

What Is Under Your Grass

By: Melinda Sperl

I'm often asked what's wrong with the grass on a new lawn. The first several years in a new home you have multitude of things happening and the last thing you want to worry about is why your grass has brown spots. These last 3 years we have had the gamut of weather too, hard freezes, drought, rain, etc. so if you bought a house within this time you probably have has some such problem. Oh and don't forget the Sod Webworms, which are new in Houston.

I was driving behind a dump truck today in my neighborhood. I could obviously see the load it carried was soil and debris that was just picked up from a dump pile. I mean literally filled with twigs, rocks, grass and sand. I thought he was headed to the dump. But the sad thing is that he turned in to a new home and was filling in the grade of a pretty expensive new lawn that will quickly be grassed over for the owner to never know. I cannot tell you how many times we have patches of dead grass and dig to find buried stones, trash, buckets and all kinds of construction debris. We are very careful where we purchase our mulch as we dump our trash at certain places which in turn take our yard debris, shred it and then sell it again as mulch. This is the weeds, nutgrass and insects from someone else's yard that will just get in your yard when you get that mulch!

If you have a spot in your yard that will never grow, is sinking or has an odd smell, you might want to dig it up to see what is under there. You could end up spending a fortune on chemicals only to find out you had rocks that were killing your grass, not insects.

Happy Gardening!

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