



**BUCKEYE  
ECOCARE®**

Late Fall

435-GRAS

Visit us on-line at

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

*Your Hometown Lawn Care Company*

## Gearing Up for Winter

### GET YOUR LAWN AND LANDSCAPE READY FOR THE COLD MONTHS AHEAD

### QUICK TIPS FOR LATE FALL

We can't over-emphasize the importance of taking good care of your lawn and garden equipment. With just a little effort on your part every fall, these items can last a lot longer...and you won't have to spend money to replace them in the spring!

- Wash out any wheelbarrows or garden carts with a hose.
- Spray containers will benefit from being washed out with a mixture of detergent and water.
- Got sap on your pruning shears? You can use turpentine to remove it.
- Salt and de-icing chemicals can be brought into your garage on your car's wheels. It's a good idea to hang garden tools to keep them out of contact with these corrosive materials.
- To extend the lives of your water hoses, disconnect, drain and store them inside during the colder months. If you must store them outside, try to keep them out of direct sunlight (which can lead to cracking over time).
- To discourage wooden handles from drying out and splitting, try rubbing them with linseed oil.
- You can prevent corrosion on your garden tools by cleaning them thoroughly and covering them with a thin coat of protective oil.

With summer behind us and plant growth slowing considerably, it may be tempting to put yard work on the back burner. However, there's still work to be done on your property before winter arrives. Here are some basic items to take care of this fall:

#### YOUR LAWN

- If your turf hasn't been aerated yet, have us do it soon. This will help to break up the thatch layer and improve the flow of air, water and nutrients to the roots.
- We recommend at least one heavy dose of fertilizer. This will promote a deeper, stronger root system for earlier, thicker green-up in the spring.
- You should continue mowing your lawn as long as the grass keeps growing, with a final mowing height of 1½" to 2½" going into winter (shorter grass will be less susceptible to snow mold and powdery mildew diseases).
- Remove leaves and other debris that can smother your grass over the winter.

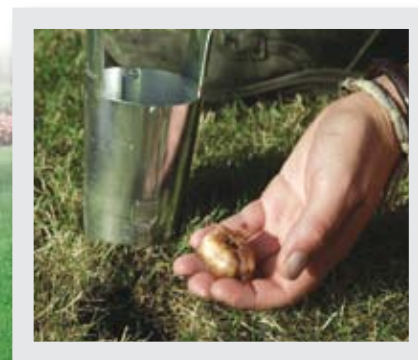
#### YOUR LANDSCAPE

- Trees and shrubs will benefit significantly from an application of fertilizer.
- Spring-flowering bulbs such as tulips and daffodils should be planted now. Keep in mind that they need to be planted where they'll get lots of sunlight in the spring.
- Bird baths, irrigation lines and your rain gauge should be emptied to prevent freezing damage over the winter.
- Add mulch to your planting beds.
- Perennials can be cut back now, and spent annuals should be removed.
- Start planning now for any dormant/off-season pruning that needs to be done on your property.

See to these tasks now, and you'll notice a big difference in the looks and health of your lawn and landscape when spring returns! For more information on preparing your lawn and landscape for winter, call Buckeye EcoCare today.



*Aeration will encourage a healthier root system going into winter.*



*This is the perfect time to plant spring-flowering bulbs.*

# Sustainability...So What?

As the season winds down, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind all of our valuable clients of our role in the green industry. It's very easy for Buckeye EcoCare to "go green" every day, because we're in the fertilization and plant health care business.

We've learned over the past decade that carbon dioxide levels are rising because of human activity, and that scientists may or may not be able to slow the current trends. The good news: We know for a fact that all healthy, green plants absorb carbon dioxide, place the carbon back into the soil and release oxygen out into the atmosphere.

Protecting tomorrow today and encouraging responsible practices involves making good decisions about what products we use, if we should use them and at what rates. Fertilizer is easy because healthy, competitive plants naturally fight off disease and insect pests, but pesticide use should only be left up to professional, licensed applicators.

If you're reading this newsletter, you're interested in the future of your lawn and landscape investment. Please consider the hidden benefits of sustaining your lawn and landscape so that your children and grandchildren can enjoy this wonderful earth that we've been entrusted with. Sustainability, simply stated, means that we should not abuse our natural resources. Someday soon, the experts will have a way to measure our carbon footprint. Buckeye EcoCare will continue to preserve and protect your lawn and landscape as effectively as we possibly can. Remember, we don't own the land we live on. We're just renting it until the next generation comes along to care for it.



Mark Grunkemeyer  
President, Buckeye EcoCare



## HIDDEN BENEFITS

- In the United States, turf grass removes 20 million tons of carbon and 5% of the carbon dioxide from our atmosphere.
- Four trees or 10,000 sq. ft. of lawn can produce enough oxygen for a family of four.
- A healthy 10,000 sq. ft. lawn absorbs 6,000 gallons of rainwater without noticeable runoff.
- Well-placed trees can reduce household heating and cooling bills by up to 20%.
- In a block of eight houses, just the front lawns have a cooling effect equivalent to 70 tons of air conditioning.
- Grass clippings contain 4% nitrogen, 5% phosphorus and 2% potassium.
- One tree can absorb 7-13 kg of carbon dioxide per year.
- On a hot day, lawns will be 30° cooler than asphalt and 16° cooler than bare soil.
- Turf traps an estimated 12 million tons of dirt and dust annually.

*Benefits provided by the Bayer Corporation*



# The Benefits of Home Recycling

Green Corner

Do you recycle the paper, plastic, cardboard and aluminum your family uses? If not, consider the kind of difference you could be helping to make!

- By recycling one aluminum can, you can save enough energy to run a television for three hours.
- In America, we throw away enough aluminum to reconstruct the entire commercial airline fleet every six months.
- One recycled glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100-watt light bulb for four hours.
- One ton of recycled paper can save 17 Douglas fir trees.
- Up to 50% of landfill space is taken up by paper.
- As much as 90% of recycled glass can be used to make new glass bottles and jars.
- One square yard of carpet can be made from 36 recycled bottles.
- U.S. landfills receive roughly 130 billion beverage containers each year.
- By recycling a 1-gallon plastic milk jug, you can save enough energy to burn a 100-watt light bulb for 11 hours.

Home recycling greatly benefits the environment with very little effort on our part, yet not enough of us are doing it. In fact, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, the national recycling rate is only 30%! It's easy to get started, and it's easy to make a difference. The first step is to visit your local recycling center to determine what materials they accept for recycling, then set up the appropriate bins in your home.

Once you have a system in place, you'll wonder what took you so long to get started!



*Get the whole family involved!  
It's a great way to teach the kids  
about helping our environment.*