DEANS SERVICES Buzz
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KEEPING WINTER WEEDS IN CHECK

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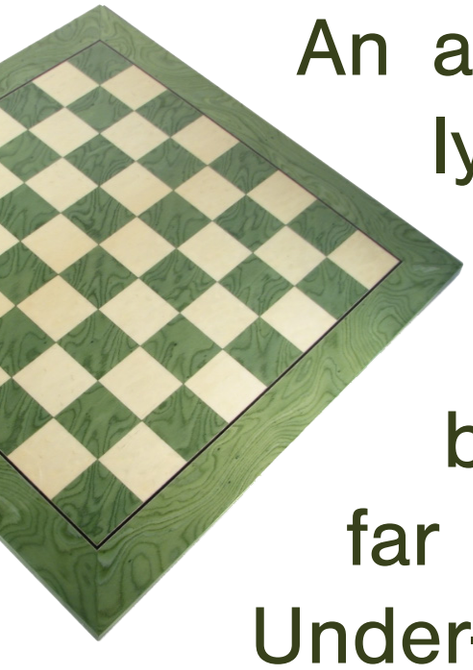
Weeds can be a challenge here in Florida and controlling them requires defensive and offensive strategy. Like a game of chess, there's an array of pieces at play, each with their own advantages – and using them *together* is key.

EVALUATE THE FIELD OF PLAY



An abundance of weeds is usually an indication of an underlying condition like poor soil, excess shade, or foot traffic, but the most common factor by far is improper irrigation settings. Under-watering and over-watering will both contribute to weeds, so applying the right amount (especially in summer) is critical. For best results, refer to our irrigation recommendations.

		Times weekly	PGP	MP
86°+	3/4″	3	45 mins	105 mins
76-85°	1/2″	2	30 mins	70 mins
46-75°	1/2″	1	30 mins	70 mins
< 46°	Do not water			

- PGP (Professional Grade Pop-up) heads have a higher output.
- MP (Matched Precipitation) sprinklers have a lower output.
- Established ornamentals require 20 minutes, twice per week.
- Suggestions are approximate. Local restrictions may apply.

PROCEED PATIENTLY

Each season brings a new set of invasive weeds. Your turf specialist will identify weed type and spot-treat accordingly with each treatment. Weeds vary in hardiness and some species take up to 8 weeks to show signs of decline! Patience is key here, as over-application of an herbicide can damage healthy turf.

FOLLOW THE RULES

To avoid turf damage, re-application must be made carefully, and as professionals, we adhere closely to the label restrictions of all herbicides in use.

Some products prohibit additional herbicide application for several weeks after an initial treatment. These restrictions are for the benefit of your lawn and the environment, and so our re-treatment allowances will vary throughout the year.

SET YOUR DEFENSE

A common misconception is that weeds cause thin or weak spots in a lawn. In fact, it's the other way around: When a weakness is presented, weeds slide in and fill that position. This is why the best strategy is to shore up any vulnerable areas with a thick, healthy turf system.

But optimizing turf health is only possible with homeowner cooperation. Together, we'll employ a winning strategy of fertilization, careful herbicides, and customized homeowner recommendations that will prevent weeds from overtaking your yard!

In February and March, we'll be using a specialized herbicide to target any cool season weeds in your lawn.

Per label instruction, We must allow 8 weeks Before retreating the site.

This allows time for the new product to work and the turf to fully recovery.

Should you notice a few weeds emerge, don't worry – these will be automatically targeted with your next scheduled visit!

Missing our lawn program? Take advantage of this special weed treatment with our promo below!

(Not So) Fun Fact #627

BUTTERFLIES DRINK BLOOD

Butterflies are best known for sipping sugar-rich nectar, but their diet demands other nutrients too. As it happens, blood is rich in minerals and amino acids; and these resourceful insects won't miss the chance to take advantage. In fact, to satisfy their need for sodium, butterflies have even been known to drink the sweat and tears of animals!

But don't let this ruin your view of butterflies. Their soft, straw-like mouthparts render them incapable of biting, and their occasional vampiric feedings are visited only upon sites that are already exposed.

So the next time you see a butterfly flutter by, you can still appreciate them as the beautiful pollinators they are — even if some of their dietary supplements are a little less attractive.

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