

# Spring



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## WELCOME TO SPRING!

Is there anything better than the feeling of springtime? It's like nature is just busting out all over the place, and one of the reasons I started this business was the challenge and satisfaction that comes from trying to shape nature into beautiful and functional landscapes.

We are happy to be very busy at this time of year, serving people like you and beautifying our community. This issue includes information about spring cleanups and proper pruning, both of which are important services to consider.

We are also very busy with the activities of our new Scotts Miracle-Gro® LawnService Franchise. Our Scotts spring applications are critical to jump start your lawn and ensure that unsightly crabgrass doesn't get established. Be sure to call us soon as our schedule is filling up quickly.

We thank you for the opportunity to work with you this year, and as always, please contact us directly if you have any questions, or if there's anything else we can do for you.

Keith Patterson

## BATTLING BROADLEAF WEEDS

As any good general will tell you, success in battle means identifying your enemy. In the battle against weeds, broadleaf weeds are usually very easy to identify. They look different from the grasses they grow in and around, and being physiologically different than grasses, they may be controlled with the use of selective herbicides without injury to the desirable grass.

### BROADLEAF WEEDS FALL INTO THESE CATEGORIES:

**Annual Weeds** do not produce extensive below-ground vegetative structures. They spread because of the large number of seeds they produce, and therefore are generally the easiest broadleaf weeds to control.

**Winter Annuals** germinate in late summer to early fall, and go through a period of semi-dormancy in the winter; they flower the following spring. They mature and die with the on-set of warmer temperatures and increasing day lengths in late spring or early summer.

**Summer Annuals** germinate in the spring, grow and develop during the summer, produce seeds and die by the fall or after the first hard frost.

**Perennial Weeds** germinate from seed, but produce a root structure that can produce new plants (tubers, bulbs or corms).

After identifying the weeds, the next step is to control them. Pulling weeds by hand is one option, but can result in regrowth because it's difficult to remove the weed's entire root structure. A variety of herbicides can also be used to control broadleaf weeds. To be effective a dry granular form of weed killer or a weed-and-feed type of dry fertilizer should only be applied to wet grass and weeds. Liquid forms should be applied on a calm day so as not to drift onto desirable plants.

But by far, the best weed control is a healthy, dense lawn. Weed seeds need light to germinate and a dense lawn will prevent light from reaching the surface of the soil. Lawn care professionals have the knowledge and the tools to effectively battle broadleaf weeds in your lawn.



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