



NORMARKNEWS



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Summer News

Summer is here and the Christmas and the End of the year is almost upon us. Australians are known for the love of outdoor living. Most of us have plans for a barbeque or few drinks in the garden. Make sure your garden is in top shape for this special occasion so you can enjoy relaxing with your friend & family. Here are few tips to help you with your gardening. Many of our corporate clients are also preparing for Christmas celebrations. If the celebrations are in your garden areas, prepare the gardens accordingly

Things to do in your home garden during summer months

- Add some colour to your garden with mass planting of seedlings. You can choose just about any colour you wish. Talk to the nursery people to advise you which plants are most suitable for your area. Regular feeding with liquid fertilizer will speed up the growth and provide strong flowers.
- Plant some herbs like basil, thyme or chives to give your summer salads extra flavor. If you plant them along the path, they also provide you with nice perfume as you brush past them. They can easily mix with flowers in your garden bed or you could create a separate herb garden. They also look good in a large pot in a sunny spot near your kitchen. Check out Essendon Garden Centre for these.
- Update your garden furniture – lots of new designs in Essendon Garden Centre.
- Prune or tidy the spring flowering shrubs, it keeps them compact and provides new growth for flowering next year. Apply appropriate fertilizer and water in well.
- Keep up the fertilizing regime and make sure to water the plants well after each application.
- Raise mower blades and keep your lawn a bit longer during summer month. This prevents earth from drying out and grass from burning.
- Make sure you also protect yourself while in the garden. Remember to wear hat and gloves, use sunscreen to protect exposed part of your body and drink plenty of water during hot days. Better still – take a break from working outdoor during the hot part of the day.
- Watch out for spiders – white tail spider in particular – always wear gloves

With the warmer weather and hot North winds we need to increase water to the garden. It's important to do it efficiently so our garden benefits but at the same time keep the water usage to minimum. Also keep in mind the water restrictions.

- Water plants early in the morning
- Use drip sprinkles in preference of overhead spray to deliver water where it's most needed
- Use mulch on garden beds to reduce evaporation
- Use trigger nozzle attached to your hose to prevent water wastage
- Turn hoses off at the tap when you finished rather than the nozzle to avoid leaks
- Check your taps for drips and replace the washers or call on licensed plumber to do it for you
- Get a qualified landscaper to install irrigation system so it operates efficiently
- Check your local nursery to get advise on wetting agents and water retaining crystals
- It's better to soak the garden once a week instead of sprinkling of water every day. The plants develop deeper roots and become tougher.

Merry Christmas

From all of us at Normark,

We would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

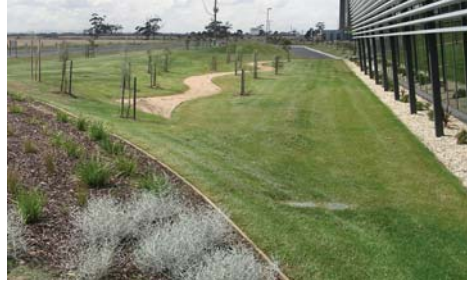
May Peace be with you.



Normark Landscapes

Commercial

Samples of projects finished this year. Delahey Shopping Centre & Langdon Ingredients.



Domestic

We are currently involved with some very interesting private landscapes and are really pleased with the outcome.



From Dean

While on holiday in Bali recently, I was admiring the beautiful gardens in the resort. We met and talked with quite a few local people, they are just so friendly. I was amazed by the difference between the working conditions, specially the safety issues that are so important to us in Australia.

Safety shoes?? They are often working barefoot or in thongs on the construction sites. Rarely ever wear safety shoes, no sun protection, no safety barriers from cars etc.

Latest technology or machinery?? They use basic tools and long working hours to get the job done. Workers mowing lawns rarely use lawn mowers.

Fair pay?? They work hard for about Dollar a day. It would be probably interesting to try explaining a concept of our RDO, sick pay or holiday pay to them. 12 hour days, six days a week. Construction workers get about \$1 per day, resort hotel worker \$2 per day, police men \$2 to \$3 per day. No penalties, no overtime, no sick pay, no holidays, no OH&S.

We are just so lucky here and we take it all for granted.



Hi to everyone,

Vasili's Garden

Yes that's right it's that season where everything is just beginning to flourish, flowers are blooming and the fruit are developing. But what about those snails and slugs that just seems to destroy everything, well, I've got a great tip on how to control them without the use of chemicals.

All you need is a small bowl or a cup and some beer.

First you submerge the bowl into the soil near your veggies of course, make sure that the top of the bowl is flush with the surface of the ground, then just pour some beer into the saucer so that it's about half full and that's it!

Now all you have to do is wait, once the snail's in your garden realize that there is beer waiting for them, they won't resist, they will slide right into the beer and drink themselves to sleep.

Now remember to keep watching Vasili's Garden every Tuesdays and Fridays on Ch31 for more great organic tips and ideas in your garden.

From me Vasili, until next time, MARESI!

Maintenance – What we're doing for you now

- ✿ We are busy mowing the lawns and generally they're looking nice.
- ✿ Fertilize lawns to promote strong growth before summer
- ✿ Fertilize trees and shrubs to support new growth
- ✿ Checking and adjusting the irrigation
- ✿ Trying very hard to win the war against weeds which is very hard this time of year.

Please beware, with cars parking over the garden beds in car parks, they are hiding weeds in the garden and in the kerbing. We are trying our utmost to remove the weeds but it's impossible with cars parked over the top of them.

We are looking after many gardens, commercial as well as domestic. We'll be happy to look after yours as well.

Thought for today: Never say never- Our socceros finally scored a great win over Uruguay and after 32 years qualified for the World football Cup in Germany in 2006. Anything is possible if you really want it and are prepared to work hard to achieve it.

Normark staff news: Congratulations to...

Dave on successfully completing his apprenticeship with us. He is now fully qualified member of our team

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