



Update

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Time for a Spring Spruce Up! *by Tripp Hamby, Priority Landscapes*



Spring is right around the corner, and as the District's Landscape company, we want to share a few timely tips to help you make your landscape something to be proud of. A well-manicured landscape to come home to is the first step towards relaxation after a long stressful day. We have chosen 3 topics to help get your landscape ready for the year.

1. Weed Control - With the combination of the abnormally mild temperatures and high rainfall this winter, broadleaf weeds are sure to be a nuisance. February is the time to apply a pre-emergent weed control. It is important to do this now to help control weeds before they germinate and infiltrate your yard. Broadleaf weeds such as Henbit and thistle are likely to be the first to show up and may have already done so. If that is the case in your yard, apply the pre-emergent and control those that have already emerged. With soft soil, mechanical removal (hand pulling) may be a good way to remove them if you don't have too many. Get as much root as you can, or they will be back to see you soon. Other options are self-treating with herbicide or calling in the professionals to do it. If you choose to do it yourself, purchase an herbicide intended for use on broadleaf weeds. Be sure to follow instructions, and note the

appropriate application temperatures (listed on the label). Ewing Irrigation in Cedar Park is a great resource to help you choose the right product for your lawn.

2. Bed Cleanup and Mulch - Bed cleanup is important to have a fresh spring landscape. If you have perennials, it's time to cut them back. By cutting perennials back, you remove the older parts of the plant material to stimulate new growth for a fresh--and in some cases, more prolific--blooming. Some perennials found in this area are Lantanas, Salvia Greggii, ornamental grasses and Liriope, to name a few. If you are not sure what you have in your yard, we suggest you start with Austin's Grow Green website found at www.growgreen.org to help identify them. This will help you understand the conditions in which they grow best and how you can maintain them properly.

3. Irrigation System - Have your irrigation system checked by a licensed irrigator. They can help make sure your landscape is getting the appropriate coverage: applying water to your landscape instead of your driveway, house, street and neighbor's yard. A good licensed irrigator will be well worth the cost of the inspection and will help you conserve water.

Weekend Hours at Apache Pool

Beginning in March, Apache Pool will be open on the weekends! The pool is currently open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 5:00-9:00pm. As of March 2, it will also be open Saturdays and Sundays from 1-6:00pm.

Masters Swim Class 2nd Session

Masters Swim is a program for Block House adults (age 18+) of all skill levels and abilities to practice customized workouts in a fun group setting.

The MUD is using swim team revenue to subsidize the cost of the classes, so District residents will have the opportunity to participate at a reduced cost of \$30 for six weeks.

The next six week session runs from Feb 18 through Mar 29 (Mon, Wed, Fri 6:00-6:45 PM).

Visit the MUD website for more details and registration instructions.

Stage 2 watering restrictions (two days per week) are in effect for Block House MUD

Block House MUD Board of Directors

Cecilia Roberts, President
Steve Bennett, Vice President
Byron Koenig, Treasurer
Rayan Horak, Secretary
Ursula Logan, Asst. Secretary

Contact the Board at
www.blockhousemud.com

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Walker House Hours: The on-site representative is available to assist District residents from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri., and from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM every Weds.

Upcoming Events

Wastewater averaging through 3/3

Feb 5-28: Zumba at Pavilion
Feb 18: Masters Swim Class begins
Feb 18: Presidents Day
Feb 27: MUD Board Meeting
Feb 28: BHCOA Board Meeting
Mar 1: Weekend Apache Pool hours begin

Visit www.blockhousemud.com
for more information

Protocol for Misdelayed Mail

Millions of pieces of mail and packages are delivered every day, and occasionally some of it ends up in an unintended place. What should you do if you receive something that is not addressed to you, or if you are missing a package that tracking says was delivered?

First, it is important to check your mailbox regularly and often. This helps deter theft and also aids in getting mail where it needs to go more quickly. Someone may be waiting for a package that was inadvertently put in your box. Another good practice, where possible, is to have your bank and credit card statements, or anything with information you'd prefer to keep confidential, sent to you electronically instead of through the mail.

Under no circumstances should misdelivered mail be opened. Sometimes accidents do happen, but please try to check before you open.

If the mailpiece was delivered to the wrong address, simply put it back in the outgoing mail slot. Do not write anything on it. The carrier will deliver it to the correct box. If it's a package, you'll need to hand it to a carrier or take it to the post office. Keeping a package that was not addressed to you is against the law.

If you receive mail for someone who used to live at your address, but doesn't anymore, you should write "Not at this address" and put it in the outgoing mail slot (or take it to the post office). Do not write over the name or address, but it is a good idea to mark through any barcodes.

For chronic USPS misdeliveries, file a complaint by calling their Consumer Affairs office at 1-800-ASK-USPS. You should also report it to the Leander postmaster and your individual carrier. Postal workers can also help you start a missing mail search if you do not receive something that should have been delivered.

You Say "Storage," the Law Says "Dumping"

Some of our most treasured resources are our creek and greenbelt areas. Improper storage or disposal of items on the greenbelt constitute violations of several rules adopted by the District under the authority of State and Federal law. These rules prohibit the disposal of any material on District property, including yard clippings, trash, construction debris, and hazardous waste. The rules are designed to protect District property and to comply with Federal requirements relating to storm water, which are intended to protect our drainage facilities as well as natural resources and water quality.

Residents are not allowed to store any items behind their property lines at any time, no matter the condition of the items or their intended use. Such items detract from the natural beauty of the area and cost tax dollars to clean up. If you are found to be in violation of these rules, the MUD Board of Directors may elect to impose a fine of up to \$2,000 per day for each violation, in addition to possible fines and jail time imposed by the State of Texas.

Thank you for helping to keep our common areas and waterways clean.

