



FRESH START
MAINTENANCE INC

The Perfect Storm “Turf”

Every summer, regardless of the type of turf – whether it be weeds or St. Augustine grass –everything appears lush and green. St. Augustine grass spreads through slow creeping rather than seeds, meaning it will not magically grow from weeds. So, during the summer, we experience almost daily rain showers and warmer average temperatures. Consequently, our irrigation technicians aren’t getting too many phone calls. However, everything changes in the winter. When this summertime transition occurs, it feels as if our Irrigation Department has been thrust into battle, dodging a barrage of complaints about dead or dying turf. Our beautiful South Florida paradise now faces stronger winds (which surfers love but turf despises), reduced rainfall, and significantly cooler temperatures (50 degrees and below). When this “perfect storm” arises, it’s not anyone’s fault; it’s simply nature taking its course. But wait, someone must be blamed, right? But that’s not entirely fair! Seeking professional advice is always a wise first step. But researching is also crucial in the deductive process. The internet is a valuable resource that explains the various types of turf and their tolerances to changing seasons. Many species of ground cover, such as crabgrass, may turn brown during this period. However, if your irrigation system is functioning properly, the healthy grass will continue to thrive, although patches of brown may remain until temperatures rise again. Now, when it’s windy and the sprinkler heads are spraying high, the breeze can carry the spray in all directions, disrupting the intended spray pattern. This can create the illusion of dry areas, even when your system is working correctly. Rain also plays a significant role in this process. Irrigation is designed to supplement rainfall, not replacing it entirely. When we haven’t seen rain for an extended period, irrigation can only do so much. In conclusion, there are always variables at play, and nature will follow its course. Our company is committed to responding to our clients and providing sound advice. However, understanding the interplay of water, rain, and climate is equally essential for building a strong partnership.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Smith', written over a horizontal line.

12/4/24

Fresh Start Maintenance Inc. CEO