

Don't let your yard make your house the scariest in the neighborhood this Fall. Take care of those frightening weeds before they take over your lawn.

SCARY WEEDS

Weeds	lmage	Control
Nutsedge (Nutgrass)		DON'T PULL IT! It will spread more!! Combination of pre-emergent and post-emergent weed control for grassy weeds

Crabgrass		It can be pulled by hand but could be challenging. Combination of pre-emergent and post-emergent weed control for grassy weeds
Spurge (Milk Weed)		Hand-pulling is recommended, and the entire root should be removed. Combination of pre-emergent and post-emergent weed control for broadleaf weeds
Dallisgrass		This one is tough to control. Best advice—dig it up! Combination of pre-emergent and post-emergent weed control for grassy weeds
King Ranch Bluestem	A CRITICAL PROPERTY OF THE PRO	Very hard to control—mow regularly and dig it out!! Combination of pre-emergent and post-emergent weed control for grassy weeds
Dandelion		You can hand pull, but the roots grow deep, so try to loosen them and pull the entire root. Combination of pre-emergent and post-emergent weed control for broadleaf weeds

BEST WEED PREVENTION

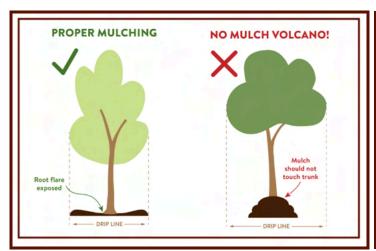
Aerate your lawn, fertilize regularly, and water your lawn correctly (do not overwater this time of year, which will cause more weed pressure). Apply pre-emergents like *HALTS* or *Preen* in March, May, and September. October is still suitable to apply pre-emergent if you didn't do so in September—this will help control spring weeds. Then, tackle any weeds that pop up with a post-emergent like *IMAGE*.



Dress up your Trees this Halloween:

A quick and easy pop to your lawn is to "dress up" your trees and beds with mulch, but remember, the primary purpose of mulch in tree rings is to help protect trees from mower and line trimmer damage. Mulch rings also help conserve moisture and cool the soil, aiding root growth. The recommended mulch depth should be about 2 to 2 ½ inches deep above the soil line in beds and around tree rings. However, the mulch depth will often become greater than that when beds and tree rings are mulched yearly. Do not remove excess mulch since this will damage the plants because roots may have grown into the mulch. The best solution if you have excess mulch is to move any loose mulch to bare areas of beds. Once that is done, lightly mulch all beds and tree rings with a sprinkling of mulch to freshen beds and rings, adding mulch to achieve a final depth of 2 to 2 ½ inches. It is always best to have slightly too much mulch than no mulch at all. However, 2 to 2 ½ inches of mulch in beds and tree rings is ideal. Do not build a mulch volcano around your tree, which refers to piling up mulch against the tree trunk, as this can lead to rot and disease. If your tree rings have excessive mulch, pull the mulch away from the tree's base to expose the root flare.

Our team is frequently asked for advice on which mulch to apply. We recommend triple-ground, dark brown dyed mulch. This mulch is not easy to find; you might need to shop around at home improvement stores or garden shops until you find it. Although triple-ground mulch is ideal, double-ground, dark brown dyed mulch is a suitable choice that will also give your beds and tree rings a clean and professional appearance, adding to your home's curb appeal.







October 2024 Issue of Gardening by the Moon