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Early Spring Newsletter and Tips

After a long and cold winter, we are anxious to get back to work making your lawn the best it can be. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank our many longtime customers for their continued support, and to welcome all of our new customers this year. If you have not renewed your service yet, or wish to get an estimate, please call or email the office.

EARLY SPRING LAWN TIPS

Our service will help your lawn become thick and healthy, but proper care on your part is essential. *Poor mowing, watering, and trimming practices can ruin a lawn.* We see it all the time. Below are some tips to help get the season off to a good start.

- 1. Give the lawn a light raking** to remove debris and lift matted grass and **snow mold** damage. Much of it will disappear by mid spring if you gently fluff it up a bit so air and sunlight can get to the soil. Our **Organic Disease Preventer** can help the grass recover faster.
- 2. Mow at the right height.** Make your first cuts short, 1 ½ inches or so. Gradually raise the height to 2 ½- 3 ½" by mid-May. *In general, lawns that are mowed higher are healthier and will have less Crabgrass.* Taller grass keeps more weeds from invading, has better color, and deeper roots. The exception to this rule is *creeping bentgrass lawns*. Bentgrass grows sideways and needs to be mowed shorter, no higher than 1 to 1 ½".
- 3. Sharpen your mower blade.** A dull blade tears the grass instead of giving it a nice clean cut. These tears are more likely to encourage disease organism than clean slices. It also results in a light fuzzy look on top of the lawn that can be seen from the street.
- 4. Mow at least once a week in the spring.** Try to "trim" the grass instead of "chop" the grass. In other words, mow often enough so the clippings are short and can be left on the lawn. If your mower blade hasn't been sharpened since last summer, either sharpen or replace. Dull mower blades tear the grass instead of cutting it cleanly.
- 5. Lawn Education.** Visit our lawn education blog that you'll find on the Menu bar of our website at www.greenbuffalolawncare.com. It covers all the basics on mowing, watering, crabgrass, snow mold, soil improvement and much more.

SPECIAL SERVICES. *A healthy soil means a better color lawn with more insect and disease resistance.* We offer a lot of optional services to help with the lawn, soil, insects, and even your pets. Call the office for more info, or to order call 681-7793.

Salt Control. (Order soon) The plows and salt trucks were very busy this winter. Road salt gets all over front lawns and builds up soils. This is toxic to grass and trees, and *also promotes weeds and crabgrass.* Our salt control removes salt and promotes new growth.

Natural Aeration. For *clay* or compacted soil. Our **Natural Aeration** applications will loosen and improve soil structure, and costs far less than core aeration. We recommend all customers get this once a year. And if you have clay or heavy soil, a second application would be extremely helpful.

Organic Soil Builder. Raising the level of organic matter in your soil will help on many levels. It will improve both clay and sandy soils and anything in between. It will also work to give your lawn more color, more iron, and better nutrient balance.

Yard Guard -Organic Flea and Tick Prevention. A safe and natural way to protect your dogs from these insects and *Lyme Disease* too. It also keeps most lawn insects out of the lawn.

Compost Bio-activator. Helps make soils more bioactive, improves grass health and rooting. Good for any trees that are in the lawn.

Foundation Pest Control. All-organic applications around the perimeter of the house to prevent ants, spiders, centipedes, etc., from entering your home.

Lime/Calcium. Helps “sweeten” and improve the soil while nourishing the grass.

CUSTOMER ADVICE

Work with us for optimum service. Here are a few ways we can help each other out:

- If you have a mowing service, let us know what day of the week they plan to mow. If they should come right after we've done an application (our signs will be on the lawn), ask them to come back the next day. Or, *if they must mow, tell them to leave the clippings.*
- If you are planning a party or know of a day when people or pets have to be on the lawn, try to let us know at least a week in advance so we can reschedule if needed.
- Call if you see anything unusual happening to your lawn or have any questions or complaints.
- Pay your bills or prepay online. Just go to our website www.greenbuffalolawncare.com , and at the top right of the homepage you will see a box that says **Payment Portal**.

We hope you'll be more than satisfied by our efforts and will tell all your friends and neighbors about **Green Buffalo Lawn Care**. Once again, thank you for all your referrals. They are our greatest source of new customers.

Have a Great Spring! We'll see you on the next round.