



NEWSCAPE, LLC

Create • Install • Maintain

The Standard for Southwest Florida

NEWSCAPE

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FALL SEASONAL BRIEF

OCTOBER — NOVEMBER • SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



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ESTERO · SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

FALL SEASONAL BRIEF · OCTOBER — NOVEMBER

The year's most important wellness window.

October 1 ends the summer nutrient restrictions. What a property receives in the next eight weeks determines how it carries color through the winter season and how well it tolerates the first cold front. This is the single highest-leverage application of the year.

WHAT THIS SEASON DECIDES

01

The restriction lifts October 1

Nitrogen and phosphorus return to the program the day the restricted season ends. A property that has gone four months without them is drawing down reserves, and turf color reflects it. The fall application is what rebuilds the plant before growth slows for the winter.

02

Palms are the property's most visible asset, and the most nutrient-starved

Potassium leaches readily from Florida's sandy soils under heavy rainfall, and palm roots reach far beyond the canopy in every direction. Palms need a balanced, slow-release palm formulation with magnesium and micronutrients, applied across the landscape, not a high-nitrogen turf product spread near the trunk. Where ordinance restricts phosphorus, a phosphorus-free formulation performs just as well.

03

Large patch season opens now and runs to May

Large patch (*Rhizoctonia solani*) is active from November through May, whenever temperatures stay mild and leaf blades remain wet for long stretches. Excess watering and excess nitrogen are what drive it. Fall is the point to correct water timing and nitrogen, not to increase them.

04

Hold the hard pruning

Late summer and early fall pruning pushes tender growth flushes that are more prone to cold injury. Shaping now is structural and selective; the heavy cutting belongs on the other side of winter.





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THE RESTRICTED SEASON · WHAT THE ORDINANCES REQUIRE

Under the Lee County and City of Bonita Springs fertilizer ordinances, and similar ordinances across the region, no fertilizer containing nitrogen or phosphorus may be applied to turf or landscape plants from June 1 through September 30. Outside that window, the ordinances set slow-release and annual limits on what may be applied, and no fertilizer may be applied within 10 feet of the top of bank of any water body, seawall or wetland.

HOW NEWSCAPE HANDLES IT

- Full fall nutrition on turf, shrubs and palms once the window opens
- Selective structural pruning only, with no growth-forcing cuts
- Zone-by-zone irrigation review before dry-season demand begins
- Bed refresh and mulch depth correction ahead of season traffic



The Next Step

Fall is the last window to influence how a property presents in January. Questions about how the season applies to your community are always welcome.

Email Service@NewScapeFL.com or use the Contact form at [NewScapeFL.com](https://www.NewScapeFL.com).

Our job is to make your job easier.

Resources: UF/IFAS EDIS ENH1/MG025 Cold Protection of Landscape Plants · ENY-325/LH036 Managing Southern Chinch Bug in Warm Season Turfgrasses · ENH1009/EP261 Fertilization of Field-Grown and Landscape Palms in Florida · ENH1182/EP443 Pruning Palms · ENH5/LH010 St. Augustinegrass for Florida Lawns · SS-PLP-5/LH044 Large Patch · Lee County Ordinance No. 08-08 · Lee County Ordinance No. 24-01 (amending No. 05-10) · City of Bonita Springs Ordinance 08-23 · South Florida Water Management District landscape irrigation schedules. Regulatory requirements are summarized, not quoted in full; the governing ordinance controls.

