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Welcome!

The GreenVine

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Weather Tracking To Reduce Water Use

Did you know that 58% of US urban water usage is applied to landscapes? Water is seen as an endless supply because it seems abundant. History tells us though that what appears to be plentiful may easily be depleted. That's why we encourage the use of Hydro Point's 'WeatherTrak et Pro 2' irrigation system timer. The clock uses satellite systems to monitor weather conditions and reacts accordingly. This type of data correspondence reduces overwatering providing both a green solution to water usage and a little more in your pocket with decreased utility cost. Now that's an environmentally sound savings that is easily achieved!

PLANT OF THE MONTH:

Dianthus

A hardy flower more commonly known as Carnation or Sweet William, Dianthus is a genus of 300 species.



It prefers a light mulching, lots of sun and can withstand most climates. A little known Dianthus fact: This flower is deer resistant.



Baker Goes "Green(er)!"

At Baker Landscaping, we are taking steps to reduce our environmental footprint. Our biggest project currently underway is the conversion of all our gasoline powered mowers to propane, or LP. The benefits abound. For starters, we will create a savings of 94% of carbon monoxide emissions. Not sure how that adds up? Think of it this way: gasoline carbon monoxide emissions equal 2,024 parts per million (ppm) where LP comes to only 140 ppm. Propane also costs less than gasoline and can be stored on-site saving trips to the gas station and therefore decreasing our dependency on gasoline while diversifying our usage of fuels. You see, because our peak season consists of those trademark hot and humid Florida days, our fuel costs less because there is less demand for

propane in the summer than in the cold winter months. That's a savings we can pass on you, our clients. Propane is also mechanically beneficial to the mowers



New propane-run mower on display at Stiles Management Company's 'Green Day' event.

themselves. Because it doesn't gunk like gas does, maintenance costs are reduced. A mixture of gas and oil is not necessary for propane which means no messy spills. LP does not emit hydrocarbons or evaporative emissions, it is not toxic to soil or

water and best of all, 85% of propane is produced in the United States, lessening our dependence on foreign oil. We listened and are taking action to become as eco-friendly as we can. Aside from our propane mowers, the following are a few little known eco-facts about Baker:

- We recycle as much paper as possible, right down to paperclip boxes.
- Our new sales brochures are printed on 100% recycled paper.
- We buy recycled office products as often as possible.

Pest- & Herbicides: Environmentally Safe?

Chemical use is a highly debated topic among environmentalists and scientists. The line is drawn between those that apply the substances correctly and those that do not. Also taken into account is the persistence of applications. When proper management practices are followed,

pest- and herbicide use will be minimal, safety precautions will be taken and all environmental factors will be considered. Furthermore, chemicals used will be as environmentally sound as possible. Atrazine, one of the most common herbicides Baker uses, has been rigorously tested

for its effects on humans and their food, residual effects on plants and contact effects with wildlife, namely amphibians. The EPA thoroughly and routinely tests lawn and landscape treatments for their safety. Baker, in turn, is committed to using only those approved by the EPA.



Outgrowing Your Expectations!