

THE HOUSTON GARDENER



MOSS LANDSCAPING

— DESIGN • BUILD • MAINTAIN —

SUMMER 2026



Summer in Houston reminds us just how important a well-designed landscape can be—a place to relax, gather with family, and enjoy the outdoors, even during the hottest months. Our team is grateful for the opportunity to care for your property and help it thrive through every season.

Inside this summer edition, you'll find seasonal inspiration, landscape tips, behind-the-scenes project highlights, and the latest happenings at Moss Landscaping. From beautiful garden transformations to practical advice on choosing the right plants for Houston's unique growing conditions, we hope you'll enjoy seeing what our team has been working on.

Thank you for your continued trust in Moss Landscaping. We wish you and your family a safe, enjoyable summer, and we look forward to helping you make the most of your outdoor spaces.

Thank You!

Gary P. Moss

CREW MEMBER OF THE MONTH

March - April - May

Each month, we're proud to recognize our outstanding crew members who exemplify the hard work, dedication, and team spirit that keep Moss Landscaping running strong.

Our crews are the backbone of our company, and this spotlight is our way of celebrating those who go above and beyond to deliver exceptional service. Stay tuned each month as we honor the people who bring your landscapes to life!



Luis Martinez

March

Irrigation Division



Rafael Hidalgo

April

Maintenance Division



Hector Montes Gutierrez

May

Maintenance Division

2026 HURRICANE SEASON

June 1 - November 30

Hurricane season (June 1 – November 30) is upon us. We hope that by sharing this information with you now - before a storm becomes imminent - your property will be better positioned in the event of an emergency.

A little preparation now can help protect your landscape later. We are committed to supporting you and your property through every season.

Evaluate Your Property

Walk your property in advance of storm activity. Evaluating areas of concern and identifying items that need to be secured before a storm helps prevent property damage.

Look up!—Trees with dead wood or visible signs of disease should be addressed, as they pose a significant hazard during high winds and flooding.

- Schedule tree inspections
- Hydrojet drains and pipes to prevent drainage backup
- Check sump pumps and drainage systems to keep water moving away from your property





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PREPARE BEFORE THE STORM

2026 STORM SEASON PREPAREDNESS

Hurricane season runs
June 1 – November 30.

A little preparation today
can help protect your home,
property, and peace of mind
tomorrow.



**HURRICANE SEASON
JUNE 1 –
NOVEMBER 30**

SERVICES TO HELP PROTECT YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY

 CONTACT YOUR TREE SERVICE PROVIDER to maintain the trees on your property.	 HYDROJET SERVICES Clear out drains and pipes to prevent flooding and keep water flowing away from your home.	 SUMP PUMP SERVICES Ensure your sump pump is working properly to help your drainage system and protect your property.
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LET'S GET HOUSTON STORM-READY. | CONTACT US TODAY TO SCHEDULE A PRE-STORM VISIT.

Growing

MOSS LANDSCAPING

Join us in celebrating the growth of the Moss team!

We are thrilled to announce an expanded Executive Committee, leadership promotions, and new hires. Congratulations to these individuals for their ongoing commitment to the Moss team. Their efforts ensure the highest quality of work on all

properties under our maintenance program. We also welcome several new hires to the growing team at Moss. Their dedication, expertise, and enthusiasm contribute to the continued success of Moss Landscaping.

[Read about the updates here!](#)

Executive Leadership Promotions



Joey Canahuati
*President &
Chief Operating Officer*

Joey has been promoted to President while retaining his title of COO. In this expanded role, Joey will continue to oversee day-to-day operations while taking on greater strategic leadership responsibilities.



Joseph Edwards
Vice President - Finance

Joseph has been promoted to Vice President – Finance, having previously served as Controller. Joseph's financial leadership and deep understanding of the company's operations have been instrumental in supporting continued growth.



Mindi Marshall
Vice President - Maintenance

Mindi has been promoted to Vice President – Maintenance, advancing from her role as Director of Maintenance. Mindi's dedication to her leadership of the maintenance team have set a high standard for client care and property stewardship.



Kaitlin Stein
Vice President - Design

Kaitlin has been promoted to Vice President – Design, and appointed to the firm's Executive Committee in recognition of her vision, expertise, and significant contributions to the company's design philosophy and client experience.

Additional Promotions



Lillia Gonzalez
Landscape Designer

Lillia has been promoted, advancing from her previous role as Landscape Associate. Lillia's creativity, attention to detail, and dedication to the craft reflect the high standards Moss Landscaping holds for every project.



Carlos Hernandez
Field Supervisor

Carlos has been promoted to Field Supervisor, having previously served as Foreman. Carlos' hands-on expertise and leadership in the field make him a valued asset to the team and a trusted point of contact for clients on-site.

New Team Members



Joshua Kearns
*Project Manager &
Safety Coordinator*

Joshua joins the Moss Landscaping construction division, bringing a commitment to operational excellence and a focus on maintaining the highest standards of safety across all projects.



Jacquelyn Samperi
Design Associate

Jacquelyn joins the design team as a Design Associate, bringing fresh perspective and creative energy to Moss Landscaping's award-winning landscape design process.



Keith Force
Account Manager

Keith joins the maintenance division as Account Manager, where he will focus on building and nurturing the long-term client relationships that are at the heart of everything Moss Landscaping does.



Melissa Diaz
Accounts Payable

Melissa joins the finance team in the role of Accounts Payable, supporting the operational and financial infrastructure that keeps the company running smoothly.

BRING YOUR TALENT TO

the Moss Team

We are always looking for dedicated, experienced professionals to join our growing team. We welcome energetic, hard-working professionals from all backgrounds including horticulture, construction, design, or leadership. If you have a passion for high-quality landscaping, enjoy solving problems creatively, and take pride in providing excellent service, Moss Landscaping could be the right place for you.

Explore our current openings and take the first step toward joining our team. Don't see a role that fits your expertise right now? Check back soon, we're always growing and adding new opportunities.

START YOUR CARRER
View Open Positions

LIVING ARCHITECTURE

Stages of a Parterre

A parterre garden is one of the most timeless expressions of landscape design. It begins with careful planning and precise layout, where every curve, line, and proportion is established to create the garden's formal framework.



Newly planted shrubs look modest at first, but with time, they fill in to reveal the intricate pattern envisioned from the beginning.

The original plan for this project called for boxwoods, but as boxwood blight became a growing concern in Houston, they were thoughtfully replaced with dwarf yaupon hollies, a hardy, disease-resistant alternative that offers the same classic, sculpted appearance.

Through years of careful pruning and ongoing maintenance, the garden matures into a living work of art! This beautiful parterre grows more refined, elegant, and beautiful with every season.



SPECIES SPOTLIGHT

Dwarf Yaupon Holly vs. Boxwood

Some plants perform better in Houston, and dwarf yaupon hollies are one of them.

Boxwoods have been a favorite for creating formal hedges and neatly manicured landscapes. Sadly, beginning around 2011, a fungal disease known as boxwood blight became increasingly destructive in Houston. A hardy plant that used to thrive in our climate now struggles to thrive and maintain a long lifespan.

Dwarf yaupon hollies are an ideal alternative. They provide the same timeless, structured appearance many people associate with boxwoods while being far better suited to Houston's heat, humidity, and growing conditions. Evergreen, hardy, and naturally dense, they respond beautifully to pruning and can be shaped into everything from crisp hedges to elegant garden accents. From foundation beds to formal hedges, they're a reliable choice that delivers year after year!

Our team can help determine whether dwarf yaupon hollies are the right fit for your landscape and recommend the best replacement strategy for your existing beds.



THINK YOUR BOXWOODS MAY HAVE BLIGHT?

If your boxwoods are showing signs of leaf spotting, browning, or rapid defoliation, don't wait for the damage to spread. Our team can evaluate your landscape, identify whether boxwood blight is the culprit, and recommend the best course of action—including replacement options with beautiful, Houston-proven alternatives like dwarf yaupon hollies.



SEASONAL CHECKLIST

July - August - September



Seasonal Color: Purslane, portulaca, zinnias, vinca, and blue daze. Tropicals, like hibiscus, may need some shade.

Perennials: Trim, feed, clean, and fill in with new perennials. Hardy salvia works well this time of year.

Sod: Cut grass high to hold in moisture.

Azaleas/Camellias: Fertilize now!

Potted Plants: Check for white flies, spider mites, and aphids. Use liquid fertilizer regularly. Check drip lines. Remove anything dead.

Herbs: Keep herbs trimmed, especially basil. Check for insects.

Trees and Shrubs: Check for sooty mold from aphids and whiteflies on Japanese blueberries and crape myrtles. Check for scale on varieties like magnolia, camellia, holly, gardenia, and elaeagnus.

july



Seasonal Color: Purslane, portulaca, zinnias, vinca, blue daze will finish the summer. Chrysanthemums, dianthus, petunias and marigolds can fill in by the end of the month.

Perennials: Trim, feed, clean and fertilize.

Sod: Watch for chinch bugs, especially near driveways and sidewalks.

Azaleas: Buds begin to set. Do not trim!

Potted Plants: Continue to check for white flies, spider mites, and aphids. Check drip lines. Remove anything dead.

Roses: Keep them clean, mulched and free of debris at the base. Prevent hard pan of mulch at the base, breaking up the mulch layer if necessary.

Pruning: Trim and clean leggy annuals, aspidistra, and yellow/choloric plants.

Sprinklers/Irrigation: Try to follow rain fall, taking care to water about 1" per week. Adjust as necessary. Check all drip lines in pots. Water deeply and early in the day.

Trees and Shrubs: Continue to check for sooty mold on Japanese blueberries and crape myrtles, and scale on varieties like magnolia, camellia, holly, gardenia, and elaeagnus.



Seasonal Color: Time for chrysanthemum, dianthus, petunias, violas, marigolds, cortons!

Perennials: Divide and transplant irises and daylillies, if necessary.

Sod: Watch for wet patches and adjust sprinkler as nights get cooler to prevent brown patch. Treat all brown patch areas.

Potted Plants: Check drip lines. Divide or move anything that has outgrown the planter.

Roses: Fertilize for the last time of the year. Break up the mulch layer and gently shape.

Herbs: Plant chives, cilantro, dill and garlic.

Sprinklers/Irrigation: Adjust watering settings as weather begins to cool.

august

september

on the SCENE

WITH THE MOSS TEAM

ON THE SCENE



1. Thomas McCool with In Bloom shows his talents and tips for designing beautiful floral arrangements at the Flower Shower hosted by the Decorative Center Houston. 2. ICCA Meet the Craftsman Event hosted at Domingue & CO. showroom. 3. Providing care to our client's property sometimes goes beyond the gardens! A happy ending for this little opossum friend that was pulled from the pool. 4. Melinda Kanner loves greeting clients of all species. 5. Clair Hedgcox, Nicholas Joseph, and Jacquelyn Samperie attend the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art Texas Chapter Meet the Craftsman event.

JULY



In observance of
Independence Day

Our offices will be closed
Friday, July 3

SEPTEMBER



In observance of
Labor Day

Our offices will be closed
Monday, September 7

AUGUST

2026 NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE EXPO

San Antonio, Texas

Tuesday, August 11 - Thursday, August 13



Look for Team Moss again at the annual Nursery and Landscape EXPO held by TNLA. We are looking forward to expanding our knowledge, stay up to date with the latest products and connect with our colleagues.



Tuesday, September 22
First Day of Fall

KIDS' MEALS

Volunteer Day with Kids' Meals

Team Moss will be doing our part to end childhood hunger in Houston through the organization Kids' Meals.



► kidsmealsinc.org/take-action/volunteer/