

BestYard BestNews

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For Lawn and Landscape

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Owner's Corner

By Chris

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. Thank you for allowing BestYard.com to earn your business in 2008. I truly appreciate it.

Renewal letters went out early January so if you haven't received your letter yet, call me.

I am very excited about the New Year. The biggest news is **there are no price increases for 2009!** So what you paid in 2008 will remain the same for this season also. For established customers any new services requested will be estimated at last season's prices.

I have added a new service this season. BestYard is now doing weekly dog waste removal. If you're tired of trying to get your kids to do it (I know I am) then let us do it for you. Affordable, convenient and with special pricing for multiple dogs. Call today to order dog waste removal.

Did you know that February and March are two of our snowiest months? Surprising as that sounds, it's a fact. If you need assistance or know someone who does, call us. **SAVE YOUR BACK** and leave the hard work to us. You'll even see me out there moving snow!

Please see *Owner's Corner* on page 2

Turf Care

By Steve

It's always a challenge to decide what to talk about in the off season but this month it's easy.

Mites.

What conditions favor mites? Mites like hot and dry like you find on lawns facing south and west especially if they are sloped. They like the south side of evergreens and will attack the grass there. They become active in January-February based on weather conditions and then again very often in the fall.

Please see *Turf Care* on page 3

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"Mites are extremely small but what they lack in size they make up for in breeding."

Landscape Maintenance

By Scott

For January and February, the following are being suggested.

Start planning for the upcoming season. Order seed and plant catalogs, attend seminars and classes.

Watering trees, shrubs and perennials may be necessary if the soil is dry from lack of snowfall. Water when temperatures are above 40 degrees.

Check mulch coverage and winter tree wrap.

After a heavy snowfall, knock snow off tree branches and shrubs to prevent breakage.

Clean and repair tools.

Check stored summer bulbs for decay or rot.

Please see *Landscape Maintenance* on page 4

Owner's Corner from page 1

To all of you that referred friends and family to us last year, THANK YOU! Referrals are the biggest part of our new business and I appreciate that you trust BestYard.com enough to send your friends and family to us. I am continuing the Best Neighbor Program so that for each person you refer that signs up for a program with BestYard, you earn \$25.00 in BestBucks. BestBucks are good for any service at BestYard. The "Best" thing about them is there is no limit to how many you can earn.

Mite treatments are coming up in February. If you have a south or west facing lawn, especially if it slopes, you should consider the February and November mite treatment. See Turf Care in this newsletter for more information on mites and how important it is to have the mite spray this year.

If you considering any landscape changes this year, call us. Laurie and Scott are great designers when it comes to remodeling your landscape. They both know how to incorporate plants and different materials to make your landscape stand out.

If there is ever anything that I can personally assist you with or questions I can answer for you, call and ask for me directly.

Chris

PS This newsletter is free to anyone that wishes to receive it. If you think a neighbor may like it, let them know to contact us to be added to our mailing list. Absolutely no obligation for them to purchase anything.

"Watering trees, shrubs and perennials may be necessary if the soil is dry from lack of snowfall."



Shoveling snow is not easy work!

News & Information Spotlight

Parker

This is a pretty neat page on Parker's website. Here are maps to Open Spaces, Facilities, Trails and Parks in the Parker area.

http://www.parkeronline.org/community_information/maps.aspx

Denver

This site lets you view archives, schedules and more for Denver 8 TV. Basically On-Demand city videos!

<http://www.denvergov.org/Default.aspx?alias=www.denvergov.org/denver8TV>

Aurora

Now here is an interesting and fun thing to do. The Aurora Library is offering The Power of One Book. Pick up a post card at the library, read 3 books and earn a prize. Read any "The Power of One Book" and get entered into another drawing for a bigger prize. It runs from Jan 20 - Feb 28th. For details:

http://www.auroralibrary.org/screens/programs/reading_programs/PowerOfOne.html

Highlands Ranch/Centennial

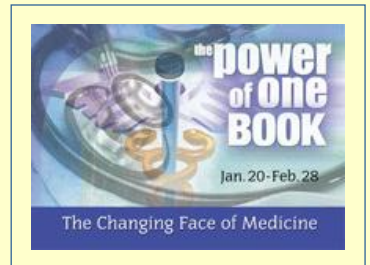
Here is information on Parks & Open Spaces located here. Did you know that 85 percent of homes in Highlands Ranch are located within one quarter mile of a park, open space area or trail?

http://www.highlandsranch.org/03_p&os/03_p&os_home.html

Castle Rock

Have you visited the Castle Rock 4 U website? Try it, I think you'll like it! Information on shopping, dining, event calendar, and more.

<http://www.castlerock4u.com/>



Aurora Library - The Power of One Book Program.

Turf Care from page 1

Mites are extremely small but what they lack in size they make up for in breeding. They multiply very fast and do their damage usually before anyone realizes they're even there. They are a puncture & suck creature, which means that they puncture the cell wall and suck out the juices causing desiccation that looks much like drought damage.

We've had such a warm dry winter that I feel that mites will be a big problem this year.

If you had the November mite spray then you are covered for about 30-60 days. We have another spray coming up in early February and if you want that one, now is the time to sign up so that you're scheduled in.

The other concern that warm dry winters bring is winterkill. Winterkill is a catch all phrase to explain grass that doesn't recover in the spring. It's caused when grass roots dry out and die. Winter is basically an extended drought so grass saves all moisture it receives for the roots. When there is insufficient water to keep the roots alive, they die and the lawn has winterkill. Mites mimic winterkill so often the lawn is killed by mites but mites are never identified as the culprits because they are so similar in appearance.

Avoiding winterkill is fairly simple. Winter water! On a warm day, above 40° I suggest, give your lawn some water. It needs to be enough to soak into the soil but you don't have to overdo it. Finish watering so there is enough time for the water to soak into the soil before nighttime freezing temperatures.

"Mites mimic winterkill so often the lawn is killed by mites but mites are never identified as the culprits."

Landscape Maintenance from page 2

To clean crusty pots and containers, soak them in a solution of one cup vinegar to one gallon of warm water and scrub.

When the appropriate chilling period is complete, move forced bulbs to a sunny window and begin to water regularly.

Start a few Paperwhite bulbs for indoor fragrance - it will take 2-3 weeks until bloom.

Begin any corrective pruning and prune summer blooming shrubs and trees as weather permits.

Check mulch coverage and winter tree wrap.

Begin to apply horticultural oil sprays (and throughout the season) to control insects, diseases, and powdery mildew.

Start seeds indoors.

NEW! Weekly Dog Waste Removal

Best Neighbor Program

Get \$25.00 in BestBucks just for letting other people know how well we take care of your lawn and landscape. Call for details.



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