



559-476-7236

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## Some Random Landscape Thoughts

I hope you all are enjoying the fall color and gearing up for the holiday season. November can be one of the wettest months of the year and after such a dry summer, we need the rain! But, with the rain and storms, comes a big mess of leaves and more work to be done in the landscape. Now is the time to do fall clean up. Here is a list of common autumn chores that need to be done before winter sets in:

- Joshua Mitchell**
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- All leaves need to be raked and disposed of. Leaving them on the ground will only suffocate grass and clog storm drains. You can rake them a little each week, filling your yard waste bin. You can also use leftover leaves as mulch around the base of sensitive trees, shrubs and perennials to act as winter insulation.
  - Gutters need to be cleaned and emptied at least once per fall. This will keep water flowing throughout the winter. Cleaning them out now prevents clogging and overflow later on.
  - Irrigation needs to be slowed down for the winter. If you live where temperatures freeze, prevent frozen pipes by draining or blowing out the entire system. Clearing the water out of irrigation now will save you money on repairs in the spring.
  - It might also be time to shut down your water features. Waterfalls, bubblers and fountains should all be drained and closed down for winter, to avoid freezing and other complications. Any water feature without live fish can be drained and put to bed for a few months.

Happy Landscaping!

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JDM Landscape recently sent Brett and Joshua Mitchell to attend the landscape industry's largest trade show. In addition to seeing the latest and greatest equipment, tools and methods for both landscape maintenance and hardscape, many seminars and educational classes were attended, in order to further our knowledge in the landscape industry. From design essential, to fertilization chemical and new technologies, JDM Landscape received the latest education, to assure JDM Landscape stays on the cutting edge of doing what we do best; Making your landscape the best!

To learn more about the GIE Expo, visit this website:  
<http://www.gie-expo.com/>

## November Recipe of the Month

### White Chocolate Chunk Lavender Ice Cream

#### Ingredients:

1/3 cup honey  
 1 tablespoon dried lavender flowers  
 1 quart half and half  
 1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk  
 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
 Optional: violet gel food coloring



#### Directions:

In a medium sauce pan add the honey, lavender and half and half. Bring to a simmer; take off the heat, cover and set aside for 15 minutes. Pour through a fine sieve and refrigerate until completely cold (8 hours or overnight). In a medium bowl, whisk cold half and half mixture with condensed milk, vanilla and optional gel food coloring. Pour into an ice cream maker and follow manufacturers instructions.

## Prepare Your Commercial Landscape for the Cold Winter Ahead



As the leaves are falling and the weather is getting colder, it's time to start thinking about how to prepare your commercial landscape for winter. Here are a few ideas for how to help your commercial landscape survive the colder months of the year:

- **Add mulch:** It can help strengthen your plants from a difficult spring that varies between freezing and thawing from day to day.
- **Keep your plants well watered:** Water until temperatures reach a freezing point.
- **Cut grass:** Cut your commercial lawn to about 2 to 2.5 inches right before the first freeze to promote new growth.
- **Aerate and fertilize:** Right before the big freeze is also a good time to aerate the soil in your lawn and add plenty of fertilizer.