

The GreenVine

Volume I, Issue III

July 1, 2010

Baker Commercial Landscaping, Inc. | Baker Fertilization & Pest Control, LLC
"Outgrowing Your Expectations"

Weeds: Friend or Foe?

For almost all of the green spaces that humans maintain, weeds are a pesky problem battled with hours of labor and tons of chemical treatments. Have you ever wondered why weeds seem to have more lives than our bottles of herbicides? Its because



nature, meticulous and patient in everything she does, sends these 'pioneer plants' in to rejuvenate wounded soil. Bare spots in a flower bed? Not for long; weeds will be marching in soon enough to cover them. Cynical as it may seem to us, weeds are only doing their job. When the ground is bare by so little as an inch, it gives rain and

sun opportunities to erode the earth. With erosion comes a loss of minerals and nutrients all necessary to maintain healthy soil composition. When the soil begins to decline, so do the millions of soil animals (think beetles, earthworms, etc.), fungi and bacteria that aid in keeping everything else growing, including your geraniums or jasmine.



Nature works in stages. First the weeds grow, then plants spring up followed by shrubs. Over time, these two crowd out most weeds. Finally, if left untouched for a number of years, trees grow and forests emerge. Essentially, weeds are only doing what is natural for them and most beneficial to their environment. Planting "mulch" plants such as comfrey, reeds or ferns is just one way of naturally deterring weeds.

Plant of the Month

Coleus

Coleus is native to the eastern part of the world hailing from Africa, Asia, Australia, the Philippines and the Malay Archipelago. The plant is known for its vivacious leaf coloring, often appearing more intense in partial shade than full sun.



As of June 21, it's officially

SUMMER!

Baker on the Space Coast

If you live in or frequently travel to the Brevard County area, you may have noticed a

few familiar faces around town. Although the waves and sunny beaches are tempting,

we're not taking part in the relaxation of Cocoa. We've branched out to serve more clients!

Keep a watch out for more information in the near future of what's happening in Brevard.

