



**greenwood group**  
LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

## Greenwood Group Seasonal News

Volume 2, Issue 2

Summer 2009

### Greenwood Group Releases New Website

- Jeff Creecy

Greenwood Group is proud to launch our new website. On this site you can view our portfolio, provide feedback regarding our services, and learn about our owners backgrounds. You can also find out where our clients have taken us, currently we maintain properties in 14 counties surrounding Atlanta.

Contact us for a chance to win a \$100 gift card each month. All you have to do is go to the contact page and provide feedback regarding our service. Or ask us to provide a quote for your property. Each month we will draw a winner from the emails that we receive from our site. We will list the winner each month on the site. First name only, you can only win once a year.

[www.greenwoodgroup.net](http://www.greenwoodgroup.net)

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### Why does the Bermuda look so thin under my trees?

- Lee Cunningham

Bermuda grass needs at least 6-8 hours of DIRECT sunlight to thrive. When Bermuda grass is planted or installed in the sun, it roots and looks lush and green. Over time, when your shade trees start to mature and their canopies expand, it creates a very tough growing environment for Bermuda grass. This really takes a toll on those areas where your grass is under multiple trees. When the canopies begin touching as they reach maturity, it creates deep shade and the sun just can't penetrate the foliage. We also see this on the side of homes where the roof from both houses block the sun before it gets to the grass. Additionally, if there is a combination of poor drainage and limited light between the homes, the area will become full of mud and mildew.

There are several options for a homeowner once this happens:

1. Make larger beds by removing the weak turf and

adding shade loving plants. Some examples include Hostas, Ferns, Liriope, Vinca, and Asiatic Jasmine.

2. Limb your trees up to allow more light to get to the grass under the tree.
  3. Remove the trees and add sod.
  4. Re-sod these areas.
- However, the new sod will last one season before you are back to the same problem. We feel this might be wasted money!

They do make some turf grasses that are more shade tolerant than others. Emerald Zoysia looks like Bermuda, but will handle the shade better. The University of Georgia is working hard to come out with a Bermuda grass that will handle shade better by 2011.

All the above options will fix the "thin and leggy" look to your Bermuda. Ultimately it is up to the homeowner to determine what option works best for their lawn and budget. Always remember if you have any questions give your Greenwood Group representative a call or email.



## Bayou Peel 'n Eat Shrimp

- Bill Sanford

Most shrimp boil recipes result in rubbery, overcooked tasteless shrimp, with most of the flavor thrown out with the liquid. This easy "dry boil" method preserves the flavor and texture of fresh shrimp.

1-2 lbs fresh shrimp, unpeeled. (Best with wild-caught Gulf shrimp.)

1 onion, quartered	4 ribs celery, coarsely chopped
2 bay leaves	1 bunch parsley stems, coarsely chopped
1 tbsp oil	1/4 tsp dried thyme
2 tbsp vinegar	2 tbsp Old Bay seafood seasoning
1 tbsp salt	2 tbsp Zatarains Liquid Crab Boil

1. Place all in a Dutch oven or stock pot, mix well, cover tightly. **DO NOT ADD ANY WATER!** The shrimp will steam and make their own liquid.

2. Boil on high 5 minutes. Uncover and stir from bottom to top. Cover and cook another 5 minutes, until shrimp are pink, and just done. If necessary cook another 2-3 minutes, but be very careful not to overcook.

3. Remove from heat, let shrimp rest in the pot for 3 minutes to absorb all the seasoning, spread the shrimp out on a platter or tray, and allow to cool somewhat.

4. Grab a roll of paper towels, your beverage of choice, and enjoy!



## Annual Color

- Davis Morgan

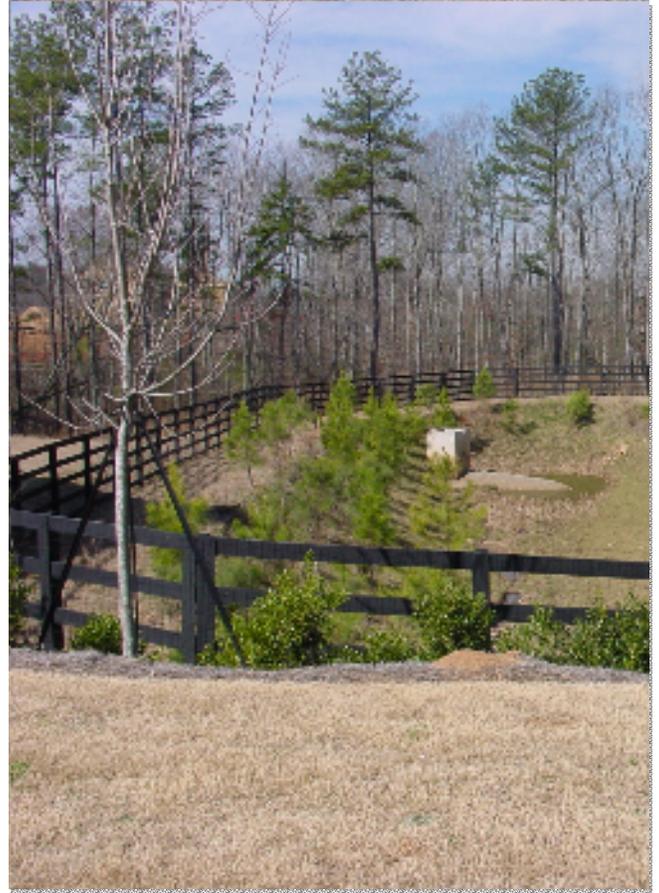
It is time again for Annual Spring Flowers to be installed in our landscapes. The great thing about spring is we have so many choices when it comes to what can be included in the color beds. Our process began back in February talking with our grower about what he would have available and putting together an email or hard copy of the choices for our customers who wanted to be involved in choosing the plants that were installed in their beds. The actual installation began in mid April and we will continue the process until about the middle of June. About the time we complete the installation our managers will begin looking toward the fall installation of Pansies and getting prepared for the process to start over again. The annual color maintenance is ongoing and includes pinching back of plants, fertilization, and fungicide applications.

We are very excited to have upgraded our color program by hiring another full time color maintenance crew with excellent credentials. They came highly recommended and after seeing them work in the field, we have not been disappointed. Greenwood Group understands that the color beds on your property are a key ingredient in providing the curb appeal to impress your neighbors, sell your home, or help you lease the space available. We look forward to continuing our efforts to provide the best in annual color for the properties and communities which we serve.

## Detention Ponds Within Association Limits

- David Tishey

With new home sales continuing to struggle, many counties are forced to revise the priorities of their inspectors. One of the areas gaining awareness is the inspection of county detention and retention ponds. Many home owner associations are receiving violation letters from their county investigators regarding the condition of their ponds. Bringing them into compliance can be as easy as cutting down tall vegetation in many cases. Other violations may include clearing access to the entrance or removing trash from the filter stone and trash rack. Some ponds that have been neglected may require removing large trees and sediment. The earlier these concerns are addressed the easier they are to deal with and that in itself helps to keep costs down. In any event greenwood group has the experience and equipment to bring your detention ponds into compliance. If you have received an inspection report and are in need of a quote, contact us today. I can be reached at [dtishey@greenwoodgroup.net](mailto:dtishey@greenwoodgroup.net).



## Enhancements do make a Difference

- Jeff Creecy

Need a return on your investment? One of the best ways to do this is by enhancing your landscape. Think about when you drive down the road, how many properties really stand out to you?

Let's take subdivisions as an example. You want people to notice your entrance so they will drive thru the community towards your home that is for sale. If Greenwood Group is your landscape provider, we can work with you on designing and installing a more appealing entrance to your community.

Our managers provide long term plans to enhance your property. We work within our clients budgets to enhance their property each year. Whether it is to replace that retaining wall that is falling apart or by adding ground cover to reduce the amount of pine straw needed next year, we provide solutions to the areas of your property that are eye soars. We can provide you with a small upgrade to a total renovation.

Here is what one of our most recent clients had to say about our enhancement crew. "I had numerous phone calls yesterday from residents. All of them were compliments on the new look at the pool and the new sod! You made a very good selection of shrubs for the pool area -- everyone loves them. Greenwood's Enhancement Group did a terrific job of installing and cleaning up. Please, thank everyone for us."

To find out more about what our clients are saying check out our website at [www.greenwoodgroup.net](http://www.greenwoodgroup.net) under testimonials.

## Helpful Tips for Homeowners

- Chris Stephenson

Kids are out of school either at the park playing ball or swimming in the pool. The last thing on your mind is your landscape. If your community is all inclusive then you are covered, but for those communities where homeowners maintain their homes themselves, here are a few helpful tips.

- Want to know the latest regarding outdoor water use please go to the website, [www.gaepd.org](http://www.gaepd.org), click on “Outdoor Water Use Schedule” and then click on “Rules for Outdoor Water Use”.
- Use soaker hoses to irrigate flowers and shrubs. Along with a timer, watering these areas can be easy and

efficient.

- Keep your lawnmower blade sharp. A dull blade can rip the grass and require more water.
- If you notice brown spots in your lawn, it's more than likely “Brown Patch” or “Dollar Spot”. Easy to use fungicides can be purchased at your local garden/home improvement store.
- Make sure you know the correct mowing height for your turf. Bermuda and Zoysia 1 – 2 inches; Fescue 3 – 4 inches
- Before treating your turf with weed killer or fertilizer, identify what type of turf you have as well as what type of weed is in the turf. If you take a sample of your turf or weed to your local nursery, most can help identify what you need to

fix the problem. You can always ask your Greenwood Group representative.

- Spot treat ant mounds. They are usually more abundant after periods of rain.
- These are only a few recommendations. Do not forget, you can call us anytime with help or questions about your yard!

## Affiliations



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