



The HOME FRONT

JANUARY 2013

Official Publication of Legends Ranch Property Owners Association

VOL 7, ISSUE 1

Cookies with Santa

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Legends Ranch

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Montgomery MUD #89	713-932-9011

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Legends Ranch Info Center	281-681-9750
Legends Ranch SplashPad	281-419-2130
Gate Attendant Office.....	281-296-0433

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Montgomery Sheriff	936-760-5800
Pct. 3 Constable Office	281-364-4211
S. Montgomery Co. Fire Dept. Non-Emergency.....	281-363-3473
Montgomery County EMS Non-Emergency	936-441-6243
Crime Stoppers	713-222-TIPS
Poison Control.....	800-222-1222
Texas DPS	713-681-1761

Utilities

Electricity (TXU).....	800-368-1398
Electricity (TXU New Service)	281-441-3928
Electricity (Centerpoint)	713-207-2222
Gas (Centerpoint).....	713-659-2111
Water/Municipal Oper. & Consulting	281-367-5511
Canyon Gate Connect	281-296-9584
Best Trash	281-313-2378
Street Light Outages.....	713-207-2222
Cable/Internet/Phone...COMCAST	713-341-1000

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Toll Road EZ Tag.....	281-875-3279
Voters Registration.....	936-539-7843
Vehicle Registration	281-292-3325
Drivers License Information	936-442-2810
Montgomery County Animal Control	936-442-7738
Montgomery Chamber	281-367-5777

Area Hospitals

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St. Luke's	832-266-2000
Conroe Medical Center	281-364-7900

Conroe ISD

Birnam Woods Elementary	281-863-4200
Cox Intermediate	281-465-3200
York Junior High	832-592-8600
Oak Ridge High	832-592-5300

Private/Parochial

First Baptist Church	936-756-6622
Sacred Heart Catholic Church.....	936-756-3848
St. Edward Catholic.....	281-353-4570
St. James Episcopal Day	936-756-4984

BOARD & MANAGEMENT CO.

Management Co.: Real Manage

Customer Service ... (866)473-2573/service@realmanage.com

Board Members:

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Home is Where the Heart Is

Gardening Tips for *January* ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

January is one of the slowest months of the year in the garden. It is however, the best month to get a head start on some of gardening chores.

Now is the time to refresh your flower beds with new organic matter. Organic matter in the soil helps maintain soil moisture while giving your plants a slow release fertilization. It also helps break up hard and compacted soils. Loose soils allow rapid expansion of plant roots (the better the root system, the happier the plant.)

Some forms of organic matter must be worked into the soil, i.e. commercial Garden Soils, peat moss, and coir. To do this rake off your existing mulch onto a ground sheet so it can be reused, then lay a 1 to 2 inch layer of say Garden Soil on the top and till or fork it in, mixing well to a depth of 6 to 8 inches. Compost, well aged manure and commercial bedding plant mixes can be used as just a top dressing, although it is better to mix them in as well.

Now you can re-spread your old mulch. Check to see if you still have a good layer of mulch on your beds, 2 inches is good, 3 inches is better.

All mulches eventually break down (with the exception of rubber mulch), some breaking down faster than others. Of the wood based mulches, pine bark breaks down the fastest. This is good and bad. The bad is that you have to replace it often. The good is that after a year or so it can be worked into the soil as an amendment. Longer to last is shredded hardwood, then cedar and lastly cypress.

Now that is cooler and your plants are at least semi-dormant, it is time to do your major pruning. Remove dead wood, crossing branches that rub and any limbs that are broken. If you need to lower the overall height of a plant, a good rule of thumb is not to lower it more than 1/3 of the total height. This will apply to pruning roses as well, however use a good sharp pair of bypass pruners and be sure to make an angle cut above a outside facing leaf scar.

If you have any questions, please come by and see me at Lone Star Ace Hardware or contact me at troy@lonestarace.com. Until next month.



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PERFECT TIME FOR COOL SEASON HERBICIDE

It's finally time to use the cool season herbicides I've referred to on the GardenLine radio program. If you know what I'm talking about but just need the names of the products, they are Fertilome's Weed Free Zone and Bonide's Weed Beater Ultra. These herbicides are specific for broadleaf weeds like Clover and Virginia Buttonweed. They will not control any "grassy" weeds. The perfect temperature range for usage of these two cool-season herbicides is roughly between 75 degree highs and 40 degree lows.

But there are some caveats that must be respected for these herbicides to work properly. The one constant in weed control, whether it's a cool season herbicide or a regular post-emergent herbicide, is to use a surfactant. Surfactants help herbicides do their job because most water in our area is considered hard. Hard water tends to just roll off leaf surfaces. There are two ways of adding a surfactant to most herbicides. The simple way is add about a tablespoon per gallon of dish soap to the mix. The professional grade way is to use a relatively inexpensive commercial

surfactant like Hi-Yield's Spreader Sticker or Bonide's Turbo. The other important step would have to be "HOW" it is applied. You should use either a pump-up sprayer or a hand-held trigger sprayer. Avoid the use of Dial-N-Spray hose sprayer because you cannot be as precise with the spray, and over-use of such products on the entire yard can cause a yellowing of the grass. Spot treating is paramount with these controls. There are some concentrates available in a "Ready to Spray" formula that you hook on the end of the hose. If this is the only thing available, concentrate on that spot treatment. That means you've got to be quick on the switch with the ON and OFF lever.

Excerpts from this tip sheet are reprinted by permission from Randy Lemmon at www.randylemmon.com.

GardenLine with Randy Lemmon

Exclusively on NewsTalk 740 KTRH | Sat. & Sun. 6 - 10 a.m.

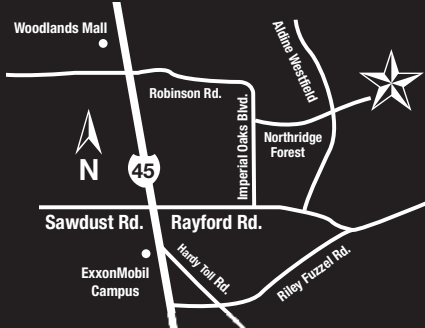
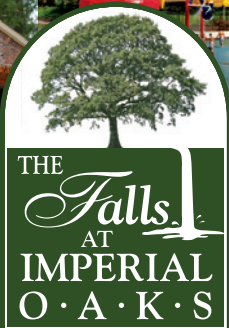
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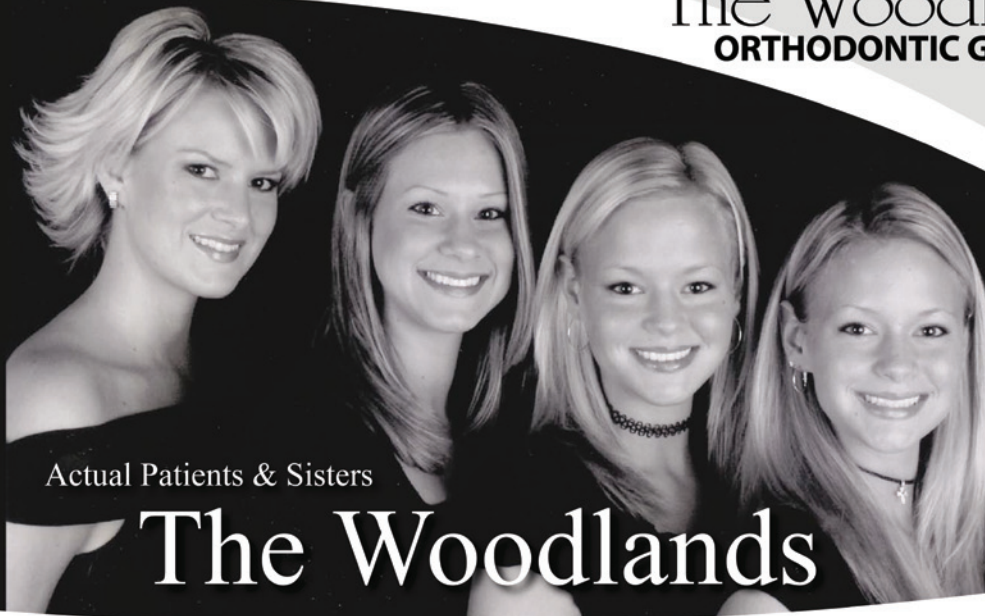
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