

WATERWELL NEWSLETTER

From Joel's desk:

Rain, rain, go away! Global warming...

Wow, just finally dried up from all that rain we received the last two seasons.

In 2006, Montreal broke a record for annual rainfall. According to Environment Canada, the city saw 1,191.2 mm of precipitation, breaking a record of 1,035.6 mm set the year before. Montreal only normally sees 760 mm.

PET airport in Montreal recorded more than double average precipitation rates in May (230%) and October (231%), with August at 164% more than average.

What does all this mean for Waterwell?

Rain affects us in several ways. Obviously, sales of new installations decrease since people are not required to water their property to keep the grass and plants alive. As well, once we have received a certain quantity of rain, it becomes too muddy to use our equipment on job sites so we must cancel our installation crews.

After a certain amount of precipitation, we must even cancel service crews. Of course, weather forecasts are far from accurate so these decisions must be made at 5:00am each morning. This puts an extra strain on our outdoor staff as they see their hours reduced. Calling off a day in the middle of a shift increases costs since we must come back and continue the project with a lot of clean up and lost travel time. Rain cancellations throw our schedules off and customers suffer delays as a result.

Contd. on the reverse...



Location! Location! Location!

Our office has moved to a new location. You can now find us at:
4985 Fisher, St-Laurent
QC, H4T 1J8

More!

As a Waterwell customer you can access your account online and by doing so, you can view the history of different services, let us know your availability, communicate with our service department, and fill out your early booking form online today!

Waterwellirrigation.com



R I D D L E

What is lighter than air yet no man can hold it for long?

For the answer visit our website @

www.waterwellirrigation.com

Fact or Fiction?

1. An automatic sprinkler system saves on water.
2. Grass should be watered every day.
3. The best time to water your grass is at night.

Win A Free Closing!

It's easy to enter. Go to waterwellirrigation.com

and log into your account. Once you pre-pay your service contract, your name is automatically entered in the draw for a free closing this fall. Remember to fill out your Early Booking Form online before April 15th 2007 to participate.

Answers to fact or fiction:

1.Fact. When properly maintained and adjusted by a professional, your sprinkler system will water the right areas of your property with the right amount of water at the best time of day. You avoid wasting water by reducing puddles, runoffs, and evaporation.

2.Fiction. Overwatering your grass makes its roots lazy and shallow. All your grass needs is a good soaking two to four times a week, depending on your type of soil.

3.Fact. During the day, the water droplets acts as thousands of magnifying glasses that will concentrate the sun rays and burn the grass. By watering at night, we eliminate that problem.

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We cancelled 58 installation crews in 2006 and 93 in 2005 compared to only 17 in 2004!

What does all this mean for us in general?

Yes, we are finally starting to believe what scientists have been warning us for decades. Global warming is not just a theory – it is a fact. Unfortunately, its effects are so gradual and we are all so busy with our own day-to-day lives that we tend not to see the gravity of such situations until it is almost too late. Recent increases in media coverage and obvious weather changes have brought this issue to the forefront. I hope that we will push our governments to impose the necessary changes to laws governing industry and the general public so that we can stop global warming and maybe even reverse the damage that we have already done.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During the annual Christmas/Hanukkah Party, the following employees were acknowledged for their years of service with the company.

5 Years of Service (Gold Watch)

Mike Smythe (Crew Chief) Emily Shearer (Administrative assistant)

The following employees received rewards for their dedication and hard work:

Ricardo Aguinaga (Technician), Arturo Lopez, (Technician), Tom Turek (Crew Chief),

George Karabatsakis (Technician), Benjamin Leckner (Crew Chief), Mario Paiz (Crew Chief),

Joshua Reid (Crew Chief), Jeff Séris (Crew Chief), Craig Duncan (Customer Service), Michelle Roy (Customer Service).

Do you know....

-What your shut off valve looks like?

Often during the season, emergencies arise where the water needs to be turned off for the irrigation system and many customers don't know what it looks like. Models differ from residential to commercial. These are a few examples of what your irrigation shut-off valve might look like. It is an important part of your system and a good idea to know it's location and how it functions.

Ball Valve:



Gate Valve:



-What a broken pipe looks like?



Below is what a missing sprinkler head might look like.



In all cases, just turn your valve off and call the customer service department for a service call.

-What your rain sensor does?

A common question during the season is, "Why isn't my system coming on?" If it has been raining and you have a rain sensor, most likely it's because it's being told to stay off. A rain sensor has a cork-like device that absorbs moisture. When it swells to certain degree, it sends a signal to your timer to turn off. When the cork dries up, the timer will start to work again. Even a few hours of rain can stop your system for a day or two. If your system is watering while it is raining, it is most likely due to the fact that it hasn't yet received enough precipitation to make the system shut off. Keep in mind that a small amount of rain is not sufficient to water your lawn in the summer. Most of the water will not get down to the roots of the plants.

