



Going Green

Monthly Newsletter from Your Friends at Pro Touch Landscapes

*Dedicated Professionals
Offering Guaranteed Results*

Volume 1, Issue 3
June, 2009

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Thought for the Month...

Never fear shadows. They simply mean there's a light shining somewhere nearby.
~ Ruth E. Renkel



"How do you send text messages?"

Current Water Restrictions in North Georgia

UPDATE - June 10, 2009

DROUGHT OFFICIALLY OVER

- Non-Drought Rules in Effect

Effective June 10, 2009, the entire state of Georgia is officially out of the drought and to use "Non-Drought" Outdoor Water Rules.

Essentially, all outdoor water use is allowed on an odd/even daily basis with no time restrictions. The non-drought rules allow the use of ornamental ponds/fountains, pressure washing, car washing, etc.

391-3-30-.03 Outdoor Water Use Schedule During Non-Drought Periods

- (1) Outdoor water use other than exempted activities shall occur only as follows: (a) Odd-numbered addresses: outdoor water use is allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
- (b) Even-numbered and un-numbered addresses: outdoor water use is allowed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Water use may occur at any time of the day on the assigned days.

The following commercial exemptions apply at this non-drought level:

(5) The following commercial outdoor water uses are exempt from the outdoor water use schedules of this rule - - the odd/even schedule does not apply to the uses listed below (water may be used for the following uses at any time of day on any day of the week)

- (a) Professionally certified or licensed landscapers, golf course contractors, and sports turf landscapers: during installation and 30 days following installation only. Professional landscapers must be certified or licensed for commercial exemptions to apply.
- (b) Irrigation contractors: during installation and as needed for proper maintenance and adjustments only.
- (c) Sod producers.
- (d) Ornamental growers.
- (e) Fruit and vegetable growers.
- (f) Retail garden centers.
- (g) Hydro-seeding.
- (h) Power-washing.
- (i) Construction sites.
- (j) Producers of food and fiber.
- (k) Car washes.
- (l) Other activities essential to daily business.
- (m) Watering-in of pesticides and herbicides on turf.

Refer a Pro Chem Customer This Month! When they sign up for annual service, you each get \$25.00 off your next service.

We Would Love To Hear From You!!

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

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Hall County Chamber of Commerce

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First-Class At Bargain Prices

More businesses and individuals are saving money by skipping the airlines' first class seats. Some airlines are stepping up efforts to sell upgrades to first class for \$50 to \$250 at the airport.

There are also more bargain prices on first-class and business-class tickets than ever before. Premium fares have come down a lot more, percentage-wise, than economy fares.

United Airlines recently offered a \$236 round-trip, first-class fare between Boston and Miami. British Airlines offered a \$1,800 round-trip, business-class fare between New York and London.

That's 84 percent lower than the standard \$11,172 fare.

Employee Spotlight



Chris Browning

The happy person you see when you look out your window with the green rubber gloves spraying your turf and shrubs is Chris Browning. Chris is one of our spray technicians. He has been with us for almost four years now. If you have a question when he is in your yard, feel free to ask him or call us here in the office. He enjoys coaching his son's baseball team in his free time.

What are the brown patches in my Fescue?

Brown patch, caused by the fungus *Rhizoctonia solani*, is common on tall fescue during the summer. The fungus becomes highly active when conditions are moist and *night* temperatures are above 65 degrees F. That is, if you step outside in the morning and the lawn is dewy with air temperatures 65-75 then conditions are favorable for brown patch. Brown patch symptoms develop in 24-48 hours during warm, humid weather. Patches initially are dark purple-green, but then quickly fade to light tan or brown as the diseased leaves dry out. Diseased turf may appear drought stressed even when the soil is moist. The pattern of damage is variable. Damaged areas sometimes form circular patches of blighted turf from several inches to several feet in diameter. However, damage often develops in a more irregular pattern without formation of circular patches. The pathogen mostly infects the foliage and makes lesions with a brown border, and the leaves in affected areas are killed. Changes in the weather or applications of fungicides will slow down the pathogen, new leaves will emerge, and the turf will recover in 2-4 weeks. In extreme cases the pathogen can infect crowns or stems, leaving weak areas of turf that are susceptible to invasion by weeds. Irrigation is the most important factor to manage. This disease is favored by long periods of leaf wetness. Do not irrigate in the evening—this leads to a long, wet period overnight that extends into the dew period in the morning. Water in the morning instead. Please call the office and we will give you a quote to treat the Brown Patch with a fungicide. **Please Look left for a picture of Brown Patch.**

Do You Want To Win a \$20.00 gift card to Texas Roadhouse?



Take my trivia challenge and you could win!

This is one of my favorite sections. Each month I'll give you a new trivia question.

This month the first person to call my office with the correct answer will win a \$20.00 gift card to Texas Roadhouse. Take your best guess, and then call me at **(770)534-0041**.

Here's this month's trivia challenge:

Q. The U.S. Open is being held in the state of New York for a record 18th time. Where was the U.S. Open first played in New York?

A.) Country Club of Buffalo B.) Garden City Golf Club C.) Shinnecock Hills
D.) Bethpage Black

Call me right now with your answer! **(770)534-0041**.

Note: Limit one gift per winner per year

Avoid Blood Clots in Your Legs - Stay Active

By now, you probably know that you need to move your legs occasionally when you are on a long airplane flight.

If you don't, you risk getting blood clots in your legs, a condition known as deep vein thrombosis (DVT).

It can happen to anyone, but is more likely to happen to anyone who normally has faster blood clotting.

Other DVT risks include taking birth control pills, a family history of blood clots, and being very overweight.

Long periods of continuous sitting encourage their formation, but long car rides or train rides can be just as hazardous as a long airline flight.

Major surgery such as hip or knee replacement, surgery to the pelvic area, or trauma to the leg or pelvis area put you at a high risk for blood clots.

DVTs are often hard to detect, but almost all cause symptoms eventually.

They include swelling in the ankle area of the affected leg, leg pain that starts in the calf and can feel like a cramp, and redness or warmth over the affected area and fever.

To test for a DVT, ultrasound imaging is usually the first step. It's safe and widely available.

If you suspect that you have a blood clot, always have the situation investigated as soon as possible.

Sometimes fragments will travel to the lungs, cause a pulmonary embolism and block blood flow, which can be fatal.

Seek emergency medical care if you experience shortness of breath, sharp chest pain when you inhale or cough, cough up blood, or feel lightheaded or dizzy.

Safety in Company Stock

For the first time in seven years, a large group of 401(k) participants moved more money into company stock than any other investment, according to consulting firm Hewett Associates.

Congratulations To Our Client Of The Month!

Every month, we choose a very special *Client of the Month*. It's my way of acknowledging good friends and saying "thanks" to those who support Pro Touch Landscapes and Pro Chem Management 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

Riverside Military Academy

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. I'll make sure they get extra special attention and care. Or, if there're 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.

Don't Forget June 21st

In addition to being Father's Day, June 21st is also the longer day of the year and the first day of summer. This year, the 21st falls on a Sunday so you can plan some special celebrations as you wind down the weekend.

Landscaping Question Corner...

Q. What are some good plant choices to attract butterflies?

A. Butterflies make a fun and colorful addition to any landscape design and fortunately, it's not too hard to get their attention.

Plants that produce large quantities of nectar such as the Passion Flower and the Purple Coneflower are excellent choices to attract butterflies to your garden or landscape.

The Copper Canyon Daisy is another good choice and features bright, mango colored flowers. It's drought-resistant and because it's a perennial, it will grow back year after year.

The Butterfly Bush, also known as *Buddleia davidii*, have a prime place in butterfly gardens, and are particularly adept at attracting tiger swallowtails. But butterfly bushes also attract hummingbirds, making them must-haves for hummingbird gardens, too. And don't forget the bees: butterfly bushes will also attract the bees that will pollinate other plants in your garden.

Other good choices include daisies, lilac, marigolds and phlox as well as bee balm, zinnias and spearmint. For more information on butterfly gardens and other landscaping themes, give us a call. We'd be happy to answer your questions and help you design the perfect landscape.

Do You Have a Question You Want Answered?

I love hearing from all my good friends and clients who enjoy reading my monthly letter. And I'm always looking to answer pressing questions you might have about anything relating to landscaping. If you have a question, please give us a call. Perhaps I'll feature you in a future issue!

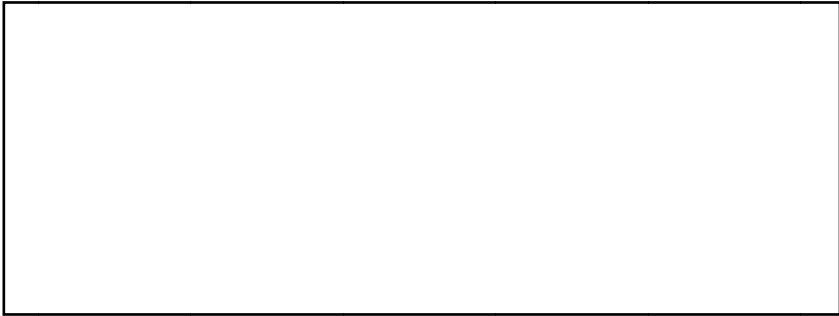


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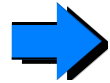
Famous Birthdays in June

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

- Morgan Freeman, 1937
- Angelina Jolie, 1975
- Mark Wahlberg, 1971
- Johnny Depp, 1963
- Hugh Laurie, 1959
- Tim Allen, 1953
- Yasmine Bleeth, 1968
- Jim Belushi, 1954
- Joe Piscopo, 1951
- Paul McCartney, 1942
- Nicole Kidman, 1967
- Carson Daly, 1973
- Mary Stuart Masterson, 1966

Happy Birthday!

What's Inside...



- ⇒ *Drought Officially Over*
- ⇒ *First-Class at Bargain Prices*
- ⇒ *How Can You Attract Butterflies to Your Garden? Find out in our Landscaping Question Corner!*
- ⇒ *Take the trivia challenge and you could win a \$20.00 Gift card to Texas Roadhouse.*
- ⇒ *Are YOU our client of the month???*
- ⇒ *And More!!*

***\$75.00 Irrigation System Analysis
 and Controller Set up Call Zack
 Today @ (770)534-0041. (Up to a 6 zone system)***