

FRAUD ALERT

May 2018

Know Your Measurements

Beware of being short measured!

It is that time of year. Spring is in the air and your flower beds could use some attention. What better way to spruce things up than with mulch and/or top soil! But how do you determine how much to order? Will you know for sure that the correct amount was delivered?

The rule for determining how much mulch or top soil you will need is this:

- One cubic yard will cover 162 square feet at a thickness of two inches. The first step is to figure out the square footage of the area that you want covered. Measure each bed by its length and width, and then multiply those numbers to get the square feet. After accounting for each bed, add up the square footage. That will give you an accurate idea of how much mulch you will need.

The following are some important things to know if you are considering calling a company to deliver mulch or topsoil to your home or business:

- When the delivery truck arrives you should inspect the load **before** it is dumped. Make sure it is free from trash and other debris.
- While the mulch or soil is still in the truck or once it is dumped, check to be certain that the amount that you ordered is the amount that was delivered.
- Mulch and top soil are sold by volume and should be sold in terms of a cubic yard which is 27 cubic feet. You can measure the load in cubic feet before it is dumped or unloaded by simply multiplying the length, width and height of the load. Keep in mind the load will have settled some while in transit. Use decimals for inches. For example 3 ½ feet would be 3.50. Then divide the number by 27 to get the number of cubic yards.
- Please remember, if the mulch appears to be of sub-standard quality, you may refuse the delivery.
- Be sure to obtain a **receipt** with the name and address of the mulch delivery business on it. The receipt should also state the amount of mulch that was delivered.

Monthly Fraud Alerts courtesy of...

Bucks County Crimes Against Older Adults Task Force

Bucks County District Attorney's Office
215-348-6344

Bucks County Area Agency on Aging
267-880-5700

Bucks County Coroner's Office
215-348-3852

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA)
1-800-675-6900

A Woman's Place (AWP)
1-800-220-8116

Bucks County Office of Consumer Protection
215-348-6060

Bucks County Register of Wills
215-348-6265

www.crimesagainstolderadultsbucks.org 24 - HOUR HOTLINE: 1-800-490-8505