



**BUCKEYE  
ECOCARE®**

Summer

435-GRAS

Visit us on-line at

[www.buckeyeecocare.com](http://www.buckeyeecocare.com)

*Your Hometown Lawn Care Company*



## FUN FACTS

In 1908, exactly 100 years ago;

- The average life expectancy was 47 years.
- Only 14% of homes had a bath tub.
- There were only 800 cars and 144 miles of paved roads.
- The average wage in 1908 was 22¢ per hour.
- The average worker made between \$200 and \$400 annually.
- 90% of all doctors had no college education.
- Sugar was 4 cents per pound.
- Coffee was 15 cents per pound.
- The American flag had 45 states.
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was 30!
- Two out of every 10 adults could not read or write.
- Only 6% of all Americans had graduated high school.
- There were 230 reported murders in the entire USA.



*What a difference a century makes!*

## Lawns at Rest

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A LAWN GOES DORMANT?

Summer's hot, dry weather can be very tough on your lawn, especially if you aren't taking steps to provide extra water in the absence of rainfall. If irrigating your turf isn't feasible this summer, you can expect it to turn brown in color as it goes into a state of dormancy.

Though a dormant lawn may look dead, it really isn't. Instead, it has simply gone into a resting state as a means of protection. While in this dormant state, lawns concentrate any moisture they can get in the roots and crowns (the base of the leafy portion of the grass plant).

How well a lawn bounces back from dormancy depends on how long it's subjected to hot, dry conditions and what state it was in when summer weather arrived. For example, if a lawn has heavy thatch and a weak root system to begin with, it

will be more prone to long-term damage from being allowed to go dormant.

Dormant lawns can be expected to initiate new growth when rainfall increases and temperatures cool down, usually in early September. However,

some plant loss is to be expected if the dormant period is lengthy and temperatures stay very high (above 90° F). In cases like these, renovation practices such as aeration and overseeding will probably be necessary in the fall.

If you do allow your lawn to go dormant, you should at least supply ½" of water every three to four weeks in order to keep the roots and

crowns alive. But if you'd like to avoid dormancy altogether, you'll need to water regularly in the absence of rainfall.



*Dormant lawns may look dead, but they're really in a resting state.*



#### REMEMBER...

- Insufficient irrigation can lead to turf dormancy.
- The healthier the lawn, the less long-term damage it will suffer from going dormant.

# ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE PRACTICES

It seems like every time I open a trade journal, another state is attempting to regulate the products used by green industry professionals.



Pesticides, or plant protection mechanisms, were developed to protect lawns and landscape plants without harm to the environment. The federal and state EPAs exist for this purpose. Admittedly, there are some homeowners and contractors who either misapply or abuse some of these products, and this can lead to damaged plants.



## HERE AT BUCKEYE ECOCARE, WE FOLLOW A SIMPLE STRATEGY:

1. Educate clients about the limitations that plant protection mechanisms have. We control weeds, insects and disease; we don't eradicate them.
2. Promote good cultural practices like mowing, watering, aeration, and overseeding with drought- and insect-resistant grass varieties.
3. As a last resort, **encourage responsible practices** when it comes to pesticide applications. Apply the right products at the appropriate times and follow labeled instructions. If your doctor recommends 500 mg of vitamin C every day to keep your body healthy, you don't take 1500 mg just to "make sure." The same is true in our industry. To keep your lawn thick and competitive, we make recommended applications of fertilizer and pesticides as needed.



Mark Grunkemeyer  
President, Buckeye EcoCare

## Quick Tips for Summer Watering



### YOUR LAWN

During the growing season, your turf needs an average of 1" to 1½" of water per week from rainfall and/or sprinkling. You should water deeply, but not too often, since deep watering encourages deeper rooting and better health. It's best to soak the soil to a depth of 6" each time, and you should try to water early in the morning to avoid evaporation. Give extra attention to hot or dry areas along pavement or in full sun, as well as slopes and hillsides.

### YOUR TREES AND SHRUBS

If your trees and shrubs don't receive enough water this summer, they may end up wilting, losing leaves and suffering permanent damage. A long, slow watering once per week should be enough to keep them properly irrigated. Soaker hoses or low, wide-area sprinklers are ideal for watering your trees and shrubs during the summer, but be sure to leave them in place three times as long as you do when you water your lawn or flower beds.

## A TESTIMONIAL

Thank you very much for the prompt service. I am completely satisfied and happy with your lawn care for the many years I've had your service. I just received a Certificate of Merit from the City of Fairborn's Beautification Committee for my property this year. It was because (I think) I had the greenest and thickest grass along with my landscaping. **Thanks to Buckeye EcoCare.**

– Customer #8347

