an upcoming month - you might be the next Client of the Month!

This month's Client of the Month is

Mark Rudkin of OKC

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Thanks to YOU our business is growing! There's no better compliment we can receive than a positive referral from a valued client. We are truly grateful for the trust and confidence that so many of you have expressed.

If you know a friend, neighbor, or family member who may be considering the services we offer - it would be the highest compliment to refer them to us. We'll make sure they get extra special attention and care. Or, if there are any additional services that we may provide for you, please let us know. Instead of growing our business from the outside, we prefer to pay closer attention to our existing clients and their referrals.

Brain Games on the Internet

If you want to perk up your gray matter without buying Nintendo or MindFit software, visit www.pogo.com. Dr. Maurice Ramirez, an expert on the subject, says adults are learning constantly, but they must be engaged and drawn into the learning experience. They respond best to games that blend logic, discovery, planning and thought.

Landscaping Question Corner...

Q. What's the best way to grow caladiums?

A. Caladiums are a wonderful tropical plant that produces beautiful foliage. They are shade-loving plants and do well in warm climates or as year-round house plant. Caladiums love humidity and will do well in containers or as borders in a shade garden.

These tuberous rooted plants are relatively easy to grow, however they should be monitored for spider mites, aphids and other pests; steps to control these pests should be taken if needed. Plants purchased before they leaf are referred to as "tubers" and should be planted in rich peat to facilitate growth. Keep the soil moist and plant the tuber with the "eyes" up, about 2 inches deep.

Caladiums are easily divided in the spring by cutting the tubers into sections. Be sure each tuber has an eye and then plant as usual. Fertilize on a monthly basis and keep caladiums away from freezing temperatures. Growth will slow down in the fall so you should adjust your watering schedule to match.

Do You Have A Question You Want Answered?

We love hearing from all our good friends and clients who enjoy reading our monthly letter. And we're always looking to answer pressing questions you might have about anything relating to landscaping. If you have a question, please give us a call at 405-680-0077. Perhaps we'll feature you in a future issue!