



Lupfer Landscaping's

Monthly Newsletter June, 2011



A MESSAGE FROM TOM

This is the craziest time during the season for a landscaper.

There's not enough time in the day to get everything done and yet, these are the longest days of the year. The landscapes look pretty shabby in June but things clean up pretty quickly for the 4th. With these biblical rains, we are even further behind than usual. We'll get there, but hope for no more rain. The installation side has taken a hit as well; saturated ground does not allow for much digging. We'll get to you as soon we can.

The big news this month is our new web-site:

www.lupferlandscaping.com. It has more depth, links and information than the old one. Sure, we still have the standard "About Us" and "Services" buttons, but it is now a tool that customers can use in many ways. The first is as a reference guide. We have links to many different sources, from vegetable gardening to selecting the right trees. There is a separate section for sustainable landscaping and videos about compost tea.

The other exciting element is the Design Gallery. We are using it to help people envision what their landscape could look like. It has different folders for plants, landscape elements, sustainable features, and even a "Garden Throughout the Year" to help you see how it changes. All in all, an exciting new tool to help serve you better. Check it out.

Tom

COMPOST TEA

The compost tea applications are finishing up and the results are amazing: we 'got the green without the growth'. It's nice to see a sustainable practice out-compete traditional methods. And the benefits will continue to accrue with every subsequent application. We can apply it as often as you want so if you would like more treatments, let me know. I'm interested in having someone do eight or nine in a year to see how it works. Any takers? I'll split the cost with you.

JOB AT THE SHEDD AQUARIUM

We had an exciting opportunity this spring to work on one of the highest profile gardens in the area: the bus turn-around at the Shedd Aquarium. We teamed up with Roy Diblik and Aquascapes to re-do the main garden. It was a challenging job but the results were well worth the effort. You can find photos on our web-site or Facebook page.

MOSQUITOS AND YOU: HOW TO COPE

The rain (standing water) means the **mosquitoes** will be legion this summer. We offer a treatment that eliminates **mosquitoes** from your property. The most effective control is to convince your neighbors to go in on it as well. **Mosquitoes** travel ten feet a day, you can do the math.

PLANT UPDATE

All this rain is good and bad. The plants have taken it up and grown like weeds, but now the soil is saturated and the oxygen is being squeezed out. When you see mushrooms that means things are rotting; including the roots of the plants. It also means that fungus is going to be a problem this year. Let's attack it with more compost tea to put good fungi into the soil that will out-compete the bad fungi.