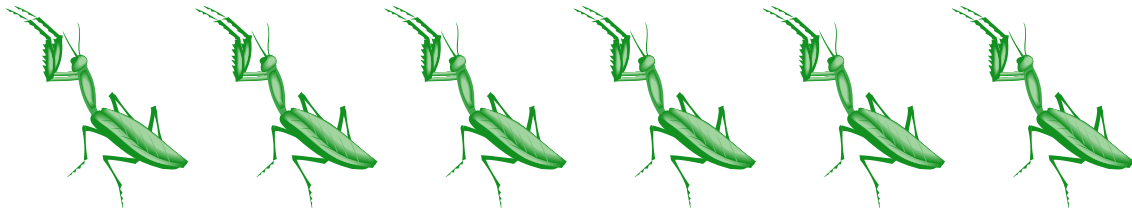


Mantis Services, Inc.

Newsletter

Fall 2025 edition



The “Fall-a-day” Season is now in full swing! This brings such great joy to us as we are at the very end of Sod Web Worm season. The best time of the year is upon us ~ Halloween, Thanksgiving and of course, Christmas is right around the corner.

For the upcoming months you can expect us to apply a lower nitrogen fertilizer, insecticide, and herbicide. You may notice various types of weeds such as: **Chamber Bitter** which is a green weed and resembles a very small Mimosa tree in addition, its seedlings are beneath the leaf so



pulling it is a definite **No!** The seedlings are easy to drop and will replant itself; **Chick**

Weed is a very tiny white flower weed with very tiny green leaves



Virginia Button weed which is a bigger flowering weed with ½” green leaves and purple to lavender runners.

Spurge typically is close to the ground and has purple /burgundy runners. We still suggest the best way to control weeds from spreading is **not to pull them and try to bag when mowing if at all**



possible.

As always, we state that **PATIENCE** is key, in allowing the herbicide to take effect. Applications versus results normally take about 3 full weeks. A “re-service” cannot take place before this period as it could result in

PATIENCE



damage to the lawn, we will take care of weed calls when we are in your area. Should you request a re-treatment for weeds as a priority, will be applying a **full lawn** charge.



“Why am I paying a company to control weeds and prevent bugs?” Here is the real deal: We are scheduled on lawns once every 6-8 weeks. Consider this: The summer months we encountered

this year were brutal. Most of these months

were wet because of the amount of rain fall received, most lawns were completely under water. The more rain we receive, the quicker the weeds will grow. This is not something we expect our customers to know, which is why we send this newsletter out in the first place. We want to inform our customers as to why things get as bad as they do. In addition to the rain, we had several weeks of very hot days, hitting several consecutive days in the triple digits. We are unable to treat for weeds in extreme conditions in which we experienced. Restrictions are set in place to NOT apply in temperatures above 94 degrees. Label is law for **licensed** Pest Control Companies, and we will not risk our license or our reputation. Frustration is expected however, we want to inform our customers as to why the situation can, at times, be worse than years past.



Mowers/gardeners are not licensed pest control operators, they are not the specialists, so please do not allow them to apply anything to your lawn when we are unable to. Insecticide applied kills the active, lawn threatening insect in the lawn – NOTHING will prevent insects from coming into your lawn. Mantis is **not** responsible for replacing sod when damaged by insects.

We have always taken pride in offering our customers a no charge re-treatment on the months they are not scheduled, whether it be for pest control or lawn service. However, in



recent years, this generous offer has become abused. We will begin to monitor these repeat offenders and offer monthly

charged services for those homeowners who have made it a habit of calling on the months they are not scheduled.

Fungus will be another issue that we will notice in the next few months. Temperatures vs. moisture are ideal for stirring up fungus. Brown patch fungus is the main fungus found in



the fall. Lawn fungus is like any other fungus known to man. It's

similar to how chicken pox works – once you had chicken pox as a child, you may get shingles later on in life. It goes dormant which is what a fungus does. Once a lawn has fungus, it's always going to be there. Walking through it, mowing it, even an animal going across it can spread it into other areas of the lawn. Fungus applications may need to be performed in two-week increments. Fungicides **DO NOT KILL** fungus but it helps force it into dormancy. The most effective way to control fungus is winter freezes. The watering schedule should always be first thing in the morning and **never** in the evening as this will cause fungus as well. Water two times per week until Daylight Savings Time ends, and then decrease to one time per week.

Our pest control division has been working hard keeping up with all of the calls received with



ants, roaches and spiders. Much like humans, insects are trying to find higher and drier grounds. The best way for them to find that, is

by entering your home. As long as they have a food source and water source, they will make their way inside. If a recent treatment was performed on the exterior, the barrier will be effective. The pesticides will enter through the pads of their feet and work its way into their blood stream. This will not prevent the insect from entering the home, but they will die shortly after entry. Pressure changes or any weather pattern changes are another reason why insects will relocate their habitats. If we have recent storms or weather pattern changes, please keep this in mind when insect activity appears to increase. Turning any exterior lights off will also prevent an increase of insect activity. Spiders prey on other insects, if exterior lighting is on all night, flying insects flock to light, which leads to an increase of spider activity.



WELCOME MIKE!!!

We have a new addition to the Mantis Team. Most of our lawn customers have become familiar with a new face on their lawn. We kindly request that you welcome Mike Chesser. He came to our company at the

end of July and while Victor exited, Mike was ready to step in and take on Victor's route. In addition to servicing lawns, we have an added bonus with Mike. He has an irrigation background and will be happy to assist with checking your system to make sure the irrigation is running at its best. If interested, please contact the office to discuss pricing and scheduling.

Our next issue of our seasonal newsletter will be well after the holiday season. As a reminder, our office will be **closed from December 24th at noon and will reopen on January 2, 2026**. With that being said, we combine days on the routes to take the last week of the month of December off. Which means that our days will be heavier. We request that you please try to keep your scheduled day in place and try not to change it, it's difficult for us to find another day to place you on a normal route, it's much harder when we have double the amount of work to perform in one day. Our entire staff and family would like to wish you and your family and loved ones from all over, a joyous holiday season!



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!