



BUCKEYE ECOCARE®

Family Owned Since 1984



FALL FERTILIZATION: YOUR LAWN'S MOST IMPORTANT MEAL

As the days grow colder and shorter, it is tempting to shift our focus towards hearth and home and away from the lawn. Fighting this temptation can yield dividends come spring if you manage to squeeze in one more application of fertilizer in late fall. Many of the challenges your lawn faces during the hot summer months have run their course by the time cooler weather sets in. Lawns no longer have to contend with the scorching heat which stresses the turf. Unlike in the dog days of summer, in the fall, your lawn does not require extensive watering just to stay alive. Lack of regular mowing means that grass can stop focusing its efforts on weekly blade growth and can instead concentrate on root growth and rejuvenation. This unique situation makes late fall an ideal time to fertilize your lawn.

As your lawn shifts its priorities, it changes the way it uses the nutrients in fertilizer. In the spring, high nitrogen levels lead to quick top growth, but that same nitrogen applied in the fall will be put to use strengthening the turfgrass roots and storing energy reserves for the winter. This will ensure that your lawn will green up early in the spring and be resistant to disease and drought throughout the summer.

While it may seem counterintuitive to fertilize this time of year, your lawn can benefit more from these applications than from any other seasonal fertilization. Your lawn will especially benefit if it receives a fall application before the grass has gone completely dormant. In southern Ohio, we typically have totally dormant (brown) grass sometime in early to mid-December.



FEED THE BIRDS AND FEED YOUR SOUL



The coming of winter and a dormant landscape doesn't have to diminish our appreciation of the natural world. Although some of your local animals will have moved on to warmer climates or started their hibernation ritual, there will be plenty of beautiful, hungry birds looking for any meal they can find.

You'll be amazed by how much lively action a simple bird feeder will bring to your backyard this year. Overwintering birds like robins, woodpeckers and doves will appreciate the feast and reward you by adding a fun, energetic presence to an otherwise quiet landscape.

The effects of bird watching can run even deeper. Some sociological studies have found that humans can benefit greatly from having daily exposure to wildlife. Researchers say it creates a deeper connection to nature, which has a calming effect on some people.



GREAT GIFTS FOR THE GARDENER

The holiday season will be here before you know it! If you're in need of gift ideas for that special gardener in your life, you can't go wrong with any of the following:

- Gardening books
- Windowsill herb garden
- Bonsai tree
- Bird feeder, house or bath
- Membership in a "Gardener of the Month" club
- Hydroponic gardening kit
- Kneeling pad
- Decorative pots
- Gardening journal
- Subscription to a gardening magazine
- Gift certificate to a nursery
- Gardening apron/tool belt



NO MATTER WHAT TYPE OF GIFT YOU GIVE, THEY'LL BE SURE TO APPRECIATE YOU SUPPORTING THEIR HOBBY!

2023 ~ A YEAR TO BE THANKFUL

Now that our team can look in the rear-view mirror at the 2023 growing season, we must remain thankful. May and September were unusually dry when we all needed to get some planting done. June, July and August were wet when we needed the moisture to protect our plants. The annual flowers my wife planted on Mother's Day were still blooming in early October – what a bonus! A dry September with warmer soil temperatures allowed our team to install over 130 new lawns along with overseeding nearly two tons of grass seed.

As a company, we also remain thankful for your continued support and loyalty. Inflationary pressures have impacted every part of our lives and businesses, and our people remain at the heart of the services we offer.

In the near future, you will be receiving your prepay savings options for 2024, our 40th year in business! Please take the time to consider what Buckeye EcoCare has to offer and, as always, feel free to contact us if you have any questions. We are thankful to be able to offer our clients live, trained, experienced personnel on the phone during normal business hours.

The holidays are just around the corner, and we'd like to extend our warmest wishes to you and your family from all of us at Buckeye EcoCare. We are thankful for YOU!

Tom Grunkemeyer,
President, Buckeye EcoCare



Tom R. Grunkemeyer
President, Buckeye EcoCare

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