



## ***Water Restrictions Still In Place/Year Round Restrictions Being Proposed***

The summer rains have not washed out the mandatory landscape irrigation restrictions. As of this newsletter printing, Modified Phase II restrictions are being enforced in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties. You are allowed to water 2 days week.

Remember, there are different restrictions enforced for new plantings and sod. For new landscaping in place 30 days or less you are allowed to water six days a week except on Fridays. New landscaping in place 31 – 60 days may be watered four days a week excluding Tuesday and Sunday. Please keep this in mind when you start replacing your annuals in October.

As you might have heard, permanent irrigation restrictions might become a reality in our area. The South Florida Water Management District is currently in the rulemaking process to require mandatory Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Measures. For more information, visit the South Florida Water Management District's web site at [www.sfwmd.gov/conserves](http://www.sfwmd.gov/conserves).



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# **The Grass Catcher**

**FALL 2008**





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# The Grass Catcher

## FIG WHITEFLY – A New Pest in Town

There is a new pest in town called Fig Whitefly that is attacking Ficus trees and shrubs throughout South Florida. The pest was first discovered in the Miami River area where it likely arrived via ship. It now can be found throughout the tri-county area.

Yellowing leaves followed by heavy leaf drop on your Ficus shrubs and trees is the most obvious symptoms of infestation. Also, look for silvery-white spots on the underside of leaves. These are old skins of immature whiteflies. When an infested Ficus is shaken, tiny white insects fly up in small clouds.

Scientists and industry experts are still learning about this pest and how best to control it, but here is what we do know:

1. Fig Whitefly hits fast and hard with devastating results to Ficus hedges in particular. They often become completely defoliated in a matter of days. Large Ficus trees seem to be able to weather the onslaught better.
2. Because the pest is so small and mobile, it is very difficult if not impossible to find evidence of infestation before significant damage is done to the host plants.
3. All control options rely mostly on a systematic insecticide which takes time to become absorbed by the plants. Waiting until you see evidence of the pest before beginning treatment will not prevent significant damage.

We've recommended that all our clients with Ficus plants preventatively treat for the pest with a systematic insecticide, and those that followed our advice are glad they did so. If you have concerns about your Ficus plants, please give us a call.

For more information on the Fig Whitefly, you can visit the following website: <http://mannion.ifas.ufl.edu>

## SERVICES OFFERED

- **Grounds Maintenance**
- **Irrigation Repair**
- **Landscape Installation**
- **Fertilization**
- **Ornamental Pest Control**
- **Tree Trimming**
- **Design/Build**

We are fully licensed and insured. We are a licensed Broward County tree trimmer (License #B-519) and a licensed Irrigation Contractor (License #08-CLS-14866-X). We also hold a state license to perform ornamental pest control (License #LC155395).

We are active members of BOMA Ft. Lauderdale/Palm Beaches, SEFAA (Southeast Florida Apartment Association) and FNGLA (Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association).

## NEW CLIENTS

**WE ARE PROUD TO WELCOME  
THE FOLLOWING NEW CLIENT:**

**Northern Trust Plaza/Merrill Lynch Building**  
Managed by Pension Asset Management

## CLIENT CORNER

### Pelican Pointe at the Villages Managed by Atlantis Management Services

Modern Image currently has the pleasure of maintaining the landscape for the Pelican Pointe at the Villages, a 456 unit town house community tucked away in Pembroke Pines, FL. According to property manager Liz Bellwoar, "When this property was taken over by Modern Image the prior lawn service had done a good job of leaving a very overgrown property that combined with the rainy season made the first few months a real challenge. My thanks to Jeff and his men for their hard work and dedication getting the landscape back up to speed."

Atlantis Management Services, located in Cooper City, is a family owned and locally operated property management company which provides hands-on management for homeowner associations.



**Pelican Pointe at the Villages**

