

Dry Weather Stuns Landscape

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Hopefully by this time this column goes to press it will not be quite as newsworthy as at the time of its writing.

Presently all of Brunswick County is under moderate to severe moisture stress. In other words, we are dealing with a short-term drought. Hot, humid conditions and actively growing plants have depleted the available supply of moisture in the soil. Plants of all types are showing signs of stress. Corn and tomato leaves are rolling, vine crops are wilting, and increased incidence of blossom end rot is showing up on tomatoes, peppers, squash and watermelons along with various wilt diseases.

In the landscape, unirrigated lawns are turning brown. Most of these lawn grasses have decreased their metabolic activity and are going into a semi-dormant state. Landscape plants have ceased growing in many cases. Obviously, it will help if irrigation can be provided. Soak the soil to a depth of four inches to six inches once or twice a week. This is approximately one inch of water, which will help encourage a deeper root system. Shallow, more frequent watering sessions will help if maintained, but can devastate a

GARDENING TIPS

lawn if interrupted by a vacation schedule or broken pump.

Small areas of shrubs and trees can be best served by a small pop-up sprinkler, drip irrigation or a soaker hose. These can be disguised by mulch to avoid an unsightliness. Check these regularly. Wetting to a depth of six inches to eight inches is preferred on shrubs and small trees.

If irrigation cannot be provided on a regular basis, that is, at least once a week, then avoid it all together. Nature has a way of sustaining itself during these times. Most grasses and shrubs survive if left alone.

In the days to come, expect continued signs of moisture stress. Dogwoods in particular will show stress through marginal leaf burn. This condition will cause the outer leaf margins to brown up. Severe cases will cause one-third to one-half of the leave to turn brown. Generally this will not hurt the tree. It is nature's way of equalizing the amount of roots and leaves, making sure it can sustain itself.

One final word—mulch. This will conserve moisture and lower the soil temperature for active roots. Apply three to four inches of pine straw, bark or similar materials around the shrubs and small trees. Once soil temperature reaches 110 degrees Fahrenheit, most root activity will cease.



BARROW



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

Barretts' Yard Selected

The yard of Horace and Gloria Barrett at 1149 Ocean Blvd. West has been chosen as July's Yard of the Month by the Holden Beach Beautification Committee. The Barretts are pictured above at right and beautification committee zone captain Martha Padgett, at left.

7 Students Earned All A's At West

Seven West Brunswick High School students earned all A's during the last six weeks grading period of the 1989-90 school year, an

achievement that earned them special status and benefits as "gold card" holders.

They were Emily Gore, ninth grade; Christopher Byrd, Frederick A. Hewett, Jennifer H. Russ and C.A. Vanwinkle, 11th grade; and Jeremy Garcia and Becky Nicole King, 12th grade.

Students who earned all A's and B's qualified as green card holders, as follows:

A-B HONOR ROLL

Ninth Grade: Dorothy Blackburn, Amy Caison, Mary M. Grant-ham, Perty Grissott, Sean Marcus Hughes, Janelle Alice Inman, Susan Kimberly Kirby, Timothy James Palmer, Kristina Poulos, Jay H. Robinson and Scott Deidre.

Tenth Grade: Kimberly Anne Baxley, Caroline Carlisle, Pamela

Maxine Detrie, Bridget L. Hill, Heather Hughes, William R. Leggett, Nancy Lynn McGee, Terrence M. Nawara, Regina R. Perritt, Jessica R. Robinson and Beverly Stevenson.

Eleventh Grade: Harold Chris Bland, Marc Stephen Cameron, William D. Carte, Sherrie Lenea Clarke, Timothy D. Clemmons, Jennifer P. Culpepper, Harold Allen Graham, Elisa D. Herndon, Germaine Hewett, Christy L. Smith, Karen Faye Stanaland, Delana Stout, Tonia E. Trest and Holland Ward.

Twelfth Grade: Iania Makeise Butler, Dianna Robin Caison, Ivy Irene Gates, Jason E. Hayes, Stephen M. Lancaster, Lauren M. Sellars, Tonya Michelle Smith, Sam Gus Stathos and Tanya Lyman Thomas.

Shalotte Changes Insurance Firms

Shalotte Aldermen voted last week to switch insurance companies and go with Coastal Insurance of Shalotte for liability and workman's compensation insurance and coverage on automobiles, equipment, property and buildings.

Aldermen voted unanimously to switch from Brunswick Insurance to Coastal Insurance at an emergency meeting last Friday. Paul Wayne Reeves was the only board member absent.

The emergency meeting was called because the town board had to decide on insurance firms before the start of the fiscal year, which began July 1.

Brunswick Insurance, which still handles health insurance for Shalotte, and Coastal Insurance were the only firms with proposals for the town last week. Aldermen met in executive session for more than an hour last week and talked individually with representatives from each company before voting.

Alderman Sarah Tripp made the motion to go with Coastal Insurance, based on the "cost element."

Mayor Jerry Jones said the insurance coverage should cost the town about \$24,000 for the year. He said the sum represents a "substantial savings" over the offer made by Brunswick Insurance.

Arts Show. She entered a "Vegetable Train Express" made from fresh vegetables.

Mary Lou White, supervisor of Brunswick County School Food Service, relinquished her NCSFSA duties June 22 after serving three years on the executive board as District II director.

Other Brunswick County School food service employees attending the conference were Sherryl Johnson, Bernette Davis, Billy Cheers, James McNeill, Margie Williams, Lunetta Wortham, Kathy Creech, Diana Babson, Geraldine Milliken, Florence Hewett, Molly White, June Robinson, Gracie Gore, Arvela Marlow, Mary Alice Hankins and Carolyn Smith.

Also JoAnn Vaught, Louise Rivenbark, Aretha Freeman, Maggie Jackson, Ann Lee, Linda Stevenson, Gwen Davis, Connie Bryant, Wilhelmina Everett, Malinda Robinson, Annie Jenkins, Corine Hewett, Evelyn Hayes, Mazella Benton, Becky Norris, Marilyn Maultsby, Chyre Poe and Ella Clemmons.

School Cafeteria Workers Attend Annual Conference

Thirty-six school cafeteria workers from Brunswick County attended the 1990 North Carolina School Food Service Association (NCSFSA) annual conference June 20-22 in High Point.

Participants enhanced their skills and knowledge by attending a variety of workshop sessions on topics including "Recycling in the Cafeteria," "Food Preparation for Quality" and "Eating Right, Eating Light."

Awards were presented for membership, scholarship, leadership and outstanding school meal displays and cafeteria decorations.

School cafeterias with all employees belonging to their local school food service chapter were recognized at the conference. Local schools honored were South Brunswick Middle, Union Primary, Leland Middle, West Brunswick High and the Child Nutrition central office staff.

Doris Creech, cafeteria manager at South Brunswick Middle School, won third place in the seasonal decorations category of the Culinary

Nominations Open For Coastal Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 1990 Eure-Gardner Award presented by the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission.

The annual award honors an outstanding contribution to North Carolina's coastal management program. Nominees may be individuals, local governments, civic groups, environmental organizations, businesses or any other persons or groups involved with coastal resource use and protection.

The award, which has been presented since 1984, is named in memory of T.D. Eure, the first chairman of the CRC, and William Gardner, the long-time chairman of the CRC Advisory Council.

Nominations must be received by July 17. The award will be presented at the CRC's annual award celebration Sept. 27.

For more information, call the N.C. Division of Coastal Management at 733-2293.

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