



Quality News

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APRIL 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **What's a Privacy Screen?**
- **Spring Yard Checklist**
- **Discounts and Specials**
- **Follow us on Facebook and Twitter**

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A Little Privacy Please...

How privacy screening can work for you...

Picture this... You've planned a very elegant back yard dinner party with a few of your dear friends. The day of the party arrives and everything is set for a beautiful evening. Your guests arrive and you show them to your well manicured back yard. The table is set, the wine is poured and the food looks delicious. As you all sit and get ready to make a toast and start in on your dinner, you notice the neighbor's two young children staring at you and your guests through the neighbor's second story window, all the while they are making goofy faces at your company. How embarrassing! If only there was a way to get more privacy in the yard. Well, I'm here to tell you that there is.

There is a type of landscaping procedure that blocks those neighbors windows from peering into your yard. It is known as *privacy screening*. And, with proper planning, you can receive additional benefits from this as well (we will cover this a little later in the article). Planting trees or shrubs that are very bushy or have thick canopies can make all the difference in giving you the privacy that you desire. Plus, planting along the perimeter of the yard won't make the yard look smaller and will add to the depth and color that your yard currently has.

Most commonly used in privacy screening are Junipers or Italian Cypress. These are preferred because of their thickness and fullness year round. As deciduous trees lose

their leaves in the fall and leave your yard once again exposed to the neighbors, evergreens will stay full and maintain their color all year.



As for using shrubs to create privacy, a common practice is putting up a tall trellis and using vining shrubs such as Honeysuckle, Rose of Sharon, Ivy, Virginia Creeper or Climbing Roses to create seasonal color along with privacy. An extra benefit of using a trellis for this is that

when these deciduous shrubs lose their leaves and go dormant, the trellis remains as the screen throughout the winter months.

As for the additional benefits I mentioned earlier, proper planning can yield windbreaks and/or heat buffers for the house. Planting tall evergreens on the sides of your home can stop cold winter winds from bombarding your home and lower that heating bill. Planting tall evergreens on the South side of the house can block the afternoon sun from heating up the house on hot summer days, ultimately reducing your swamp cooler or air conditioner usage and saving water.

If the picture that was painted at the opening of the article sounds familiar, then call us today at 836-4000 and let us give you a free estimate on your new privacy screening. We will also see if we can plan your yard for windbreaks and heat buffers to allow your new landscaping to save you money on your bills for years to come.

April 'To-Do' List

Spring is in the air and it is beautiful. This is a busy month for any yard or garden alike. As the flowers start to break the soil and the lawn becomes completely green again, make sure to follow this checklist of some of the more important items on the 'To-Do' list.

Adjust Your Timer

April brings more heat, so naturally you'll need to increase your watering. Set lawns, trees and beds to water two times per week. However, you'll need to make sure that you are following the City of Albuquerque's guidelines for water times or you are risking a fine. The city does not allow watering between 11am and 7pm, or on very windy days.

Prune Those Roses

Prune Roses by cutting 1/3 of the existing shrub off. Also, trim of any deadwood and branches that are smaller than a pencil. Fertilize with a cup or two of Espom Salt at the base of each rose.

Keep The Yard Clean

As temps heat up, pests will breed. Debris in the yard, especially under shrubs or trees, are havens for breeding. Make sure to be thorough in your yard cleanups to avoid a problem later.

Keep Your Lawn Mowed

Regular mowing is a must this month. Don't let the lawn grow too high between mowings. You should only be cutting off a 1/3 of the length of the grass with every mow.

Deadhead As Needed

As your flowers blooms die away make sure to keep up with pinching or clipping off the spent blooms to promote a long season of flowering.

Get Weeds Under Control

It's not just flowers blooming this month...It's also the weeds. Make sure to get the weeds under control before they go to seed. Lack of control now will lead to a season of back breaking weeding and Band-Aids on your fingertips. To help, we offer programs for gravel and lawn areas that stop weeds before they start as well as killing any that may have already risen.

This list is just a small fraction of what should be done this month. If you need help or more advise on yard care, call us at 836-4000 and let us help you. We absolutely love keeping yards manicured and maintained, whether it's just giving advice or taking the reins and doing everything for you. We love our city and we want to keep it beautiful one yard at a time.

No watering between 11am-7pm!

"It's not just flowers blooming this month...It's also the weeds. Make sure to get the weeds under control before they go to seed."



Follow us on  **twitter**



SCAN THIS QR CODE TO FOLLOW QLC ON TWITTER AND GET GARDENING ARTICLES, LANDSCAPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS, SPECIAL DISCOUNTS AND MORE!

Check Out Our April Plant Specials

This month we are giving 20% off some beautiful flowering trees and shrubs. If you're looking for something bright to spruce up the yard, check out our website at www.QualityLawnCareABQ.com or scan the QR code to the right. You can also call our office to ask about our discounted trees and shrubs this month.



Got Grass? Now's The Time To Plan For It...



If you look outside from time to time and see a patchy lawn in the yard, it's time to start thinking about how you would like to fix it. There are two options for lawn repair...seed or sod. Both will yield the same results, however, cost and timeframe will differ greatly.

First let's outline a few 'Pros' of seeding. An obvious pro is affordability. Seeding costs significantly less than sodding. Seed can be purchased in mass quantities at an affordable rate compared to sod which costs quite a bit more per square foot. Another pro is the fact that someone with a bit of yard and gardening 'know how' can (with a little hard work) seed a yard themselves. It takes time

and elbow grease but a knowledgeable home owner can do it. When it comes to sod, it really should be done by a professional to avoid future complications.

Now some 'Cons' of seeding. First, of course, is the wait time for a full lawn to establish. Next, seeding may require additional seeding. Once the grass seed does come up, any sparse areas or spots that may have been missed will need some additional seeding. Even a heavy rain shortly after putting seed down can wash the seed out of place and create bare spots. Another con is timing for seed. Seeding in Albuquerque (Central New Mexico) has limited windows in order to better assure its survival. Sod, however, can be installed in much larger seasonal windows.

On to the 'Pros' of sod. Again, having an instant lawn is a major pro for choosing sod over seed. Another pro is that you will not have to have an area marked off that you cannot walk on for a couple weeks although minimal foot traffic is still recommended. With seeding you must stay off the area in order to allow the seed to germinate correctly and not get shifted around by traffic in the area. This is a big plus for pet owners that allow their pets free access of the yard.

Now the 'Cons' of sod. First off, sod is expensive (compared to seed). However, you must realize that the price of the materials is due to the sod being cultivated on a farm, delivered to a store and, of course, sold at the store rate. Another con for sod is the care that is necessary to make sod grow to its full potential. Granted the maintenance needed is not too difficult, but it is very important.

After being presented with some pros and cons for both sides of the sod vs seed argument, it's up to you to decide which better suits your tastes. Which do you prefer? Need help? Call us at 836-4000 to schedule a free estimate on seed or sod and let us get your new lawn started for you.

Did you know...

The first certified botanical garden was founded by Pope Nicholas III at the Vatican in 1278 AD.

Edible mushrooms grow to their full size within seven days.

Barbara Streisand, Whoopi Goldberg, and Rosie O'Donnell each have a rose named for them.

Broccoli is a flower as well as a vegetable.

Sunflowers are able to soak up radiation.



April Specials



\$10 OFF Tree and Shrub Trimming

~Totaling \$100 or more~

Must mention coupon for discount. Expires 4/30/2015.

Not valid with any other offers.

Call 836-4000

\$10 OFF Lawn or Tree/Shrub Diagnosis

~We check for fungus, pests or disease~

Must mention coupon for discount. Expires 4/30/2015.

Not valid with any other offers.

Call 836-4000



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“Give your yard some Q.L.C.”

Inside this issue:

- April ‘Yard To-Do’
- Privacy Landscaping
- Special Discounts
- And More...

Or Current Resident

Newsletter by Ryan Seabrook
Printed by One Stop Business Shop

Visit us on the Web
www.QualityLawnCareABQ.com

Or Scan
this QR
Code...



A letter to our customers

April is a very busy time for us at Quality Lawn Care so if you still need a spring cleanup, please call as soon as possible. We fill up fast this month! Also, if you need lawn and/or weed applications this year and you are not currently on the program, let us know right away so we can start your applications and stop a potential problem before it starts.

Thank you all so much for your business and your support!

-Your Q.L.C. Staff

“Give Your Yard Some QLC” A full service lawn and landscape company

Landscaping

Xeriscaping

Irrigation

Mowing

Trimming /Pruning

Fertilization and weed control

Tree and Shrub spraying

Power raking/Aeration

Seasonal Cleanup

Yearly maintenance contracts

Seeding/Sodding

Pond cleanouts

Water features

Flagstone

Paver patios and walkways

Garden preparation/ Rototilling

Stump removal

Design, consulting & diagnostics



WE'RE ON
FACEBOOK!

Scan this QR Code to become a fan of Quality Lawn Care in Albuquerque on Facebook. You'll get daily plant facts, amazing pictures, gardening tips and much more!

