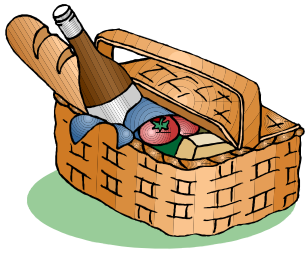
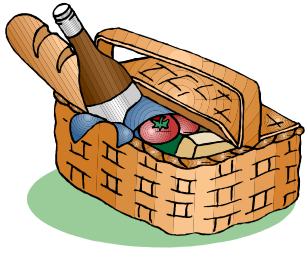
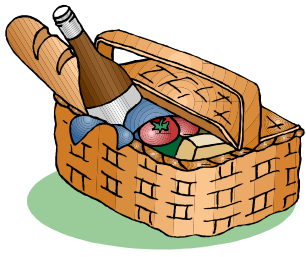


# Robbins News

*Designing, Building, and Maintaining Your Outdoor Dreams*

Volume 6, Issue 2

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## **WEEDS, WEEDS, WEEDS!!**

Managing crabgrass in your lawn over the growing season can be a troublesome venture, but there are some helpful cultural and chemical ways to address crabgrass management.

Maintaining a thick, healthy turf stand by over-seeding, using proper mowing height (not cutting your grass too short), and controlling insect and disease pests is a cultural way to discourage crabgrass germination.

Pre-emergence herbicides can be used for chemical crabgrass control. In Virginia, especially during wet summers, more than one application during the season may be necessary. Rain dilutes the efficiency of the herbicide. The more rain we receive, the shorter the pre-emergence will last. Two to three applications should improve control over the longer growing season in Virginia.

For all of our wonderful maintenance clients, you can expect to see Chris Edwards and our property management teams paying close attention this spring and summer to help reduce the number of weeds in your lawn. For those of you not yet a part of our monthly property management program, give us a call today...it just may be more affordable than you think!

Information taken from VA Turfgrass Journal May/June 2005 pg 20

**\*\*Japanese Beetles bugging you?? Let us know...we have ways of controlling these**

## **Watering is Essential in Warm Weather Months**

One of the most frequent causes of new plant loss is from lack of water. Occasionally, especially when a lawn irrigation system is involved, over-watering occurs.

To assist you in caring for the health of your plants, we offer the following watering guidelines:

1. Stick your finger in the ground around the plants to see if they actually need water. Make sure to get beneath the mulch. The soil should feel moist, not sticky or slimy.
2. Use a hose. Moveable sprinklers make a big show but usually distribute water shallowly and unevenly.
3. Turn the water spigot on to about 1/2 volume. Root balls can't absorb a torrent of water from the hose, so save yourself the cost of wasted water.
4. Water each plant, counting slowly to twenty. Fill soil cups around larger specimens to the brim.
5. Repeat every 2-3 days for container plants, every week for balled & burlapped plants.
6. Don't assume that an irrigation system designed for your lawn is going to properly water your landscape plants. Check moisture content around your plants and adjust your system accordingly. Drip irrigation, tied into your existing system is a good, environmentally friendly option.

With proper care your landscape should survive even the worst summer heat.

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Please honor those  
 who have sacrificed-  
 for our freedom!  
 Happy Memorial Day!!

## JUST FOR LAUGHS

### Top 12 Perks Of Being "Over The Hill"

1. There is nothing left anymore to learn the hard way.
2. Things that you buy now won't wear out.
3. Your supply of brain cells is finally down to a manageable size.
4. You no longer think of the speed limit as a challenge.
5. Your investment in health insurance is finally paying off.
6. You can quit trying to hold in your stomach no matter who walks into the room.
7. Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them anyway.
8. You can sing along with elevator music.
9. Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the guy on the television.
10. Your eyes won't get too much worse.
11. You can eat dinner at 4:00 in the afternoon.
12. In a hostage situation you are the most likely to be released first.

We're on the Web!  
[www.robbinscapping.com](http://www.robbinscapping.com)

## We Welcome Our New Friends Into The Robbins Family

We believe in treating all of our clients like family, so we are excited to welcome the following new clients, and we thank you for the opportunity to serve you!

Mr. & Mrs. Blaylock	Mr. & Mrs. Brigstock	Mr. & Mrs. Brett Hawkins
Mr. & Mrs. Onza Hyatt	Mr. Ed Johnson	Mr. Matt Kirsner
Mrs. Margaret Roberts	Mr. Jeff Robinson	Ms. Lori Smithson
Mr. & Mrs. Ned Bothe	Mr. Bruce Malcolmson	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Marcia
Mr. & Mrs. Matthias Schellhorn	Dr. & Mrs. Amar Shah	Mr. Robert Bryant

## WANT AN EXTRA 2-3 HOURS OF FUN DURING YOUR WEEKENDS THIS SUMMER??

We want to show you how to free up more time doing the things you enjoy on those all too short weekends yet still be able to maintain the special qualities of your unique landscape, by sending out our attentive, skilled, caring professionals to your property. Our company currently maintains and beautifies a large number of our design/build clients' properties throughout the greater Richmond area.

All you have to do is give us a call at 748-3978 and our representative will contact you to perform a thorough walk through of your property. Our property management consultation would include, a) reviewing existing conditions of plants, trees, and turf areas, and b) a follow up written estimate of complete property management services.

Think about it. Wouldn't it be nice this year to spend more time in the great outdoors having FUN instead of caring for your landscape? Give us a call today!

## HOW ARE WE DOING?

At the end of each project, we ask each client to complete a survey on their experience with Robbins Landscaping, Inc. The survey covers seven areas on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being excellent. Of our most recent 336 surveys, here are the results of our clients' level of satisfaction in each category:

Sales Experience	96%
Professionalism of Crew	98%
Delivery of Services	96%
Preparation of plan/scheduling	96%
Quality of Design	96%
Quality of Plants	94%
Resolution of Concerns/ Problems	96%

**OVERALL EXPERIENCE: 98%**

We are very pleased with these survey results and are always striving to improve in every aspect of our business. If there is anything you can share with us about these results, please do not hesitate to contact us with your feedback and ideas. We are always here to listen!

## EARLY SUMMER CHORES

- ⇒ Mow the lawn as needed, setting the mower height at 3 1/2 inches to help control the growth of weeds and ease heat stress to the grass.
- ⇒ Do a walk through of your irrigation system. Turf areas perform best with deep watering 3 times per week. (30 minutes/zone for rotors, 10-15 minutes/zone with mist heads.)
- ⇒ If you have no irrigation in plant beds, water thoroughly (1-2 times per week for in-ground plants, 2-3 times per week for container plants.)
- ⇒ Trim foundation shrubs and hedges for symmetry.
- ⇒ Monitor plants for insect damage.
- ⇒ Weed, weed, weed!! Easiest when soil is moist.

