



THE GREENWORX GAZETTE

Our update to educate, inform and inspire

Welcome to our March 2022 edition of 'The Greenworx Gazette'. This is our way to help educate, inform and share what's happening, not only within Greenworx maintenance and projects activity, but across the landscape industry.



SYDNEY AND BRISBANE ARE WATERLOGGED!!

Incredible never seen before rain fall levels have made for a terrible summer. So many people have lost everything so worrying about long grass and weeds is probably not everyone's biggest concern. That said, we thought it wouldn't hurt to explain to our valued clients what happens from here and what to expect over the coming weeks and months. Also, some things to think about as the weather hopefully improves.



TURF AND LAWNS

Waterlogged soil – At this point in time and for the days/weeks ahead we will be monitoring the turf and grassed areas of your grounds and facilities. There is no single one size fits all approach to when normal mowing activity will resume. It will depend on a number of factors including the soil profile, standard of drainage and the type of lawn you have. Our assessment will ultimately allow us to determine when it is best to resume mowing. You will most likely have noticed that the majority of lawns especially those without adequate drainage are in distress. The most common visual confirmation will be that the thickness of the lawn profile will be diminished and look sparse, the base of the lawn will be discoloured and possibly yellow, even though the tips of the grass will appear green.

Even if it was possible, now is not the time to further distress the lawn by immediately introducing a hard cut back. The soaked profile will be extremely soft, even the weight of foot traffic will likely impact the surface and could lead to permanent depressions. Most commercial ride-on mowers weigh in excess of 500kg and as much 900kg with an operator so any attempt to mow will lead to significant damage.

Our recommendation is to be patient before expecting to see any mowing activity and allow for soils to properly drain and become firm enough to support the weight of the equipment without causing damage. When activity resumes the best approach will be to reduce lawn heights gradually without placing unnecessary stress on the lawn and creating unsightly volumes of clippings that will smother the lawn profile and limit the much-needed effects of evaporation.



GARDENS

In regard to gardens there are several aspects to consider. The first is that the heavy rain has likely displaced and redistributed existing mulch levels, and possibly completely washed away all mulch. If this is the case, we will recommend re-mulching as soon as the soil profile demonstrates there has been enough dissipation of the standing water. If mulch levels are not restored there will be a weed explosion that will be difficult to control and will quickly overtake some garden areas, particularly where exposed soil remains.

Constantly wet plants and shrubs have made detailed hedging activity difficult. Unlike lawns we still have an opportunity to be more aggressive and reduce overgrowth before moving into the winter months where frost may be an issue in some areas. Visually you should expect to see an impact to the aesthetic appearance however this is necessary. We will only take this approach with plant species that we know will recover quickly. With other more sensitive species we will adopt a gradual reduction and shaping program until any overgrowth is restored.



WEED MANAGEMENT

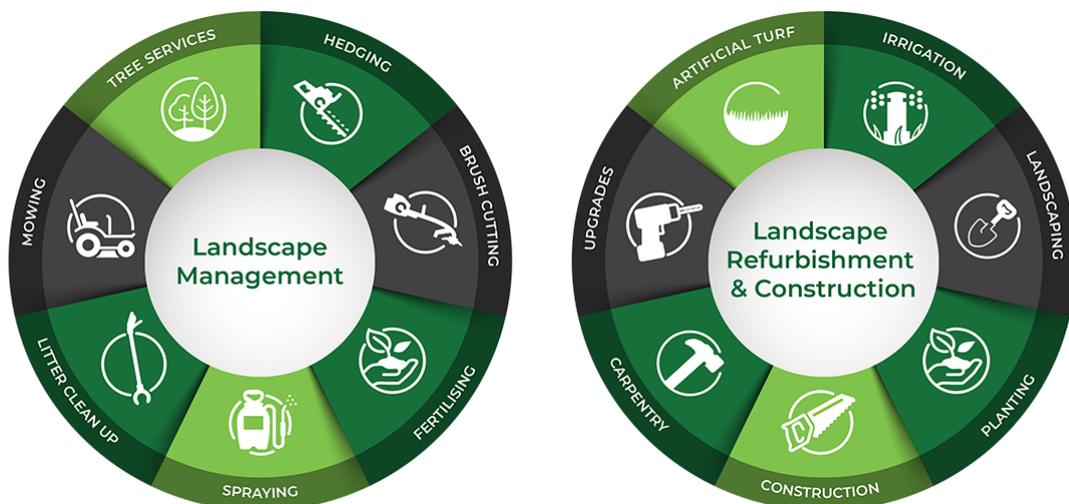
Unfortunately, in a commercial environment there is always a need to combine appropriate chemical application techniques with hand weeding and other environmentally friendly management initiatives. We are anticipating a weed explosion following this heavy rainfall and will be incorporating all techniques to manage this as best we can. Any requirements for herbicide will be undertaken by certified staff and in conjunction with manufacturers specifications.



It is important that we align expectations with what can be practically achieved. The impacts of this level of rainfall will take months to recover and restore. If you have any concerns please don't hesitate to contact our team on 1300 476 979 and we will gladly discuss our plan to restore your site or facility in detail.

Our thoughts and wishes go out to all those seriously affected.

OUR SERVICES



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