



**BUCKEYE
ECOCARE®**

Fall



435-GRAS

Visit us on-line at

www.buckeyeecocare.com

Your Hometown Lawn Care Company

QUICK TIPS FOR FALL

- Spring bulbs will need time to get their roots established this fall, so if you're going to plant them, the sooner the better.
- Consider setting up bird feeding stations. The birds will appreciate your efforts, and their visits will liven up your landscape through the colder months.
- Removing fallen leaves, branches and other debris this fall will make a big difference in your lawn. And by mowing your lawn shorter for the final cut of the season, you'll help it to retain better color throughout the winter.
- Applying mulch to your planting beds will keep soil temperatures more steady and help the soil to retain moisture. It looks good too!

For a Lawn that Looks Great, Aerate! Aerate! Aerate!

GET BIG-TIME BENEFITS FROM THIS VALUABLE SERVICE

We've said it before and we'll say it again... aeration is one of the best things we can do for your lawn. With this process, we'll use a core aerator to make thousands of holes in your turf as we remove plugs of soil. These soil plugs will be left behind to dissolve.

"So," you may be asking yourself, "why would poking holes in my turf be beneficial?"

HERE ARE THREE REASONS:

1. Consider the way your lawn's root system works. It constantly renews itself by sending out new roots that need loose and open soil to expand. If soil is heavy and compacted, the new roots are forced to stay near the surface or even in the thatch layer itself. This leads to a lawn that dries out too quickly and builds up thatch faster than a deeply rooted lawn.

Aeration creates the growth zones that new roots need to expand. Since root development is much greater in the fall than at any other time of year, this is an ideal time to aerate.

2. Another big benefit of aeration is thatch control. Thatch is the layer of living and dead stems, roots and other grass parts that sits just above the soil. When it exceeds 1/2" in thickness, it becomes a breeding ground for all sorts of lawn diseases and insects. It's very difficult to grow healthy turf through a heavy thatch layer.

After aeration, the soil plugs dissolve back into the lawn during rainfall or watering. This helps to speed up the natural decomposition of thatch. By decreasing thatch on a regular basis with aeration, we may be able to prevent the need for extensive lawn renovations down the road.

3. Last but not least, the holes created by aeration make it much easier for air, water and nutrients to reach your lawn's root zone. This leads to a stronger root system with an improvement in overall plant health and appearance.



So why wait? Do your lawn a favor this fall and Aerate! Aerate! Aerate! Give us a call today to schedule this valuable service.

KEY POINTS

- Aeration is one of the best things we can do for your lawn.
- Performed regularly, this service encourages root development, breaks up the thatch layer, and makes it easier for air, water and nutrients to reach the root zone.

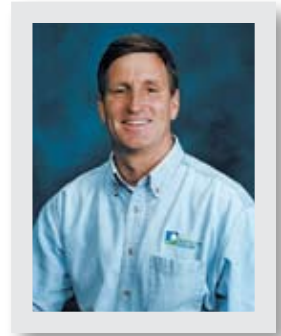


The Number One Question in 2009...

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GRASS I USED TO HAVE GROWING IN THE SHADED AREAS OF MY LAWN?

Let's review the ABCs of turfgrass.

- A). Turfgrass is a sun-loving ground cover that has evolved over the last 10,000 years or so in the wide-open prairies of North America and Europe. Modern-day, close-cut lawns are the perfect choice *if you have a minimum of six to eight hours of direct sunlight available*. Since turfgrass is a great erosion control device, pollution trapper and oxygen producer, we're constantly trying to establish it with or without adequate sunlight. However, going green in the shade may involve installing something other than grass.
- B). The landscape trees that shade our houses, play areas and lawns require food, water and oxygen from the very soils where our grasses are trying to become established. The battle between tree roots and grass roots is always won by the larger plant, because tree roots are more numerous and more fibrous than grass roots. Therefore, trying to grow grass "in the dark" may require annual seeding of shade-adaptable blends.
- C). Last but not least, southern Ohio summers can be very harsh on even the healthiest of turfgrass plants. We often try to grow these sun-loving plants in the shade, with little or no root system, in heavy clay soils and under adverse growing conditions. The photo below shows a tree with the proper ground cover installed around it. As the tree matures, the shade-loving plant (not turf) will naturally spread to cover the soil and roots, providing a low-maintenance ground cover that will last a lifetime.



Mark Grunkemeyer
President, Buckeye EcoCare



A TESTIMONIAL

"The face of your company year in and year out is the people who apply various fertilizers, weed killers and grub controls. Jim is a great representative. I am not easy to please but Jim has done so. Your challenge is to keep people like him. You obviously know this but it is worth repeating."

— Customer #21870



Make a Difference...Plant a Tree!



Tree planting is a great way to improve environmental quality while enhancing the looks of your landscape.

Planting a new tree will not only enhance the looks of your landscape, but it can help you save money on your energy bills while improving the environment we all share. Consider these statistics on the value of planting trees:

- The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to 10 room-sized air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture*
- If you plant a tree on the west side of your home, your energy bills should be 3% less in five years. After 15 years, the savings will be nearly 12%. *Source: Dr. E. Greg McPherson, Center for Urban Forest Research*
- Landscaping, especially with trees, can increase property values as much as 20%. *Source: Management Information Services/ICMA*
- One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture*
- There are up to 200 million spaces along our city streets where trees could be planted. This translates to the potential for absorbing 33 million more tons of carbon dioxide per year, which would save \$4 billion in energy costs. *Source: National Wildlife Federation*
- The planting of trees improves water quality, resulting in less runoff and erosion. Wooded areas help to prevent the transport of sediment and chemicals into streams. *Source: USDA Forest Service*

It's a fact...if you plant a tree (or trees) this fall, everyone wins!

Green Corner