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Here are a couple suggestions we had for the next newsletter.

Now is an excellent opportunity for turf weed control.

Right now there are broadleaf weeds that can be controlled with liquid post-emergence weed control, utilize a Certified Applicator or if they care for their own lawn, follow all labeling instructions prior to use.

It is also time to start planning an early spring pre-emergence herbicide application for the turf, applied as a preventative for early spring and summer annual weeds

Winter freeze damage to plants is also a viable concern right now. If we happen to get a freeze, do not be too anxious to trim back the tropicals (Variegated Ginger, Hibiscus, Sago palms and Pygmy Palms) that have been damaged by the freeze. Let the damage leaves stay on as a protective covering against any additional freeze we may see. Historically, we are out of the woods by end of February.

Hearty plants that were hurt, but are not known for freeze damage, proceed with removing some of the dead. If we do have another warning of freeze, particularly if we have dry conditions prior to the warning, turn on your Irrigation temporarily or hand water if possible prior to a freeze and then protect your Irrigation system or water source again. The plants aide in protection from the winter desiccation with moisture present in the plant.

Valentines Day is also a reminder to start pruning back and trimming any Roses you may have.

Finally, as spring approaches, monitor your Irrigation closely. We all have a tendency to overwater. Most of the plant disease concerns and the difficult to control summer weed problems are much more predominant during prolonged wet periods. Try to stay towards the dry side on both turf and ornamental plants for better results. Have your beds and trees mulched to help conserve water and hold moisture for the plants.

Thanks  
Mel Reist



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