

MEMO

top cut lawn care, inc.

*1200 east business 83
la feria, texas 78559*

*phone: 956.423.4318
fax: 956.797.4179*

Date: January 6, 2010
To: Clients
Re: Predicted Freeze for the Rio Grande Valley

Because the Rio Grande Valley experiences few hard freezes, resources are not available to provide an appropriate level of protection for the more tender plant species in local landscapes.

BUT there are some measures available which can possibly minimize plant damage. Those measures are listed here:

Irrigate shrub and groundcover beds thoroughly each evening prior to a predicted freeze. Water in the soil profile has the capacity to retain heat. This measure can help to prevent the death of the entire plant. A protected root system provides an opportunity for shoot regrowth should there be serious die-back.

Provide adequate mulch in shrub and groundcover beds. This mulch acts as an insulating blanket to keep the root system from freezing. Two or three inches of mulch should be provided.

Plastic should not be used to provide cover for plant material. When the sun comes up in the morning, plastic intensifies the heat of the sun's rays and this intense heat can damage plant tissue. "Cooking" the plant is no way to preserve it!

A hard freeze can inflict damage on the irrigation system's back flow prevention device. It is wise to insulate this device to prevent damage.

Let's hope that this predicted freeze in our area turns out to be a real wimp.