

Spring 2009

www.enchanted-gardens.us



ENCHANTED GARDENS

SPRING NEWSLETTER

# Spring is Here!

## Owners Desk

Welcome to 2009 and what by all accounts appears to be a challenging year for the country and the economy. At Enchanted Gardens we understand, all too well, the financial pressures these difficult times have placed on many of our clients and subsequently our business.

As a company we are streamlining our operations and refocusing our efforts

on supplying world class service to our growing list of clients. We understand that in times like these it is imperative that we provide our clients maximum return on every dollar spent.

You have my personal thanks for your continued good will and endorsement of Enchanted Gardens and we will continue to strive for excellence in our service offerings and in our

communication with each of you. I encourage you to help us in this endeavor by holding us to a higher standard of service and communicating openly when we fall short or when we exceed your expectations.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Gary C. Swanson

Principal

## Staff Spotlight—Meet Luis Prado

Enchanted Gardens is delighted to have Luis Prado in our organization. Luis heads up our Property Management Division. He supervises and trains our maintenance crews.

Luis has been with us for two years and has over five years experience in landscape property management.

He regularly attends classes to learn the latest trends and techniques in landscape maintenance, all to better serve our clients.

Luis is a charming individual who clearly loves his work, particularly talking to our clients about their maintenance needs.

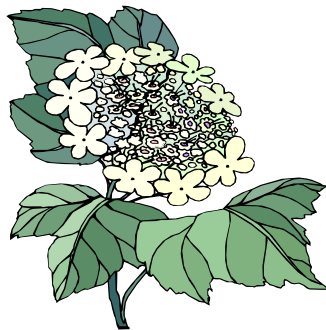
Luis is a self described “family guy”. His spare time is spent with his wife, five year old daughter

and baby son.

Please don’t hesitate to contact Luis with any maintenance needs, he welcomes your call!



Luis Prado, Property Management Division Manager



We invite you to check out our website at [www.enchanted-gardens.us](http://www.enchanted-gardens.us)

### Commonly Asked Questions Forum

*Q: Why have the Property Management Crews not pruned the Hydrangeas this season?*

*A: Contrary to popular belief, all plantings should not be pruned at the same time of year. The Hydrangea Family is one of a few plant species that have hollow stalks. These hollow stalks, if pruned, prior to the last freeze of the year can fill with moisture and then freeze, thereby destroying the cellular structure of the plant. We recommend these types of plantings to be pruned in late February or early March even though they may have already started to bud.*

# It's All About a Lush, Green Lawn

**Aeration, Calcium/Lime, Mulch & Over Seeding Treatment** – Of all the activities that we perform as landscapers, the most misunderstood is the role of aeration in the long term health of lawns. There are four steps to producing optimum results from aeration.

**Step One** – Aeration. This is a mechanical process by which 2-3” soil cores are extracted randomly throughout the lawn. By opening up these voids, the extracted cores are then allowed to break down and re-aggregate into the soil. The voids start to fill with the re-aggregated soils and other organic materials and the resulting soil is now much lighter and porous, creating better drainage and deeper root growth. Aeration should be done no less than once yearly and in a perfect world twice yearly. Ever wonder why golf course turf looks so good? They aerate 3 times per year! For years Enchanted Gardens has been promoting an expanded



approach to aeration which improves your lawn and addresses a number of other areas of concern.

**Step Two** – A Calcium/Lime application follows to address the ongoing build up of acids in the soil caused by our Acid Rainfall, and in many cases, surrounding evergreen tree forms. Calcium/Lime adjusts soil Ph toward neutral, more productive levels.

**Step Three** - We also address the normal die off of grasses that occur in conjunction with invasive weeds. To combat this, we recommend “over seeding” the existing lawn with new grass seed both in the spring and the fall. Over seeding counteracts normal deterioration and promotes a lush lawn.

**Step Four** - To add fresh organics and promote the growth of the new grass seed, we finish the process with a light mulch application.

The associated charge for this process is \$129 up to lawn areas of approximately 1500, \$219 up to a maximum of 3000 square feet which covers most of our residential clients. For clients with larger lawn areas the incremental charge will be \$65 per 1000 square feet of lawn. If you would like to be registered for this activity to take place in March or Early April please contact our office.

## Don't Let Them Bug You

**Lawn Insect Infestation** – Regardless of your stance on Global Warming and it's effects, we are seeing a consistent increase in the levels of harmful insect infestations in lawn areas. The most notable of these is the Crane Fly which lay their eggs in soggy over saturated soils. The Crane Fly off spring then begin to forage on the root systems of grasses and will destroy entire sections of turf. To

combat Crane Fly and other invasive insects we are recommending that all clients have an application of granular turf insecticide applied in early spring. The charge for this application is \$49 up to maximum of 1500 square feet, \$79 up to a maximum of 3000 square feet of lawn, which covers most of our residential clients. For clients with larger lawn areas the there will be a charge of \$25 per

additional 1000 square feet of lawn. If you would like to be registered for this application please contact our office.

## Stay Dry This Spring

**Drainage Problem Abatement** – This time of year we typically see a rise in calls from concerned homeowners regarding property drainage related issues. These include basement moisture buildup, standing water in crawl spaces, water collecting in low spots or poorly graded areas in the landscape. Reoccurring accumulations of standing water in fixed locations can harm patios, founda-

tions, lawns and vegetation and should be corrected. Enchanted Gardens is fully licensed in Drainage Problem Abatement.



### Services

- *Landscape Design & Installation*
- *Outdoor Lighting Design & Repair*
- *Water Garden Design & Repair*
- *Irrigation Design & Repair*
- *Retaining Wall Systems*
- *Drainage System Design & Repair*
- *Concrete Flatwork & Masonry*
- *Outdoor Structures & Fencing*
- *Tree Removal & Grinding*
- *Seasonal Pruning & Cleanup*
- *Roof, Gutter & Flatwork Cleaning*
- *Bark/Mulch Application*

*Please keep us in mind if you are in need of any of these services!*