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2024 FALL NEWSLETTER & LAWN TIPS

PLUS RENEWAL INFORMATION

2024 has been a challenging year for lawns. Intense rains and wide temperature swings affected everything from weeds, to color, and even insects and disease. But as we said in our last newsletter, fall is the time when grass growth begins anew. With a bit of rain and some cooler weather, your lawn should look great as we move into late fall. Today's application will help the lawn get thicker and deeper rooted. It will also help "**winterize**" the lawn, which helps grass store nutrients and get off to a fast start in the spring.

Enrich and Improve the Root Zone this Fall. "It all begins with the soil."

Late fall is probably the best time to enrich and improve your soil quality and *humus* by adding more organics to it. Over the winter the nutrients will work their way into the root zone and will be ready for the lawn to use in the spring and throughout the season. Every lawn, whether growing on clay, sandy, or loamy soil would benefit with a **Compost/Bio-Activator** or **Organic Soil Builder** application.

*If you've had a **Lab Soil Test** within the past few years and didn't follow up on the recommendations, do them now!* The test pinpoints deficiencies in your soil and offers solutions that will help make your lawn healthier. We keep your Soil Test results on file so just give us a call if you are not sure what nutrients are still recommended. If you need a Soil Test, order it quickly so we can get a sample sent to the lab before the snow flies.

Fall is also a great time to aerate with our **Natural Aeration**. This is a must for the clay and compacted soil in this area. Our liquid product works deeper and better than mechanical aeration and also adds beneficial nutrients to the soil.

Dormant Fertilizing for Trees and Shrubs

Neglected plants weaken and are killed off over time by insects or disease. Like grass, your trees and shrubs also need fertilizer and nutrient-rich soil to stay healthy above and below ground. Clay or compact soil in the root zone, lack of fertilizer, or dry/wet roots can cause weakness or damage that might not even show up until the following year.

When leaves start changing color in the fall, shrubs and trees begin their **dormant** period. They cease growing and start storing food in their roots. *This is the perfect time for fertilizing.* Nutrients are easily absorbed and stored in the roots, helping your plants to thrive over the winter and all of next season. To enhance results, we add Seaweed, Humates, and Liquid Aeration to our fertilizer. **One heavy fertilizing will last throughout next season.** Please call the office to get a quote.

FALL LAWN TIPS

1. *Keep the grass high until colder weather actually causes the grass growth to slow down.* Don't mow short just because the temperature drops a little.
2. Gradually lower your mowing height *once the lawn growth slows down.* Don't scalp it down all at once, but *make sure it is **short** before the snow falls.*
3. Keep leaves from matting on the grass and avoid unnecessary foot traffic or heavy machines when the soil is soft and wet.
4. Seed bare or thin spots ASAP. Use a seed mix with perennial rye for fast sprouting. Seed by early October. If you want to seed later than this you can, but the seed may not sprout until mid-spring. *Please let the office know if you do any seeding late in the fall.*

SHRUB/TREE TIPS

1. **Fertilize** your shrubs and trees and improve the soil quality in the shrub beds with our **Fall Tree and Shrub Fertilizing** application.
2. **Prune crab apples and ornamental trees after the leaves drop.** 9 out of 10 crab apple trees that we see in our customer's yards are in dire need of pruning.
- 61 **Tie up** or wrap plants that tend to get flattened by ice and snow. **Protect** susceptible evergreens from wind burn by screening or by spraying an *anti-desiccant*. #
- 71 It seems like there are more deer than ever in our neighborhoods. Protect your plants by wrapping them or treating with a deterrent. We offer **Winter Deer Repellent** for arborvitaes, azaleas, rhododendrons and other susceptible plants. Call us for a quote. If you are concerned about **deer ticks**, ask about our organic **Yard Guard Flea & Tick Spray Program**.#

SERVICE RENEWAL. As most of you know, we do not automatically renew your service for the next year without your confirmation. We want to be sure you are happy with Green Buffalo Lawn Care and are on a program that "fits" your lawn. As usual, we will be sending out renewal forms soon for next years' service. You will receive individualized pricing for all service options and recommendations.

If you have *any* concerns about your lawn's appearance at this time, please contact Chelle or Kelly right away at gbinfo@greenbuffalolawncare.com or call us at 716-681-7793.

Thanks for your continued support!

Your friends at **Green Buffalo Lawn Care**