

Better Environments



JANUARY 2008

Pervious Concrete "When It Rains...It Drains"

Information obtained from www.perviouspavement.org

It's tough to balance the demand for development with the need to preserve our natural resources. However, this balance becomes easy to achieve when you construct parking lots using pervious concrete.

Pervious concrete is a mix of coarse aggregate, cement, water, and little to no sand. Also known as "no-fines" or porous concrete, this mixture creates an open cell structure, allowing rainwater to filter through to underlying soil. By modeling natural ground cover, pervious concrete is an excellent choice for stormwater management.



Pervious concrete pavement is a unique and effective means to address important environmental issues and support green, sustainable growth. By capturing stormwater and allowing it to seep into the ground, porous concrete is instrumental in recharging groundwater, reducing stormwater runoff, and meeting U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stormwater regulations. In fact, the use of pervious concrete is among the Best Management Practices (BMPs) recommended by the EPA-- and by other agencies and geotechnical engineers across the country-- for the management of stormwater runoff on a regional and local basis. This pavement technology creates more efficient land use by eliminating the need for retention ponds, swales, and other stormwater management devices. In doing so, pervious concrete has the ability to lower overall project costs on a first-cost basis.

Benefits of Pervious Concrete

- Reduces stormwater runoff
- Eliminates the need for retention ponds and other costly stormwater management practices
- Replenishes water tables and aquifers
- Allows for more efficient land development
- Minimizes flash flooding and standing water
- Prevents warm and polluted water from entering our streams
- Mitigates surface pollutants

Bennett Landscape is a certified Pervious Concrete installer. Contact our office for more information. We would be happy to answer your questions and schedule an appointment to provide a quote.



HAPPY NEW YEAR



Mixed Firewood Available

Keep warm and cozy during the holidays & winter months! Ask a neighbor to share.

Free delivery in South Bay area



(Stacking at additional cost)

\$150 half-cord

\$220 full-cord

Tree Trimming

The cold and wet season is the perfect time to have your trees trimmed! It is the *only* time of year we can trim Pine,



Eucalyptus and White Birch trees.

Call today for your free estimate!

January Gardening



January is our coldest month. It's also a wet month, an average of 20% of our rain falls now. The days may be chilly but they are often bright and clear. January is the height of the dormant season—time for bare-root planting, dormant pruning and spraying. Let us know if we can help with any of the following tasks:

Planting:

Plant bare-root fruit and shade trees, roses, shrubs, grapes, cane berries, perennials, strawberries and wisteria vines. Not only are bare-root plants a bargain, they can adapt readily to their situation in your garden and prosper.

In the vegetable garden plant bare-root perennials such as artichokes, asparagus, horseradish and rhubarb.

Plant cool-weather bedding flowers such as calendulas, cinerarias, dianthus, English daisies, primroses, Iceland poppies and violas.

Set out seedlings of cool season edibles such as broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, chard, chives, endive, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, onions and parsley. Sow seeds of beets, carrots and radishes.

Transplant established azaleas and camellias now.

Pest and Weed Control:

Prevent slug and snail problems by cleaning up wet leaf litter and garden debris. Place traps or scatter bait as necessary.

Spray dormant fruit trees to kill over wintering pests, following product label directions.

Mulch flower and vegetable beds to control weeds encouraged by rains.

Maintenance:

Prune dormant fruit and shade trees, roses, vines and grapes. Postpone pruning spring-flowering shrubs and vines until after bloom.

Water native plants heavily when rainfall is light; this is the season when they store up water to prepare for the dry summer months.

Mow cool-season lawns (rye, blue and fine or tall fescue), perhaps once or twice a week. Apply a pre-emergent weed killer to forestall problems later in the season.

Fertilize cool-season lawns.

Apply crabgrass preventer to all lawns now.



How to Plant a Bare-Root Rose by Jim McCausland

January through March is prime planting time for bare-root trees, shrubs, fruits and roses!

Inexpensive and very easy to plant, bare-root roses are sold by mail order and in nurseries between mid-winter and the time roses first leaf out (around late January in mild climates, March in colder climates).



In spite of the "bare-root" name, most come with roots wrapped in plastic bags or tall cartons full of damp organic matter. There's a good reason; if roots dry, plants die. Let us know if you'd like us to install bare-root plants for your property, or if you'd like to try it yourself, the following steps will help get bare-root roses off to a good start in your garden.

- Unwrap the rose, shake packing material from the roots and cut off the tag that's wired to the plant. Prune off broken roots or canes, then plunge the rose into a bucket of water to plant—its roots completely immersed—for a few hours. While the rose soaks, dig a planting hole about 2' wide and 1' deep. If your garden soil is reasonably good (not excessively sandy or heavy with clay), you won't need to amend it. If it's bad, mix one cubic foot of compost into the backfill.
- Make a 10" tall cone of soil in the middle of the hole, then center the rose on top of it, with roots spread down the sides of the cone. Pull backfill into the hole, firming it with your hand (never your foot) as you go.
- When the hole is filled, water until the soil around the plant turns to mud. Rock the rose back and forth to settle it in and to allow air pockets to bubble up through the mud. This process is called "puddling in." When you're done, the rose's topmost roots should be barely below the soil surface and the graft (the swollen part just above the crown), if the rose has one, should be well above the soil surface.
- After puddling, add enough backfill to level the soil. Make a 3" high watering basin about 10" from the base of the plant. Stick a label in the ground beside the rose and you're done!