



## AI and Buckeye EcoCare

AI - "A computer system's ability to perform tasks that usually require human intelligence" is the Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition. The question then becomes "Can Buckeye EcoCare or any other service organization benefit from or rely on AI to assist with their day-to-day business activities?"

1. Can AI make customized turf, landscape or pest control treatments to residential and commercial properties?
2. Can AI identify potential problems on your lawn in real time?
3. Can AI operate a vehicle or piece of lawn equipment?
4. Can AI answer client questions when they happen during the growing season?
5. Can AI answer the phones "in person" 44 hours per week?
6. Can AI "give back" to the communities where they live, work and play?

Restaurants, painters and lawn care providers can certainly use AI in some parts of their businesses but not when it comes to dealing with live clients.

For over four decades, Buckeye EcoCare has maintained a proven track record of providing these non-AI tasks. We are very proud of our 40+ years of service to Dayton and the surrounding communities.

We want you to be proud of your property – come home to a lawn you'll love with help from Buckeye EcoCare!

Tom R. Grunkemeyer  
President, Buckeye EcoCare



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## Welcome to a New Growing Season!

The holidays have come and gone, and what better way to shake off the winter blues than to start thinking about the springtime greens? When we turn the calendar over each year, we get to restart our year-long journey with you and your property. As we start a new growing season, we'd like to take just a moment to remind you that we'll need your help this year as well.

We'll keep you informed of the services we're performing, and we'll let you know what you can do to help, like watering your lawn and landscape plants in the absence of rainfall and alerting us to any concerns you have about the health of your lawn and landscape plantings. Both our work and yours are needed to give you a lawn and landscape you'll love coming home to.

We'll be providing you with this newsletter along with monthly e-blasts all season long to help you get the most from your investment. As always, please feel free to call us at any time with your questions and concerns. We may still have some cold weather in front of us, but brighter days aren't far away! We are looking forward to making your little slice of green space a lot happier and healthier this year.

## The Benefits of a Healthy Lawn

Some of the benefits of a deep, green carpet of healthy grass are obvious. A home surrounded by a lush, well-kept lawn has a fresh, inviting appearance. A nice lawn also provides us with a great place to walk, relax, or play. Other benefits are not so obvious, and some might even surprise you.

Today's turf-type tall fescues have been developed to replace most bluegrass lawns, but grasses have covered the planet for thousands of years. Their natural ability to withstand heat, resist disease and require less water makes turf-type tall fescues the grass of choice. A well-maintained lawn can actually help to provide a healthier place for you, your family, and your community.

### SOME OF THE NOT-SO-OBVIOUS FACTS OF TURFGRASS INCLUDE:

- A lawn measuring 50' x 50' produces enough oxygen to meet the needs of a family of four every day.
- Grass is a natural air conditioner. It absorbs the sun's heat during the day. Temperatures over grassy surfaces on a sunny summer day can be 10-14° cooler than over asphalt or concrete.
- Turfgrass helps clean the air, too. Grass plants absorb pollutants like carbon dioxide and return pure oxygen in exchange.
- A thick, healthy lawn is a natural deterrent to allergy-causing weed pollen.
- Traffic and other kinds of noise are greatly reduced in areas where lawns are present. Soft-surfaced landscapes absorb sound, while hard surfaces reflect it.
- Dense turf filters surface water before it returns to groundwater supplies.
- Grass also works against soil erosion from both wind and water.



We're dedicated to caring for your lawn because we understand the many benefits it brings to you and the world we all share. We're here to make sure it stays healthy and "on the job." Call us whenever you have questions about caring for your turf.



## Did You Know? Amazing Facts

- The philodendron, one of the most vigorously climbing houseplants, is named from the Greek word philodendros, which means "loving trees."
- Rice is grown in flooded paddies not because it needs that much water but to drown weed seedlings; it can also be grown in drained areas.
- During mid-summer, the two radical leaves that grow from the base of the stem of the compass plant point precisely north and south.
- It takes 4,000 crocuses to produce a single ounce of saffron, which is used to color and flavor food.
- An orange tree may bear oranges for more than 100 years. One tree, known as the Constable Tree, brought to France in 1421, lived and bore fruit for 473 years.
- Gardenias and orange blossoms are two plants with heavenly fragrances, but if you put them together in the same bouquet, they neutralize each other's scents, so there's no smell.



## Why Do We Fertilize Lawns?

To keep your lawn green, growing and looking its best, a consistent program of feeding is essential. Regular fertilization will lead to a thicker, healthier lawn that reduces erosion, filters pollutants, provides natural cooling, and cleans the air. Plus, your lawn will be less likely to suffer from weed, insect, and disease problems when it's fertilized on a regular basis. Perhaps best of all, your lawn will need less water when it gets the nutrients it needs throughout the year.



### WHAT'S IN FERTILIZER, ANYWAY?

Fertilizer contains three primary (and many secondary) nutrients: nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Nitrogen promotes strong color and top growth, phosphorus stimulates root development, and potassium helps with disease resistance and water retention.

### HOW DO LAWNS USE FERTILIZER?

After fertilizer becomes mixed with the moisture in the soil, it's absorbed by the plants through hair-like feeder roots. Once inside the plant, nutrients are distributed to the areas where they're needed and can go to work building new roots, promoting fuller leaf growth, warding off diseases, and helping the grass hold water throughout the seasons.

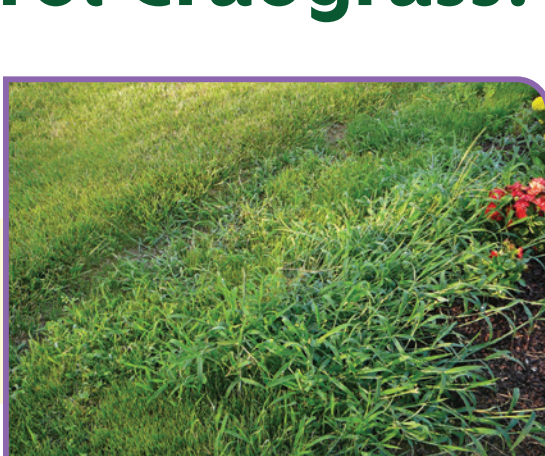
Based on our local history, we know the best fertilizer for your particular needs, and we can apply it in the right amount at the right time to ensure beautiful, healthy growth. Call us today for more information on our fertilizer program or to schedule your lawn for this very important service.

## Now Is the Time to Control Crabgrass!

Lurking just below the surface of your lawn is an invisible menace, waiting for the right time to make its presence known. While we don't usually think of crabgrass as a comic-book-caliber supervillain, it can nevertheless wreak havoc on your lawn.

Crabgrass is incredibly hardy and actually thrives in conditions where turfgrass struggles. Millions of crabgrass seeds can lie dormant for years, waiting until conditions are favorable to emerge. Since crabgrass prefers hot, dry weather, it has the upper hand against your turf during the dog days of summer.

The best preventative measure you can take is a pre-emergent treatment early in the year. A well-timed herbicide application can stop most crabgrass before it has a chance to take hold. Contact us today to help kick crabgrass to the curb this season!



**REFER  
A FRIEND**

When you refer a friend, you will receive a two-pound bag of grass seed delivered to your home this fall!  
Contact us today!

