

BestYard BestNews

For Lawn and Landscape

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Owner's Corner

By Chris

The end of summer is near. School is back in session and it will soon be fall and then alas, winter. Wow, this summer has gone fast. It has also been very hot too. Well August has started out nice and cool with some showers. As you probably see, your lawn loves it.

This month, we want to touch on some things we see in your lawns. We continue to see signs of stress, pests, voles and weeds.

We also want to “plant the seeds” with our customers. Don't forget to get on our schedule for fall cleanups, fall aerations and sprinkler blowouts. These services are right around the corner in September and October.

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Turf Care

By Steve

Wow, what a year this has been! Dry, hot, windy and a record breaker.

Now that the weather is cooling off the lawns have a chance to start repairing the stress or damage that has occurred during this summer. All your lawn needs is regular fertilization and watering to allow the grass to fill in and strengthen the roots.

Aeration is very important to help increase air and water penetration and circulation. This in turn helps build a stronger root system which in turn builds a stronger lawn. We recommend a spring and fall aeration but even one is better than none.

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Voles are often called Field or Meadow Mice.

Landscape Maintenance

By Scott

Are you considering a new playground for your children this holiday season? Maybe you would like to replace the pebbles or mulch you currently have? We now have Forever Mulch for you!

“Continue general maintenance - make sure the irrigation system is providing adequate coverage and water, deadhead annuals and perennials, and weed.”

Made from recycled tires, doesn't decompose, break down or fade like wood mulch, is safe for your children, and comes in multiple colors to spice up the play area. We'll be glad to help you with this attractive new product.

Fall clean ups are starting and now is the time to call and sign up.

What gardening chores should be done at this time of the year:

Monitor the landscape for insect and disease problems.

Continue general maintenance - make sure the irrigation system is providing adequate coverage and water, deadhead annuals and perennials, and weed.

Stop fertilizing containers, beds and borders.

Remove dead branches and brush for fire mitigation.

Divide and replant summer/fall blooming perennials after blooming.

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

Please see *Landscape Maintenance* on page 4

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Remember holiday lighting. All major holidays are done until Xmas, but don't wait until the last minute. CALL NOW!

Keep us in mind for a beautiful holiday light display for your family and neighbors. If you would like a catalog for some new lighting ideas, call the office and we would be happy to send one.

Finally, we are starting to get calls on snow removal. If you think you need BestYard.com to assist you with clearing off your driveways and sidewalks, don't hesitate to call us.

Christopher



You can shovel your snow...



Or we can do it for you!

News and Information Spotlight

Parker hasn't had any watering restrictions for the past 3 summers. Parker does have classes on numerous topics. Go to <http://www.pwsd.org/index.php> and click on Conservation in the left column.

Aurora water restrictions are in effect until October 31st. Go to <http://www.auroragov.org/AuroraGov/Departments/AuroraWater/index.htm> and click on Events in the left column to see information on chemical roundups and volunteer opportunities.

Castle Rock watering restrictions end September 30th. Castle Rock has a long list of Recycling Stops on their website. Go to <http://www.crgov.com/Index.asp> and click on Recycling Options in Castle Rock in the left column.

Denver Water restrictions are very simple. No watering between 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM. And don't waste water!

Highlands Ranch & Centennial restrictions are year round but only consist of no watering between 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. No restriction on the days you can water.

Denver Water now requires soil preparation before appointments to set meters for new water service can be scheduled.

Don't forget, Past Newsletter issues are on our website for your viewing!

Turf Care from page 1

Overseeding in conjunction with an aeration can help fill in weak or dead areas. Fall is a perfect time because it allows grass to establish the root system over the winter and early spring so it's ready for the heat of summer next year.

Vole activity has been extremely high. We have seen vole activity in lawns all year long which is unusual to say the least. What does that activity look like? It usually starts from under heavy shrubs like junipers where the vole can hide. They will build narrow runways through the lawn that are fairly easy to see. If you have any activity in your lawn, now is the time to get rid of them before the snows come.

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A repellent can be used to chase most herbivores out of your lawn. A product out of Sweden called Plantskydd® (Translation: Plant Protector) developed in 1991 is 100% natural, rated by OMRI, and has a residual of 3-4 months. If you want more information on it, go to <http://www.plantskydd.com>.

Landscape Maintenance from page 2
Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials.

Edge beds and borders.

Planting cool season annuals (pansies, snapdragons, dianthus, ornamental kale or cabbage) and container grown asters and chrysanthemums.

Lift summer blooming bulbs and store for the winter.

Do you have any questions about your landscape, gardens, shrubs, etc? Give us a call, we'll be glad to help answer your questions.

Mowing

By Steve

Aerations have started and are in the process of being scheduled at this time. If you haven't already ordered an aeration, now is the time to get it taken care of. Aerations ordered late in the season will be worked in where we can. With Colorado clay soil, aerations are necessary for the health of a lawn. Aerations open the soil up for better air and water penetration and circulation which is crucial for root growth. We recommend that you aerate twice a year for maximum benefit but at least once is a must. Many people believe that the last mowing should be very short. I say absolutely not. Mowing height can be taken down a small amount but do not "scalp" the lawn for any reason. Lowering the mowing height is only to avoid snow molds and frankly, grass doesn't have to be that short to do that. Since space is restricted to go deeper into this, call me with any questions you may have.

Irrigation

By Jeff

Are we scheduling Sprinkler Blowouts? You know we are!
When should you blow out your system? As late as you feel comfortable doing it but before our first freeze is predicted. So what is the *average* date for the first freeze of the year? That would be October 7th. The earliest freeze on record is September 8th but most fall in the last half of September to the first half of October. We can't guarantee when the first freeze will happen but we try to be done by the time it happens. So what can you do? Call now so we can get you scheduled.

Best Neighbor Program

Get paid \$25 in BestBucks for telling your neighbors and friends about us!



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