



the Hedgelines

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A Culture of Purpose.

#Family #HurricaneIan #Culture #Passion

Our culture is a crucial differentiator to our success. The family-like atmosphere throughout the company is significant. We have a unique bond among all members of the LMP team that permeates our entire organization. 'From the ground up,' we share common values and a love for family, the outdoors, and beautiful landscapes. Our culture has transformed our team into a family. Our family environment allows us to ensure that our teams share the same passion and vision for the task.

Ultimately, culture is the living part of our company's mission statement. The words that hang at each of our branches and are posted on our website only mean something if our employees make them real. Our leadership is keenly aware of the purpose they fulfill for clients, employees, and the community.

Through the leadership of our CEO, Orlando Castillo, and Vice President and General Manager, Scott Carlson, they have continued to build on hiring the right people, with the right capabilities, in the right place and doing the right things to drive business performance sustainably. We'd rather develop leaders than acquire them.

A Culture of Pride.

Pride is the result of something well-accomplished. Pride means you'll go that extra mile for those you serve. We are passionate about what we do and have that attitude that if you do something you love, it doesn't feel like work.

For example, recently, Hurricane Ian impacted all of SW Florida. Our Sarasota Branch customers were affected the most. After the storm cleared, we had resources from our Pasco and Tampa offices deployed to assist Sarasota on Friday, September 30th. We asked for help from our Tampa and Pasco teams, and for the past two weekends, we've been able to send a team of 80 for both Saturdays and Sundays. If we didn't have such a tremendous culture, our LMP family members wouldn't be engaged to help our customers in need, no matter the location.

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Tree Management Post-Hurricane Ian

Pruning the Canopy

Balance the canopy by reducing the length of limbs on the side where weight is concentrated. Do not remove interior branches, as this thickens foliage at the tips of branches and causes them to break in strong winds.

Building a Strong Structure

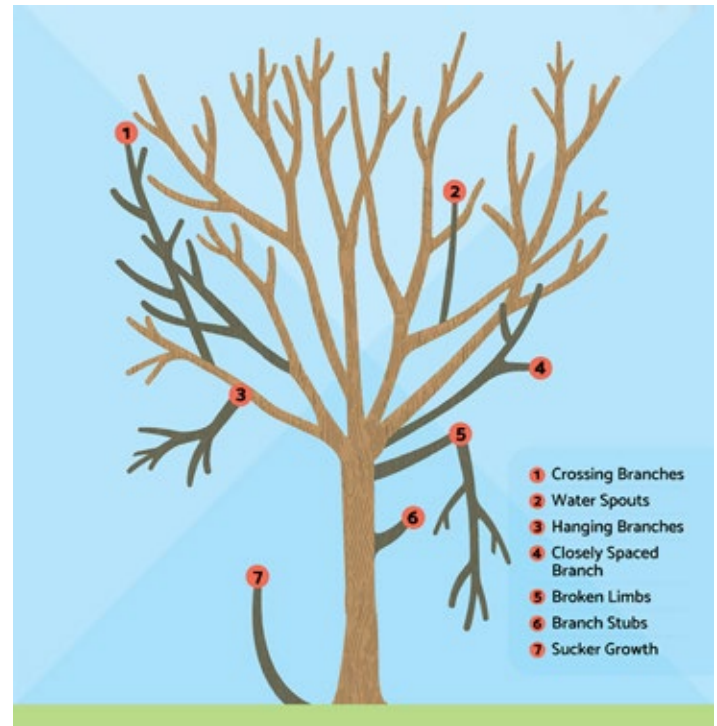
Creating a more robust tree structure is an ongoing process known as structural pruning.

Pruning Smaller Trees

Develop one dominant trunk by shortening competing branches with reduction cuts. When performed regularly, this makes trees stronger by allowing the main trunk to grow larger than branches.

Pruning Mature Trees

To minimize the likelihood of tree damage: Reduce the length of limbs with a weak attachment to the trunk. Also, reduce limbs that are more than 1/2 the diameter of the main trunk or extended beyond the main canopy. Balance the canopy by reducing the length of limbs on the side where weight is concentrated. Do not remove interior branches, as this concentrates foliage at the tips of branches and causes them to break in strong winds.



Management of Sprouts on Recovering Trees

The next step in restoration is managing sprouts to build structure back into the tree. Sprouts should be allowed to grow for a few years before any significant pruning is performed. Remember: sprouts are a sign of recovery! Sprouts work to restore the tree's ability to make food, taking the place of the leaves lost in the hurricane. Their growth rate will slow as sprouts get larger and compete with each other for light and space. At this point, 1/3 of the sprouts can be removed, 1/3 reduced (or cut shorter), and the rest left to become the new branches. Remember that this process will need to be repeated over the years, and the length of time necessary for restoration will depend on factors like damage severity and the size of the tree. After restoration, continue structural pruning by either reducing or removing codominant stems.

Will my Palm Trees Recover?

A common question after a tropical storm or hurricane event is will my palm tree recover? Palms grow different from other trees, so there's definitely a different way to care for them post-storm.

The growing point of a palm tree is the bud, located in the top of the tree. This is where the palm fronds emerge. If this bud area becomes damaged, no new leaves will develop and unfortunately the tree will die. If by chance the palm tree has multiple stemmed trunks, the undamaged trunk(s) should survive. Often times palm trees are so tall that it is very difficult to visibly determine if the bud has been damaged. Time will tell.

It's important to wait at least 6 months to see if palms develop new growth. Palms usually rebound slowly after a storm. It may take a couple of years before the palm tree produces a full canopy of fronds. If a damaged palm tree is determined to be in peril and current rainfall is not sufficient, it's important to irrigate three times a week for at least six weeks to assist in recovery.



Preparing your Turf for Winter

Now that summer's rainy season has passed, it's time to prepare your Florida lawn for the drier months ahead. Fall in Central Florida means less rain, more sun with shorter days, and sustained warm temperatures with less humidity — a perfect mix for quickly drying out your lawn if you aren't careful. The turf growth rate starts to slow down as we enter into November which is why we adjust our mowing schedule to every other week. Pauses longer than that are not recommended because it may not seem to be growing a lot, but the growth is generally taking place in the thatch layer. A built of thatch layer brings on other problems.

To prevent potential lawn disasters in your own yard check out our tips on preparing your Florida lawn for fall!

When Temperatures Drop

St. Augustine grass likely makes up your Florida lawn. This grass grows incredibly well year-round in subtropical climates. However, it still needs special care and attention to stay that luscious green throughout all seasons. Prepare your lawn in the fall so it will last through winter. November in Florida still sees many warm days on average, but soon the cool fronts will start bringing a sense of autumn. Maintain your lawn in the fall by keeping up your regular mowing practices as long as your grass continues growing. Cooler temperatures will inevitably begin to slow down the growth rate of your grass until it becomes dormant for the winter, which is when you can start mowing less frequently.

Best Watering Practices

Too little water and the grass will die; too much and it drowns. Knowing our area's best watering habits will help you keep your lawn beautiful and healthy. Grasses in our area need an average of 1 inch of water per week. During our drought months, which is usually between November until March, grass roots are searching for water. When your lawn receives the right amount of moisture, it soaks the roots encouraging them to head downward, growing between 6 to 7 inches. When the roots don't receive enough water, they search for it. The roots will rise to the surface and the root system shortens. These shorter roots close to the surface are more susceptible to heat and drought creating "heat stress." Then comes our rainy season; by then, the shorter roots drown by being at the top of the soil. Heat stress can lead to more problems such as disease, insect infestation, and weeds and weaken your lawn. Heat stress comes from a lack of water and can show up with grass wilting, brown spots, and, finally, the death of the lawn itself.

How do you know if your lawn is suffering from heat stress?

Look at your overall lawn carefully. If your grass leaves are folding in and wilting and you notice brown and random rough patches of grass in full sun areas or higher ground areas, this will be your clue to heat stress. You might also note that areas beside the water sprinkles or under-shaded areas are still green.

How do you protect your lawn from Heat Stress?

Try using a moisture meter. After watering, simply insert the moisture meter into your soil. Wait for the appropriate time recommended by the meter, and the readings will let you know if your lawn has gotten enough water. It's a good idea to check several of your lawn zones with your meter to see if each area is getting sufficient amounts of water.



A Culture of Purpose. *continued*



A Culture of Passion.

Nothing is possible at LMP without our team's skill and unparalleled work ethic. We value creativity and foster each individual's creative abilities, providing the tools and systems to empower everyone to perform at high levels. We introduce new team members to our culture through programs and training, paving the way for clear expectations and two-way communication. By building employee pride, we have created a team that brings the LMP brand to life and deliver, creating a tie between employees, clients, and business performance.

A Culture that Allows for Ongoing Success.

LMP has created client-centered solid relationships through the delivery of high-quality commercial landscape maintenance. This accomplishment is a result of the incredible tenure and experience of our crews and management. People want to feel like they are part of something bigger than themselves, and the LMP culture has enabled our success for over 31 years.

Property Spotlight:



VENETIANSM GOLF & RIVER CLUB



Like its famous namesake, Venetian Golf & River Club is an Italian masterpiece. Located on the wild and scenic Myakka River in a secure gated golf community. With 663 of its 1,000-plus acres devoted to a meticulously landscaped 18-hole golf course, lakes, wetlands, conservation areas, and a 70-acre nature park, Venetian Golf & River Club is a nature lover's paradise.



Over 363 acres of its 1,000-plus acres area are reserved for natural wildlife habitats, wetlands, lakes, a meticulously landscaped golf course, conservation, and a beautiful nature park. The Venetian Golf and River Club was thoughtfully designed in strict compliance with the Florida Green Building Coalition and its Green Home Designation Policies. Real estate includes townhomes, villas, and luxury single-family homes with golf and wildlife preserve views.



The Venetian Golf and River Club proudly features the Audubon International Gold Signature 18-hole 72-par championship golf course, which was designed by the highly respected and world-renowned golf course architect Chip Powell. The 18-hole course meanders through the graceful neighborhoods and offers five sets of tees to challenge players of all skill levels. Golfers enjoy extraordinary views of lush, meandering fairways and protected greens among the backdrop of serene lakes and wetlands.

The Mediterranean-inspired community encompasses the best of Florida's beautiful greenery: tall, lush trees, well-maintained hedges, and gorgeous gardens with a resort-style clubhouse with a pool and adjoining lap pool, a fully equipped fitness center, a 6 Har-Tru tennis court complex, a kayak launch, and dining facilities, and many social activities for its members. Beyond that is the direct connection to walking trails that parallel the Myakka River via its nature park. Everywhere you go, you'll see people walking and riding bicycles. Birds and other wildlife are abundant, even more so because the golf course is one of just four area golf courses to be accepted into the Audubon International Signature Program for its environmentally sustainable practices.



THANK YOU LMP

We are fortunate to have LMP as our landscaping provider. They did an outstanding job for the Venetian Post Hurricane Ian. They met all of our expectations during a very difficult time.

Rick McCafferty
Landscape Liaison | Venetian CDD



The Unstoppables! Pansies, Violas, & Panolas

As we head into the fall season, our outdoor gardens have to shift and transform with the weather. Summer blooms are beginning to fade, and the time has come to bring in some cool-weather flowers. Pansies & violas have been a fall staple for many reasons, including their ability to bloom in the cold and signature vibrant "faces," along with Panolas, which are newer variety. These are all some of the toughest cool season annuals. If they're planted in the early fall, they'll begin blooming that season, through the winter and into the spring.

Pansies are beautiful cool-season plants with vibrant big blooms in solid colors or a face in the middle of the bloom. Because pansies have much larger, more noticeable blooms than violas, they can create a bigger pop of color in your garden. They're a bit taller—6 to 12 inches—than violas.

Violas look like miniature pansies with brilliant solid color blooms or blooms with faces. Viola blooms are much smaller but much more prolific than regular pansies. While the blooms of violas are smaller than those of pansies, violas have more blooms per plant. This means they can create a thicker layer of coverage in your flowerbed. Violas also tend to trail a little bit and lie lower to the earth than pansies—typically at 3 to 8 inches. Violas are the hardiest of the four choices, so they're quicker to recover after a hard freeze. Because of this, violas will have more blooms in January and February than pansies.

Panola's are a cross between pansies and violas. The Panola seems to have gotten the best features of its parents. Panola's have the cold hardiness and high bloom count of violas and the larger bloom size of a pansy. Plants will grow 6 to 8 inches tall and are prolific bloomers that may have a dozen flowers open at one time. For this reason, they deserve a place in the landscape and containers. The sheer number of flowers produced makes them as showy, even from a distance, as the large-flowered Pansy.



No matter which flower you choose, give it a fighting chance by following a few basic care tips.

1. Plant them in a sunny area.
2. Be sure to water them during sunny, dry weather, even if it is cold outside.
3. Feed them at planting with Ferti-Lome Premium Bedding Plant Food. This is a slow-release fertilizer that encourages blooming. They are heavy feeders, so applying a light application of fertilizer each month will keep them happy. Those growing in containers feed every other week with a dilute, water-soluble fertilizer.
4. Periodic deadheading will keep the flowers coming.
5. Be sure to mulch them after you're done planting. This will help retain moisture and warmth in the soil and prevent them from being heaved up out of the soil during a warm spell.
6. If they look wilted and sad after a cold spell, they usually perk up once it warms up.
7. Remember that pansies, violas, and panolas are "critter candy," as deer, rabbits, and squirrels like to munch on them. Sprinkle some cayenne pepper (which contains capsaicin and typically lasts longer than a hot pepper wax liquid repellent) on the foliage and on top of the soil in containers to deter rabbits and squirrels.

Got Mulch?

Mulching your landscaping may not be on your list of things to do this Fall, but it should be if you want healthy, beautiful plants in the spring. Mulching around plants has all kinds of benefits, from preventing soil erosion to suppressing weeds to protecting plants from moisture loss and shifts in temperature.

Many of the plants, shrubs, and trees here in Central Florida don't cope very well with our colder weather. Organic mulches such as pine needles, sawdust, straw, grass clippings, and fallen leaves are good for introducing nutrients into the soil. Mulching can also help control erosion; having bare soil on your property will cause erosion and sediment runoff.

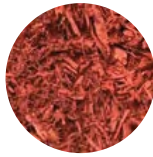
DYED MULCH



Black
(2cu)



Cocoa Brown
(2cu)



Red
(2cu)

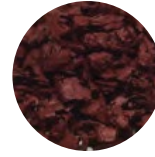


Gold
(2cu)

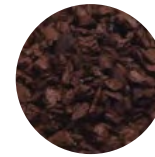
PLAYGROUND MULCH



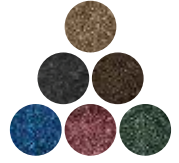
Melaleuca
(2cu)



Rubber
Brick Red
(1.6cu)



Rubber
Saddle Brown
(1.6cu)



Rubber Bulk
(2,000 lb)

SHREDDED MULCH



Cypress
(3cu)

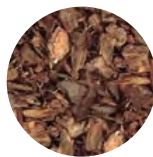


Eucalyptus
(2cu)

PINE



Large
(3cu)



Mini
(3cu)



Super Mini
(3cu)



Pine Fines
(2cu)

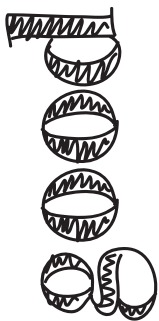


Pine Straw
(Bales)



LOVE YOUR LAWN

Healthy lawns are a powerful ally when it comes to helping to clean our environment. Turf absorbs dust, pollen, and other nuisance pollution carried in the air. Surface runoff is often absorbed by our lawns and that helps to keep harmful chemicals and nutrients out of our waterways, and one 2500 square foot area of lawn can produce enough oxygen to supply a family of four. So love your turf and it will love you back!



ENHANCING THE VIEW

November and December are the ideal months to plant trees and shrubs. Cooler air temperatures during the fall gives freshly planted trees and shrubs a better chance to develop healthier root systems more rapidly than those planted in hotter months. There are so many great trees and shrubs to pick from when thinking about fall landscaping that have wonderful texture, unique leaf shapes, and amazing color.



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