



In this Issue: August 2024

**Budgeting for Successful Landscape Management** 

Achieving your Budget Goals

The Dirt on your Soil

Managing Tree & Shrub Assets

Planning for Strategic Landscape Enhancements

Water-Wise Irrigation

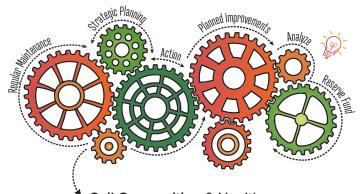
Water Restrictions Update

**Exciting News: We are Partnering with Juniper to Elevate our Services** 

learn more on page 4

# **Budgeting** for **Successful** Landscape Management

Effective landscape management is essential for maintaining a property's aesthetic appeal and functional integrity. For community associations and property managers, a well-crafted landscape plan is not just about greenery; it's a strategic investment that can enhance property value and improve residents' quality of life. Anticipating your landscape's changing needs and considering the long-term impact of your decisions is critical to creating a realistic budget. Here, we'll guide you through key strategies for successful landscape management.



Soil Composition & Health
Existing Plant and Tree Conditions
Water Drainage Patterns
Water-Wise Strategies
Tree Canopy Cover
Renovations and Upgrades
Curb Appeal



Commercial landscape management isn't always black and white. The best approach on the surface may also create problems. Understanding the unique characteristics of your property allows you to identify opportunities and challenges. A site assessment provides a roadmap to the services most beneficial to your landscape and their regularity. Now is a great time to strategize with your Account Manager and our Horticulture and Arbor specialists to help you through the process. A site assessment gives our clients a framework for decision making, prioritization, and resource allocation to manage landscape infrastructure properly. This knowledge is indispensable to managers and decision-makers.

By identifying these factors early, you can create a strategy that addresses specific needs and maximizes the potential of your landscape.



Anticipating your landscape's changing needs and considering the long-term impact of your decisions is critical to creating a realistic budget. You can achieve your landscape management goals efficiently and cost-effectively by defining a strategic plan that includes site assessment, soil understanding, proper irrigation, and managing tree and shrub assets.

Remember, a strategic landscape plan not only beautifies your property but also ensures its sustainability and financial efficiency. Invest time and resources wisely and enjoy the benefits of a well-maintained landscape for years to come.

Contact our team for more personalized advice and strategic planning. Let's work together to make your landscape thrive!

## The Dirt on your Soil

The impact of soil quality on your landscape cannot be overstated. Myakka soil is clay-like in texture in some areas and highly sandy in others. Compared to regular soil, Myakka is more compact, which means grasses and plants have less room to receive nutrients, breathe, and increase.

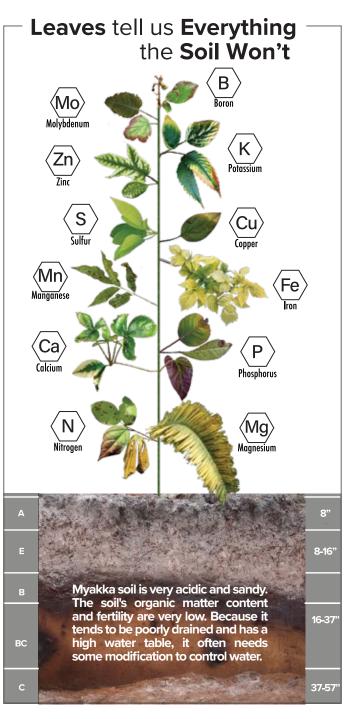
Properly preparing Florida soil for grass is the first step in ensuring a beautiful lawn. Providing nourishment is also essential because it's difficult for Myakka to retain nutrients and moisture. The best way to assess your landscape's current levels of nutrients is to conduct a soil test. By understanding the intricacies of soil composition and implementing practical strategies for improvement, biodiversity thrives, and plants and turf will flourish.

# The 16 Elements

A comprehensive fertilizer program is vital for maintaining soil health and plant vitality, but it is often one of the most overlooked components of budget planning. Weather factors and plant cycles constantly change and affect the plants' needs. Our fertilizer technicians communicate daily with our management about current conditions in the landscape. Constant scouting and consistent management are crucial to helping the landscape look healthy and vigorous throughout the year.

Plants make their food through photosynthesis, which utilizes the sun's energy to create sugar from carbon dioxide and water. Plants also require 16 mineral elements essential to carrying out their life processes (like calcium, iron, or vitamin supplements) to be healthy and grow properly. These 16 essential elements are the same for all plants. When faced with a shortage of elements, plants become less vigorous or less productive and may get sick if the deficiency is severe.

At least some of these essential elements are always present in soil. However, when a fundamental element is missing, a plant will not grow and function at its full potential, and that's where fertilizers come in. When considering Florida's soil composition, fertility should be essential in all landscaping budget plans.



## Managing Tree & Shrub Assets

Trees and shrubs are long-term investments that require careful management. Understanding the tree and shrub species on a property, the insect and disease populations, and the cultural and environmental conditions are part of the assessment process in prioritizing the immediate needs and future recommendations.

Regular pruning, pest control, and disease prevention are essential to maintaining their health and longevity. Ensure that these practices are part of your landscape budget to avoid costly replacements in the future.





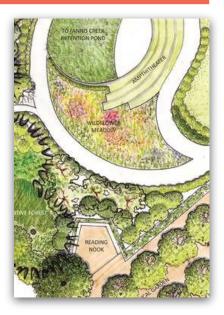


## Planning for Strategic Landscape Enhancements

Enhancements elevate the value of your property. Landscape enhancements cover a wide range of services designed to improve the aesthetics and functionality of outdoor spaces. They should also increase the value of your property, improve safety and appeal, and create a welcoming and visually appealing environment for employees, customers, and visitors.

Enhancements can set a property apart; however, these capital improvement projects must be completed correctly, beginning with a creative and original design and coming to life with thoughtful attention to detail. The most successful commercial landscape enhancements incorporate that eye for design with ultimate functionality, performance, and safety.

Sprucing up the entertainment areas of Associations, particularly playgrounds and parks, is essential for community development and resident satisfaction. These spaces not only serve as the community's heart by offering a venue for relaxation, play, and socialization but also contribute significantly to property values and the overall aesthetic appeal of the neighborhood. As such, investing in landscaping services specifically tailored for these areas can yield substantial benefits.



# Water-Wise Irrigation

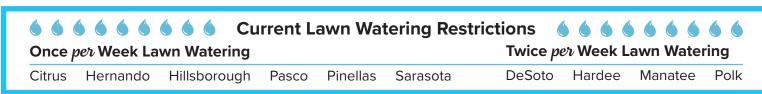
As irrigation systems age, many things change and require significant adjustment. Irrigation systems exhibit component failure and efficiency degradation, impacting plant health and increasing water costs. If left uncorrected, plant health and irrigation effectiveness will continue to deteriorate until the landscape asset loses its value to the community. People usually only notice their irrigation system if it has a problem. However, because irrigation has advanced so much in the past decade, we encourage people to consider proactively upgrading or retrofitting their irrigation systems.

Retrofitting is a wise way to update your irrigation system and include the latest technologies without breaking the bank. The update might include installing a smart controller or changing spray heads to the new Water-Sense products. Following a complete system audit, we can help you identify ways to improve your irrigation system during a retrofit so you can maximize your system and budget.



## Water Restrictions **Update**

The Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board recently voted to extend one-day-per-week watering restrictions for Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas counties until **September 1**st. This also includes the existing water shortage order currently in effect for Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Manatee, Polk, Sarasota, and Sumter counties; portions of Charlotte, Highlands, and Lake counties; the City of Dunnellon, and The Villages in Marion County; and the portion of Gasparilla Island in Lee County.



# We are Partnering with to Elevate our Services We are Partnering with



### Dear Valued Clients, Partners, and Friends,

I am thrilled to share some significant news with you. Landscape Maintenance Professionals, Inc. (LMP) has partnered with Juniper. This strategic partnership consolidates our strengths, fosters innovation, and creates enhanced customer value.

After thorough analysis and careful consideration, we have identified an incredible opportunity to provide our company with more significant resources, additional capital for continued growth, and more advancement opportunities for our team members.

#### What Does This Mean for You?

#### **Enhanced Services**

With Juniper's vast resources and technological expertise, we will be able to offer you enhanced services that will streamline operations and improve your overall experience. Expect even more innovative solutions designed to meet your needs.

### Unwavering Commitment to Quality

Our commitment to delivering high-quality services remains unwavering. This acquisition allows us to uphold and exceed our standards, ensuring you continue to receive the best.

### More Resources, Better Outcomes

Juniper brings a wealth of resources that will enable us to achieve better outcomes for you. From advanced technologies to expanded teams of experts, we are now better equipped to tackle your challenges and deliver superior results.

### **Leadership Continuity**

We understand the importance of stability and trust in our relationship with you. Rest assured, the leadership team at LMP remains in place to guide us through this transition and beyond, maintaining the same values and dedication that you have come to rely on.

#### Trust & Transparency

We are excited about the opportunities this acquisition brings and look forward to continuing to serve you with enhanced capabilities. Our commitment to you, as the customer, remains unwavering. You will not see any significant changes to our operations. We hope we have earned your trust and understand the need to continue earning it during this transition. Your satisfaction is our top priority.

We are confident that in 30, 60, and 90 days, your LMP experience will only get better. This transition will soon be a distant memory, leaving behind a more robust and capable organization ready to serve you.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. We look forward to embarking on this exciting new chapter together.

Warm regards,

Orlando Castillo

CEO, Landscape Maintenance Professionals, Inc. (LMP)

Sarasota

(941) 556-9404

Serving: Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Manatee, Sarasota Tampa

(813) 757-6500

Serving: Hillsborough,

Pasco, Pinellas, Polk

Wesley Chapel

(813) 406-4465

Serving: Citrus, Hernando,

Pasco, Pinellas