

Time to Control Grass Burrs

Hot off the press! The EPA has given Prowl H2O a supplemental label for 2010 for the control of Field Sandbur in the state of Texas.

Since the mid 1990's there have been few options for hay producers and cattlemen to use to control field sand burrs or as they're most commonly called

"Grass Burrs". They are referred to by many names, but they're may be some children reading this article, so I won't mention any of those.

In 2009, the Texas Department of Agriculture gave a temporary label, commonly referred to as section 18, for producers wanting to use Prowl.

But with the EPA actually registering the herbicide, it can now be used without the same restrictions as before.

This herbicide should be applied in the dormant season and needs to have moisture to have it

activated in the soil. Dr. Paul Baumann, Extension Weed Science Specialist suggests the following when using Prowl H2O;

1. Irrigation or rainfall prior to sandbur emergence is essential.

2. Do not expect 100% control, there may be some escapes that can make the treatment look like it is not working. With this said, Prowl H2O will certainly help tremendously, especially in heavy infestations, providing from 80 to 90% control or more at the rates labeled.

3. In some locations where sandbur germination can be expected throughout the summer, I would recommend applying the higher rate (3.2 quarts per acre), since it will be going out early.

4. Lastly, nothing helps control out more than a well growing bermudagrass stand. The competition from the bermudagrass goes a long way toward keeping the influence of sandbur to a minimum.

The real kicker is that this label for Prowl H2O is for dormant season applications only, so it should not be applied after green up.

Decorating Sense

Available for Weddings, Anniversaries, Showers, Parties, quinceaneras, etc.

Pillars, pipe & drape, crystal beaded backdrops, Lattice, Fountains, centerpieces, Linens, chair covers, Skirting, tables, dinnerware & lots more

References Available

Call for an appointment:
361-798-2179 - Becky Stastny
979-725-6937 - Marisa Maes



Sam Kana, president and CEO of First National Bank of Eagle Lake, recently spent the day with Rice High School seniors. He visited them through government and economics classes. In his presentation, Kana outlined recent changes in the banking industry and explained what students will have to do in order to secure credit in the future. He concluded with presenting an overview of careers in the banking industry.

TLTA Renews Commitment to Historic Texas Courthouses

The Texas Land Title Association (TLTA) will continue its support of Texas' historic county courthouses for the fourth year through a public/private partnership with the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

This collaboration — the only one of its kind in the United States — supports the highly successful Texas Courthouse Stewardship Workshop program.

Grant money provided by TLTA helps to provide training and technical assistance to maintain historic county courthouses restored through the THC's award-winning Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program.

Funds provided by TLTA also support Courthouse Stewardship Awards, recognizing counties that have shown exemplary care and commitment to their newly restored historic county courthouses.

Since 1999, the Texas Legis-

lature has allocated \$227 million and counties have provided local matches of more than \$147 million to fully restore more than 40 of the state's historic county courthouses.

In 2008, the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program received national attention for its accomplishments with a Preserve America Presidential Award presented at the White House.

In 2009, TLTA was awarded the American Society of Association Executive's Associations Advance America Award of Excellence for its partnership in the Texas Courthouse Stewardship Workshop program.

The award recognizes associations that propel America forward through innovative projects in citizenship and community service.

For more information on the stewardship workshops and the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program, contact the THC's Architecture Division at 512.463.6094 or visit www.thc.state.tx.us.

2010 First Lady's Texas Treasures Winners Named

Videos featuring the cultural and historic assets of Nacogdoches, San Marcos and Waxahachie are now available on the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) web site, www.thc.state.tx.us.

These three communities are the 2010 winners of the First Lady's Texas Treasures Award, which recognizes up to five communities each year that showcase a passionate commitment to community preservation efforts through participation in THC programs.

The videos bring to life Nacogdoches' five historic National Register Districts, San Marcos' Victorian homes and Waxahachie's beautifully restored historic county courthouse.

The First Lady's Texas Treasures Award, sponsored by the THC and the Office of the First Lady, acknowledges communities that recognize the economic benefits of researching, identifying and preserving the structures, archeological sites and landscapes that emphasize an authentic sense of Texas place.

Be inspired by the video clips of Nacogdoches, San Marcos and Waxahachie to assist your community on its own preservation journey.

For more information about the First Lady's Texas Treasures Award, contact the THC's Community Heritage Development Division at 512.463.6092.

Give Your Home An Inexpensive Makeover

Whatever the season or the reason, it's never a bad time to seek out new ideas for reinventing your home.

Because expensive large-scale renovations aren't a viable option for many of us, consider simple changes that can make a major difference in enhancing your house.

And these days, redecorating on a dime may never have been easier.

A few budget-conscious ideas can make a world of difference on the home front.

Painting, installing new fixtures and sprucing up walls are easy and inexpensive ways to give your home — and your spirits — a lift.

You can complete such projects on a weekend or even after work, bringing your house in line with the latest design trends.

Simple changes even can increase the value of your home, which is something to consider in today's competitive real estate market.

Paint a Fresh Coat: Perhaps no addition is quicker and easier than fresh paint. Much like any other home design idea, trends evolve over time.

By applying a fresh coat of paint and different colors in different rooms, any home can be given new life.

With dozens of colors readily available at reasonable prices, one afternoon spent painting can make a big difference as seasons and trends change.

New Installations: The most far-reaching changes can range from new floor tiling to kitchen cabinets and countertops, but there also are more modest and affordable installation options.

Something as simple as new doorknobs, address plaques or even a mailbox can add new energy to a home on a budget.

Hang it Up: By hanging some fresh decorative items on your walls, inspiring do-it-yourselfers can make big changes without breaking the bank.

Whether it's an old painting, creative wall treatments, a new mirror or shelving from the local hardware store, all you'll need is a solid method for hanging these items around the house.

The most common mistakes DIYers make are to hang things with any nail, screw or pushpin in their junk drawers. Different applications call for different hanging methods.

Fortunately, there are new options in your local home improvement store that provide strength, ease of use and durability no matter what you're hanging.

For those heavier items, try self-drilling anchors. You actually hear an audible 'click' when a screw is inserted into the anchor, letting you know it's installed correctly.

For lighter items, there are novel creations like Tap-N-Lock anchors that install like a nail, but provide the security of an anchor.

Simply tap-in the anchor with a hammer and install a screw or one of seven available hook options and the anchor automatically flips-up behind the wall, providing greater holding power.

For more information on anchors and hooks visit www.ezanchors.com.

Whatever your plan, establish a budget, enlist help from friends or family, and your home quickly can feel brand new.

New Travel Guide Coincides with Spring's Arrival in Texas

In advance of the April 14 launch of the Texas Hill Country Trail Region's travel guide, brilliant blues, resounding reds and ostentatious oranges will saturate fields and hills, announcing spring's arrival in Texas.

Uptown Blanco, an arts, entertainment and dining complex, will host the unveiling of the 10th Texas heritage region travel guide, the final in the series.

The travel guide includes 19 counties featuring attractions from scenic natural wonders to charming small towns.

Each of the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) nine other heritage trail regions will also blossom with more than 5,000 species of wildflowers including popular favorites like Indian paintbrush, pink ladies, butter-

cups and bluebonnets.

From East Texas, with the 51st Annual Azalea and Spring Flower Trail in Tyler from March 19-April 4, to the blackfoot daisies in the Texas Mountain Trail Region, each heritage region will awake to a cascade of colorful wildflowers.

The heritage regions are part of the THC's regional tourism initiative, the Texas Heritage Trails Program.

The nationally award-winning program encourages people to venture out and rediscover Texas' historic and cultural marvels.

For free heritage trail brochures call 866.276.6219, or visit www.thc.state.tx.us.

To learn more about the April launch of the Texas Hill Country Trail Region travel guide call 512.936.2399.

Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Welcomes Hernandez

Louise Hernandez, R.N., BSN, has joined Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital as director of perinatal services.

Formerly with St. Joseph Hospital in downtown Houston, Hernandez brings two decades of experience in women's services to her new position.

In addition to maintaining high patient satisfaction, Hernandez is excited about the growth of Memorial Hermann Sugar Land.

"My goal is to continue the expansion in all perinatal service areas," she said. "We are currently adding two new labor and delivery rooms and plan to expand the NICU Level 2 (high risk) nursery."

A second maternal-fetal medicine clinic day has also been added.

Hernandez cites an "excellent staff, private birthing suites, Texas Ten Step Facility breastfeeding support, massage therapy, and music therapy" as additional reasons why more than 900 women choose to deliver their babies at Memorial Hermann Sugar Land every year.

The west Houston resident, who holds a bachelor's degree in nursing from The University of Texas at Galveston (UTMB), will receive her master's degree from UTMB in nursing leadership in August. She is the 2010 recipient of the Karen Hall Sexton Emerging Leader Award, a scholarship for which she was nominated by her professors.

About Memorial Hermann Healthcare System

An integrated health system, Memorial Hermann is known for world-class clinical expertise, patient-centered care, leading-edge technology and innovation.

The system, with its excep-



tional medical staff and 20,000 employees, serves southeast Texas and the greater Houston community.

Memorial Hermann's 11 hospitals include three hospitals in the Texas Medical Center, including a Level I trauma center, a hospital for children and a rehabilitation hospital, as well as three heart & vascular institute locations and eight suburban hospitals.

The system also operates the Life Flight® air ambulance service, cancer, imaging and surgery centers, sports medicine and rehabilitation centers, outpatient laboratories, a wellness center, a chemical dependency treatment center, a home health agency, a retirement community and a nursing home.

To learn more, visit www.memorialhermann.org or call 713.222.CARE.

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