



SINCE 1974

## "Clippings"



Monthly Tips for



*Monthly Tips to Help You Care For and Maintain Your Landscape*

- Spring flowering shrubs need extra water this month while they set next year's buds.
- To keep the birds from getting to ripening grapes or other fruits and vegetables before you do, buy re-usable nylon or plastic netting to cover susceptible plants.
- Peach, Plum, and Apricot trees must be sprayed the last week of August with a chlorpyrifos borer preventive. Apply to trunk and lower limbs just to the point of runoff.
- Now is the time to plant fall vegetables. Early in the month you can plant English peas, squash, cucumbers, melons and beans. Later this month, plant cauliflower, broccoli, Brussel sprouts, cabbage, lettuce, spinach, beets and other cool season crops.
- Fall bulbs such as Spider Lilies, Fall Crocus, Oxblood Lilies and fall perennials, such as Mums, Fall Asters and Salvia Leucantha can be planted in August also.
- Died back Gladioli should be dug up and the corms stored in a cool, dry place. You can replace them with late blooming annuals.
- Plant wild flowers late in the month so they can germinate in the fall.
- Prune bush type Roses back by 1/3 early in the month to re-shape for fall growth. Remove all weak, non-flowering stems. Feed Roses with a specialty Rose food one last time before they bloom in the fall.
- You can remove Crepe Myrtle seed heads and encourage one last round of blooms for the season.
- Wind blown seeds from weeds may be sprouting and taking hold in your garden - keep a close watch.
- Mulch bed areas to preserve moisture. Green Grass can provide this service. Mulching can reduce soil temperature by as much as 20 degrees F. and the cost of mulch is negligible when you consider the savings in water use and not having plant loss or damage due to heat stress and desiccation.
- Check your sprinkler system controller often to make sure it is working properly. Does your back up battery in the controller need to be replaced? Call Green Grass if you would like one of our technicians to check your system.
- Keep your patio pots and hanging baskets vigorous by applying a diluted water soluble plant food with each watering.



**IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME!  
WATCH FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN!**

Green Grass Inc., 5333 Randolph Blvd, San Antonio, Texas 78233-6298  
TOLL FREE: 800-397-1733, Office: (210) 653-1717, FAX: 210-653-1991

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## “RECYCLING GRASS”

Recycling grass is the natural recycling of grass clippings by simply leaving them on the lawn when mowing. The grass plant's nutrients are then recycled to the soil with the added benefit of helping lawns become healthier.

Another benefit from recycling the grass is that we have the potential to save more than 10 percent of the total municipal landfill space. This is a tremendous achievement, since only paper, at 35.6 percent, takes up more landfill space than yard waste. The return of grass clippings to the lawn and to the soil has always been considered by turf experts as a natural step in the proper maintenance of a lawn. Tests have proven that grass clippings are 85 percent water and break down quickly, returned 20 percent of the nitrogen to the soil. Studies also show that clippings don't create a thatch problem. Thatch is caused by mowing too low and watering frequently and lightly. Thatch is a layer of dead grass roots that accumulates on the surface of the soil. A half-inch layer of thatch is beneficial because it helps hold moisture in the earth, and because it cushions the ground to help prevent compaction.

Turf grasses are environmentally important. They cool and clean our environment, protect soils and groundwaters, absorb noise and carbon dioxide while providing beautiful and superior recreational surfaces. Recycling our grass clippings provides an opportunity for citizens to participate in curbside waste reduction while improving lawn quality.

## HOW TO TRAIN A VINE



Vines attach in three ways: twining; attaching by tendrils or leaf stalks; clinging to a surface by means of small disks or root-like projections.

You must match the vine type to the type of support. Vines that twine or attach by tendrils need wire, a trellis or lattice. Clingers need only a surface or tree trunk. Some vines have no natural attaching ability and must be tied to their support. (Use soft material to tie vines)

Most vines come in one or five gallon containers, and are tied to poles. Remove the plants from their containers and plant at the same depth they were growing in the container. Find out how the vine attaches, if the vine does not attach by tendrils or holdfast growth, remove the vine from its support and place against its new support. If it is attached to the stake, lean the stake against the new support structure. Water well. Vines can also be grown in containers – be sure to keep them well watered.

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Regularly remove suckers, dead stems and stems growing in non-desirable directions. Removing terminal buds monthly encourages branch formation from the base upward. Wisteria needs to be cut back to spurs of two buds apiece to get maximum bloom. If a twining vine tears loose from its support, old growth should be cut back drastically since it will not re-attach.

Have a Glorious Day and Please, . . . Enjoy the Outdoors,

**Francisco Suarez-Pella, Owner  
Green Grass Inc.**

**Safety Tip**

**IS YOUR  
DRINKING  
WATER SAFE ?**



If you have a sprinkler system you should have a backflow prevention device. If you don't, your house water may not be safe. Green Grass has licensed Backflow Inspectors and Installers. Call us for more details!