



# green SIDE UP

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF COASTAL GREENERY LANDSCAPING  
Serving Glynn, Camden, Nassau, McIntosh, Wayne, Liberty, Bryan & Chatham Counties | AUGUST 2023



## Is Your Property Hurricane Ready?

**June through October is hurricane season and as we are all aware, hurricanes and/or their effects will touch our area at some point.** Having your property ready to endure these storms through an emergency preparedness plan can lessen the cost and time of clean up.

**What should be in an emergency preparedness plan?** This plan should include items you need to do prior to hurricane season as well as matters that need to be addressed in the event a hurricane is headed your way. Every property is different, but most plans will include the following:

- Inspect all trees for stability and have unstable trees examined by a professional.
- Inspect trees, shrubs and/or bamboo for any limbs near or touching structures. Prune and/or remove necessary limbs.
- Plan for any ground debris to be hauled off, especially if the debris is in the path of the storm drain.
- Plan for an area to house container plants, patio furniture, garden art, trash bins, playground equipment, grilling equipment, etc.



## Properties of the Month: JULY

Compassion Midway  
Savannah



Jekyll Island Club  
Support Services



Woodrow Sapp  
Golden Isles



NSB  
South



*Each property is selected by the Branch Manager according to the crew's monthly Quality Control report.*

- Have a plan in place for turning off the irrigation system and turning it back on.
- Inspect property for low lying areas and contact your landscape professional for ways to alleviate flooding.
- Inspect storm drains for blockages.
- Check with your insurance provider to see if your landscape is insured for property damage.
- Communicate with your landscape professional regarding their emergency preparedness plan.
- Plan for cleanup after the hurricane.



All properties are not the same so you may have more items (or less) in your plan. **The #1 item that Coastal Greenery encourages you to have in your emergency preparedness plan is to keep your property maintained on a regular basis by a landscape professional.** Regular landscape maintenance will lessen the "To Do" items on your emergency preparedness list and won't leave you scrambling to get your landscape prepared for a pending hurricane.



## Why Do Trees Cause So Much Damage During Storms?

**Storms during the spring and summer months in the south can be brutal to endure.** A few minutes of wind, rain, and hail can lead to very expensive cleanup and repairs. The efforts a property owner makes before a storm is worth it when compared to insurance deductibles, the cost of major repairs, and the cost of cleanups. Problems during a storm are largely created by trees, wouldn't knowledge about why trees can cause so much damage be helpful?

There are certain trees on your property that are more susceptible to wind damage. Ensuring all the trees on your property are healthy is the key to saving yourself a great deal of worry, work, and money. **Key areas to understand regarding the stability of your trees are:**

## Team Members of the Month: JULY

**Matthew O'Neal**  
*Support Services*



**John Cervantes**  
*Golden Isles*



**Juan Garcia Rubio**  
*Savannah*



**Richard Perez**  
*South*



These team members display the company core values (**Responsive, Ownership, Observant, Trusted, Skillful**) in all that they do while working, have excellent attendance, and are constantly trying to improve themselves.



**1. Trees that are consistently sitting in water have shallow roots.** Shallow roots do not stabilize a tree enough to withstand winds. Shallow rooted trees can fall without any wind!

**WHAT YOU CAN DO** - make sure there is proper drainage around the base of the tree.

**2. A tree with an uneven canopy is susceptible to stress during a storm.** During high winds, the uneven weight of the tree can cause part of the tree to twist and fracture (crown twist). Crown twists become a weak area in the tree and are susceptible to breaking during storms.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO** - exam your trees for any stress fractures and have your trees properly pruned and maintained.

**3. Root failure in a tree can lead the tree to fall during a storm.** Roots die for many reasons, for example, construction, disease, root exposure, root lifting, underground pipes, pavement, foundations, etc. When roots die, the tree will start to die causing the tree to become less stable.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO** - When you see any root stress call a tree arborist for help addressing this issue.

**4. Tree branches are often broken in a storm.**

**WHAT YOU CAN DO** - The best course of action for broken branches is having your trees maintained and pruned properly. (this will limit branches from breaking but not stop them)

Trees on your property are your responsibility. When there is a storm and a tree causes damage, you must handle it and most times pay for repairs and/ or cleanup. Do not wait until storm damage occurs to start thinking about your trees. Properly maintaining and pruning trees can help during most storms. Of course, we are talking about Mother Nature, so some storm damage is completely out of our control. **Control what you can and when in doubt ask a professional.**



# Prune Trees Before They Fail You!

**Proper pruning can go a long way toward preventing tree damage from spring and summer thunderstorms.** For example, maintenance-level pruning can create a sturdy, well-spaced framework of healthy branches and an open tree canopy. This will decrease wind resistance and minimize the risk of tree failure in stormy conditions, since air will be able to flow freely through the branches. Pruning may also be beneficial if branches and foliage have grown thicker and heavier than what the roots can easily support. In cases such as these, tree failure can occur when excessive rainfall creates waterlogged soil that cannot keep the roots anchored. Pruning away extra branches and foliage may help to minimize failure. Dead wood that is likely to fall in stormy weather can be removed as well.

**Besides preparing for storms, pruning can be done to:**

- Improve air circulation
- Increase exposure to sunlight
- Remove branches that are blocking windows, walkways, or driveways
- Remove overlapping branches and those that are rubbing together

Remember, no matter how strong and sturdy your trees may appear, all of them are susceptible to damage from heavy storms. Preventative pruning is one of the best means of protection.

## We're here for *you.*

**Helping your property look great is what we do, but making sure you're satisfied is what keeps us going.** We've learned that when we focus on complete customer satisfaction, all the rest falls in line.

**We're here for you** - to follow up on work we've done for you, to answer questions or to discuss further improvements to your outside spaces.

**We count on the good name we've built with our customers to get new business.** If you have a friend, neighbor or co-worker in need of landscape services, we'd appreciate you recommending us. We'd like to meet them and work with them to beautify their landscapes, too.

**Of course, it's always a great pleasure to get a call from a current customer about a new project.** Please call us anytime. We'd love to hear from you.



Have a question or concern? We're here to help.

Contact the **COASTAL GREENERY** Team

**(912) 261-8171 | COASTALGREENERY.COM**    