

A Word From Blake



As the official start of summer quickly approaches, it seems like the hot, humid weather has already set in. While the hot weather is perfect for pool trips and beach vacations, it can also provide a breeding ground for turf disease and weeds in your lawn. Over the next few months, disease scouting and weed control will be one of our top priorities. This newsletter (pg. 2) is packed with information on how you can help us with turf disease prevention and what to

do if you see disease and weeds spreading in your yard.

Please let us know if we can help with additional lawn maintenance or watering while you enjoy your summer vacations!

Blake Murray, Owner

What We'll Be Working On Over The Next Few Weeks

(or what you can be doing, if you don't currently have landscape services with Murray's)

- Mowing Turf
- Applying Broad Leaf Weed Control for Turf & Beds
- Installing Mulch
- Pruning Shrubs
- Pruning Azelas (after they're finished flowering)
- Scouting for Insect and Disease Problems

Getting in Shape: Holly Pruning Basics

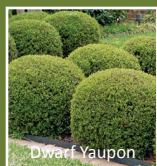
There are many varieties of hollies, but generally speaking, once the temperatures start to warm up and the hollies have come out of dormancy, it's a good idea to start pruning.

Knowing Your Holly's Natural Shape: The first thing to keep in mind when pruning your hollies is to make sure you know the natural shape your specific variety of holly should take. By pruning your holly according to its natural shape, you will save yourself a lot of time in the long run. If you prune your hollies in an unnatural shape, you will have to perform a lot of heavy reduction pruning that can be stressful on the plant during the growing season.

Hedging Your Hollies: Many people like to hedge their hollies. This is a good practice as long as your variety of holly is hedgeable - in fact, hedgeable hollies typically prefer to grow together.

Good Hedging Hollies

- Needle Point
- Dwarf Yaupon
- Dwarf Burford



Bad Hedging Hollies

- Nellie Stevens
- Standard Yaupon
- Winter Berry



Crabgrass Control

Crabgrass is a pesky weed to control in turf grass. As part of Murray's Signature Turf Care Program, we apply pre-emergent herbicides to help prevent large infestations of crabgrass; however, even with preventative efforts crabgrass can creep in. It is important to scout for and recognize crabgrass in its early stages so it doesn't spread in your lawn. Once crab grass spreads more than 4 tillers (clumps), the root zone is well established and it takes multiple applications of heavy duty herbicide to control further spreading. If you notice crabgrass popping up in your lawn, give us a call so we can address the problem immediately!

Southern Service, Professional Results!

Plant Disease Identification

There are dozens of varieties of ornamental plant diseases. Sometimes it's hard to self-diagnose these diseases as many have similar markers. If you notice any abnormalities or changes in your ornamental plants, give us a call- we'd be happy to provide a free consultation! **919-795-9885**

Worried About Your Lawn Getting Fried While You're On Vacation?

We're here to help!

If you're going on vacation and need help keeping your turf and plants well-hydrated, give us a call. We will create and execute a customized watering schedule to make sure your hard work doesn't get fried while you're enjoying vacation!

Let's Get Social!

Link up with us on social media!



@betttrcurbappeal



/murrayslandscapeservices

Important Notice: WE'VE MOVED!

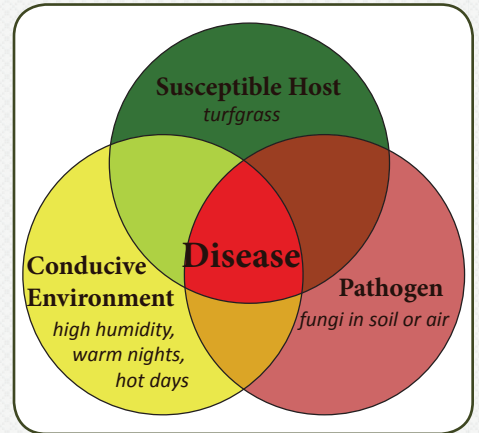
Please send payments and correspondence to our new address:

**4515 Greenglen Drive
Durham, NC 27705**

Turf Disease & Fungicides 101

Conditions for Disease Development:

In order for turf disease to develop, there must be 3 factors – a disease, a susceptible plant or turf, and the proper environment. If all three factors are not present, a disease will not develop in your lawn. For example, you could have brown patch spores in your turf but the environmental conditions are not humid enough so the disease will not take hold. The hot and humid conditions summer typically provide the ideal environment for disease growth and spread so it's important to keep the disease out of your lawn from the start.



Avoiding Fungicides by Practicing IPM:

IPM, also known as Integrated Pest Management, is a set of principals focused on using natural and proper horticultural practices to reduce or prevent the need for herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides. As a company, we try to encourage the use of IPM to prevent costly chemical applications and maintain a healthy environment in your lawn.

IPM Prevention, Avoidance, Monitoring, and Suppression (PAMS) techniques:

- **Prevention** – Activities such as cleaning equipment and gear and scheduling irrigation to limit situations that are conducive to disease development.
- **Avoidance** – Activities such as maintaining healthy and diverse plant communities and using pest resistant varieties.
- **Monitoring** – Activities such as pest scouting.
- **Suppression** – Activities such as the judicious use of cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical control methods to reduce or eliminate a pest population or its impacts.

What To Do When a Disease Takes Hold:

If you notice that a turf disease has taken hold on your lawn despite preventative practices, it is best to call a professional. We can come out to monitor and evaluate the disease progression and recommend the proper horticultural remedy. We may be able to manage it without using a chemical application; however, if it is spreading quickly, chemical intervention may be necessary to save your turf and prevent the need for a complete turf overhaul. If you notice suspicious changes in your turf, give us a call and we'll come out to give you a free lawn evaluation!



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