



Special Interest Articles:

- Florida and the winter weather.
- The difference between a pool pump and motor
- A sad day at Glamour Pools

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Introducing our first newsletter

For a long time we have wanted to put out a periodic newsletter discussing what is new in the lawn care and pool industry, seasonal needs and any other topics of interest.

In 2011 we are finally resolved to do something about it. We believe this sort of forum can be of great benefit in keeping up with our fickle changes in both seasonal requirements and increasingly more important, regulatory environment.

We hope you enjoy our efforts and as always, welcome your input.

FLORIDA A WINTER WONDERLAND??

It sure seems like it this year doesn't it? In December, 2010 we had one of the heaviest frosts in memory. Driving to work at 7:00AM it looked almost as if we had a snowfall! While this is not unheard of in our sub-tropical paradise, it's not all that common and it did play havoc with our lawns and landscapes. We have had a lot of questions of what we are suppose to do and more importantly when we are suppose to do it.

- **Don't trim back right now.** Keep in mind that our last freeze date is February 15th and our last frost date is March 15th. This means we have potentially another month of cold weather and any cold damaged tissue on your plantings could help shield undamaged parts from sustaining further damage.

Until your plants start putting out new growth, we may not know how extensive the damage really is.

So even if your plants really look awful, it may just be a cosmetic leaf drop and your plants will come back just fine.

- **Don't over water.** Our plantings are in shock and won't be able to absorb any extra water we may be tempted to give them. Our twice per week schedule is more than enough to meet their needs.
- **Mowing the Lawn.** It is okay to mow off frost damaged leaves of Floratam turf, but it will respond better if we allow it to grow out some before the next cut. A two week schedule is more than enough for St. Augustine grass.



"When should we fertilize"



McLaughlin's
COMPLETE LINE OF HOME SERVICES

➤ **When should we fertilize?**

We should be applying fertilizer throughout the year. Plants will hold nutrients and when the temperatures warm up, the nutrients will be available for the plant.

➤ **What about my palms?**

Most palms, Queens, Coconuts and Dates (Phoenix Spp) Should have made it through without damage. Some of our more cold sensitive palms like Dwarf Royals, Arecas and to a lesser degree Bismarks and Royals may need an application of copper fungicide inside the bud to reduce the chance of rot developing on damaged tissue. This is especially true if the entire crown shows damage or if you live in a particularly cold area, east of 41, for example.

These are some general rules of thumb guidelines. For any specific questions please call us and we will be happy to assist you in determining what, if anything, your special needs may be.

LOOK!
LOOK!

MONTHLY SPECIALS

**25% OFF LABOR FOR
LANDSCAPE LIGHTING**

**INSTALLATION OR
REPAIRS.**



FEBRUARY & MARCH ONLY!



**FREE WET CHECK
ON YOUR
IRRIGATION
SYSTEM.**



What Is the difference between a pool pump and motor?

What is a swimming pool pump? It's the thing that makes the water move through the pool pipes and circulates the water.

Basically, a swimming pool pump circulates water through the pool. The water passes through a little basket (to remove any debris) before it gets to the actual spinning pump part. The water is actually pumped by having this impeller spin at high speeds. Water is pumped out.

Keep in mind the difference between the pump and the motor. The pump is the large, tough plastic part that makes the water move; the motor is what powers it. Motors can go bad and there might be nothing at all wrong with the pump.

What kind of pump do you need for your pool? You will need a horsepower rating that is appropriate for your pool size. You don't want to have the pump underpowered because then it won't circulate enough water to keep your pool clean. Our technicians at Glamour Pools will be able to calculate what size pump is right for your pool.

This sums up the basics on pool pumps. Maybe now the next time you have to call us for a repair, you will at least be able to tell us if your pump is bad or if it is just the motor.

Call or e-mail us anytime with questions or comments.

Remember to visit our website at www.mclaughlinhomeservice.com for up to date bulletins and information on all our services.



"Use the right size pump for your pool to keep your pool clean".

For our Glamour Pool Customers!

We've extended the factory warranty on pump motors from 12 mos. to 18 mos. on parts and labor and to 24mos. on labor



"Dennis had a passion for music and played in the band called Jokers Wild".

IN MEMORY OF DENNIS BEDARD



Dennis James Bedard, 42, died Jan. 5, 2011 in a tragic motorcycle accident. Dennis worked as a pool technician for Glamour Pools and was known to all as a responsible, hardworking and caring man.

He will be greatly missed by all.