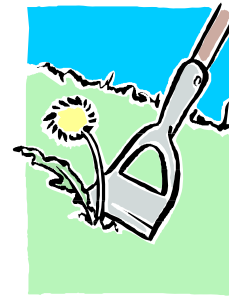


Weed Control

Why not use plastic to control weeds? Here's why!



Black plastic is impermeable and:

- 💧 Will not allow the soil to be aerated, and water will condensate underneath it
 - causing shallow rooting and inadequately anchored trees that often blow down during windstorms
 - encouraging root rot
 - providing a moist breeding ground for undesirable household and yard pests (the exterminators will be busy at your house!)
 - causing lots of mold to grow
- 💧 Will deny our landscapes the benefits of salt-free rainwater
- 💧 Will allow soil salt content to eventually buildup to a dangerous level
- 💧 Will increase the amount of stormwater draining into washes (and possibly your neighbor's yard) causing severe erosion

Permeable weed control fabric:

- 💧 Will allow the soil to be aerated and will help prevent condensation
 - encouraging deep rooting (along with infrequent deep watering) and reducing storm blow downs
 - allowing the top soil to dry out between waterings, helping prevent weed seeds from germinating
 - discouraging root rot infection
 - reducing the probability of household and yard pest infestations
- 💧 Will allow beneficial rainwater to leach salt buildup from the soil

The objective is to allow as much rainwater as possible to remain on landscaped areas for as long as possible before draining from the property

A three- inch covering of organic mulch (bark chips, compost...) or inorganic mulch (decomposed granite, crushed rocks, or water-worn rocks) will improve the soil by controlling erosion, reducing compaction (organic mulch), reducing salt buildup, retaining moisture and significantly reducing the need for supplemental irrigation.

Pre-emergent weed control applied just before the spring and monsoon rains, is also an effective weed deterrent. Infrequent, but deep watering (water only as deep as the root zone- and no deeper! 1 foot deep for small plants, 2 feet deep for shrubs, and 3 feet deep for trees- watering at the drip line, not at the base of the plant) allows the topsoil to dry out and discourages weeds from sprouting, and decreases the probability of insect infestations.