



Early Fall



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GIVE THE SEEDS SOME LOVE

You just laid new grass seed and are excited about having turf where there once was bare dirt. But lush green lawns don't automatically appear after you spread the seeds. These tips will help guide your new turf through its infancy:

Proper watering is the biggest way you can help a newly seeded area. Seedlings need a steady schedule of light but frequent waterings. The upper two inches of the soil should have constant moisture. This usually requires 2-4 watering sessions per day.

Even after new turf appears, stick to the above watering routine for a few weeks. The seed mix may contain different varieties of grass with different timelines for germination. Therefore, it's important to water steadily until all varieties have germinated.

Do not apply any weed control treatments for at least 3-5 mowings.

Be sure to mow at a healthy height where only one third of the grass blade is removed with each mowing.

Balanced fertilizer treatment helps new turf get up and running.

Time to Seed with Air to Breathe

This time of year, cooler temperatures and lower humidity hint at the coming autumn. It may seem that your lawn's year is more or less over as it winds down towards the dormant season. In reality, the milder weather and absence of scorching sun make early fall your lawn's favorite time of year. Your turf is finished struggling with heat and potential drought. Weeds are not as active now as they were in the height of summer. Aeration and seeding are great ways to take advantage of this time when your lawn feels most comfortable.

The current peak growing season means your lawn will benefit from aeration now more than any other time. Aeration is a process that removes thousands of small 'plugs' of turf and soil from your lawn. This allows water and nutrients more direct access to your turf's roots while reducing thatch buildup. Aeration gives existing root systems room to expand and fortify themselves for the future. Aeration also goes hand in hand with overseeding (seeding existing turf areas). Numerous holes in the turf expose new seeds directly to the soil and shelters them from wind, animals, or other elements – increasing their viability.

With your lawn in peak condition, now is a great time for laying new grass seed. While spring may seem like the logical time to seed barren areas, fall is a better choice. It is a challenge for turf to establish itself in the unpredictable spring. Things get even more difficult for developing turf when heat and weeds come into play during the summer. Seed planted in the spring finds itself thrust into a hostile environment from the get-go.

Seeding now allows your turf to get through its early stages when conditions are ideal. Milder weather and ample sunshine sets new turf up for success because its roots can take hold free of summer stresses. While it may be tempting to seed in the spring – seeding in the fall will result in healthier turf for the long run.

The kids may be back in school, and pools may be closing – but these months are the highlight of the year for your lawn. A little extra attention now goes a long way towards ensuring its health next spring, and for years to come.



Teamwork

A word we hear almost every day. Teamwork on the athletic field, at home, and at work, but rarely do we hear teamwork when dealing with your service provider. Let's take a look at three of our most common service providers:

- 1) Your primary care physician encourages you to exercise regularly, have a balanced diet, and drink plenty of water.
- 2) Your automobile service company encourages regular service visits to perform oil changes, tire rotations, etc., to keep your car running it's best.
- 3) H.V.A.C., plumbing, and cable service providers help maintain and bring comfort to your home.

Teamwork with your lawn and landscape professional involves the same set of rules as your other service providers. Plants that receive a proper diet, adequate water, regular service visits, and a quality maintenance program will last a lifetime. Follow these three simple rules and your lawn and landscape will become the envy of your neighborhood:

- Rule #1) Proper diet** – A balanced rate of high quality fertilizer.
- Rule #2) Hydration** – The proper amount of water only when Mother Nature has let us down (June, July, August).
- Rule #3) Service** – Responsive feedback from a reputable service provider.



Tom R. Grunkemeyer
President, Buckeye EcoCare



Client Testimonial:

"As always James is friendly, professional, and on time! I really appreciate his "heads up" call the day before he comes out and that he always closes the gate upon his departure as we have two dogs. James is an asset to your Company."

~ Customer #736797



The Right Time for Trees

When putting together your property's landscape, your shrubs and trees are some of the most prominent, and the most costly, pieces of the puzzle. You want to be sure that your trees and shrubs have every advantage necessary for a long and healthy life of beautifying your yard. As with all of your living landscape, planting trees and shrubs at the right time goes a long way towards ensuring their long-term health.

Spring is a time of new growth all over your yard, and seems like a great time to plant, but consider the following: While spring is the time that things get rolling, remember that summer is right around the corner. Summertime means dry heat and scorching sun. Not the best situation for plants that have only been in the ground for a short time.

Fall, on the other hand, is much more accommodating for new plants. As opposed to the blazing heat and scarce rain of summer, fall brings cooler and wetter weather. Without the harsh stresses of heat and drought, new trees and shrubs can fully establish themselves – not just struggle to survive. Building sturdy, extensive root systems is a crucial step in all plants' lifecycles. If these roots can develop before winter's dormant season, they will be fully ready come spring. So if you are thinking about adding to your landscape, don't hesitate to plant now. Ideal timing can make all the difference.

