



Post - Hurricane Milton Awareness: Sea Spray and Wind Burn Damage

One week after Hurricane Milton, I look out over the local landscapes and see a huge transformation. Emerald, green just a week ago many areas now appear barren and brown, almost as if misted with herbicide. But this is not fall setting in- it is the result of sodium chloride, common table salt, carried in by the hurricanes winds.

On the south side of Hurricane Milton, we escaped the flooding rains, but the dry hurricane force winds carried in undiluted sea spray. The combination of “wind burn” and “sea spray” has left many of us reeling.

Fortunately, most plants can recover from wind burn and the key is patience and supplemental water.

With the wind burn came a less obvious threat to our area- sea spray. Without the normal freshwater rain that a hurricane brings, our plants and trees have been left coated in a chemical that most cannot tolerate.

In the upcoming days, we expect the damage to our landscapes to worsen before signs of recovery begin to appear. Patience and fresh water are the two biggest factors to help our landscapes bounce back. So, grab your hose and give your landscape a splash of fresh water.