

Love, Your Landscape

Quality Masters Landscaping Newsletter

'Installing and Maintaining Beautiful Landscapes'

Autumn 2010



As I glanced at my calendar this morning, I could hardly believe that another month has come and gone in an instant! How is it that time passes so quickly? I remember as a child, tomorrow could never get here fast enough, yet as an adult, I find that I cannot keep track with how fast the days are passing.

This gave me pause as I reflected on what has been important to me over the past few months, even years. And just how much my life has changed. One constant I pride myself with is on how I run Quality Masters Landscaping. As a business owner, it is up to me on how my company is perceived by others. I strive every day to live by specific values and ideals. I have trained my team to live by these same values. There are many, but I wanted to share with you what the most important ones are to me.

Our Moral Foundation:

- ❖ We pride ourselves on **QUALITY**. All our products and services are the best of the best. We deliver excellence, are continually improving, and adapt to change. Each of the members of my team is responsible for the quality in everything that we do.
 - ❖ We are committed to **WORLD CLASS CUSTOMER SERVICE**. We strive to go above and beyond to deliver service worthy of your hard earned money. We do more than we are paid for. We do what we say we will do quickly and efficiently.
 - ❖ We are **HONEST** in our dealings. We uphold the highest standards of behavior. We act honestly and fairly in all our dealings.
- ❧
- ❖ We are the **RELIABLE** Landscaper of choice. What you get is high quality landscaping with high quality service. We have an extensive knowledge of how to perform the job, and complete it to your satisfaction.

You, the valued customer, are the reason that I have a business to call my own. These values are just a few of the many that we as a team live by every time we complete a job for you. Know that you are in excellent hands when you hire Quality Masters Landscaping to complete your work.

*Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns;
I am thankful that thorns have roses. ~Alphonse Karr*

Ask your Landscaper

Real questions from real customers

Help! I am suffering from Dandelion overload! This monsoon has wreaked havoc on my lawn. Is there anything I can do to get rid of them once and for all?

Drowning in Dandelions

Dear Drowning,

You are not alone in your woes! We have had such a wet monsoon, the grasses, weeds, and dandelions have taken over the greater Prescott area. There are several tips and tricks you can use. The safest, greenest, way to rid you of these brightly colored monsters is with either vinegar or boiling water. I have included an article in this newsletter because it has been such a common question. It does take persistence, but if you keep at it, you will again be able to regain control of your beautiful gardens.

When is the best time for pruning all my bushes and plants to get them ready for winter? I have several rosebushes throughout my yard and want to get the most blooms next spring...

Longing for Roses

Dear Longing,

Now is actually the perfect time for getting all your plants buttoned up for winter. Sept/Oct is the last push of warm weather. We can set up a spring/fall pruning schedule for you. We will come out in spring to awaken your plants from winter slumber, and then again in fall to keep them strong throughout the cold. This should free you from worry. And all we ask of you is that you enjoy your flowers!



I know I am going to have a ton of autumn leaves in my yard very soon. I have heard that you can use these to mulch your plants, but I hate to think of what a mess it will cause! What should I do?

Should I Leaf Them

Dear Leaf,

Autumn leaves are a great natural mulch, and best of all, they're free! The best way to use them is to shred them and then pack the leaves loosely around your plants. It is best to remove leaves from your lawns and rock areas to keep any molds from growing.

***Do you have a question you would like answered? Send us an email and even a picture and we may feature you in an upcoming issue!

info@qualitymasterslandscaping.com.

To be interested in the changing seasons is a happier state of mind than to be hopelessly in love with spring. ~George Santayana

Vinegar, not just for cooking

Weeds are the nemesis of every gardener, and killing them without doing harm to the environment is a challenge. Of course, there is the option of pulling them, but that isn't always successful.

The acetic acid in vinegar attacks the weed, and kills it right down to the roots. While vinegar can be used as an effective and safe weed killer, it should carefully be used on weeds in the lawn, as it will kill the grass as well.

1. You will need to have two or three days of sunny weather for the vinegar to be absorbed into the plant and the roots. Sunlight will speed the absorption process.
2. Apply regular, household vinegar to the weeds using a spray bottle or paint brush. Never spray vinegar on windy days because it will be carried to neighboring plants that you do not want to kill. If you are spraying the vinegar, be extremely careful to avoid over spray. You may want to use a piece of cardboard to shield your plants. Otherwise, use a small paint brush to apply vinegar directly to both sides of the leaves, the stalk and any flowers.
3. Apply boiling vinegar to stubborn, perennial weeds, or weeds that have become well established.
4. Many gardeners use boiling water to kill weeds coming up through concrete on patios and driveways. The heat of the boiling liquid begins to kill the plant immediately, while the vinegar is absorbed into the root system and works to kill the plant below ground level.
5. Do not water the area for two days.
6. Reapply as necessary. Even chemical weed killers often need to be reapplied at least once to completely kill weeds. Natural, organic weed killers are no different.
7. Remove the dead weeds from the garden. If the roots still seem to be alive, remove as much of the tap root as possible, dig down in the dirt a little and apply vinegar directly to the tap root. Cover the area with soil. Do not saturate the soil with vinegar, but apply directly to the root.



Want to see more pictures for inspiration? Visit our website: www.qualitymasterslandscaping.com



Vinegar is an effective, natural weed killer, and can help keep your lawns beautiful, and weed free all while protecting the environment!