



Curtis's Landscaping

Spring Is Here!

10 Lawn Care Myths Dispelled

Members of the Professional Landcare Network helped us dispel 10 common lawncare myths so together we can keep your lawn in tip-top shape throughout the season. These helpful tips—like the perfect length for your lawn's grass—might just make your yard the envy of all your neighbors.

1. Myth: The best time to replace the lawn is in the spring, as plants get ready to bloom.

Reality: Sowing seed in the spring sets one up for potential problems, as heat sets in during the summer months and weeds compete for space. The best time to sow seed is in the fall, when the temperatures are more consistent and highly competitive weeds, like crabgrass, have gone dormant.

2. Myth: You should water new plants every day to prevent them from drying out.

Reality: Overwatering kills as many plants as lack of water. It is better to make sure you are wetting the entire root system of your new plant, and then allow the soil to dry to the point that it is only moist.

3. Myth: To have a healthy lawn, you need to de-thatch in the spring.

Reality: Thatch is a layer of living and dead plant material, including the crown, roots, and stems of the turf grass plant. The brown on the surface at the beginning of the spring will slowly recede into the background all by itself as new leaves emerge. While de-thatching is a common and sometimes necessary practice, it should be done only when thatch is excessive.

4. Myth: It's a good idea to remove clippings after mowing.

Reality: There is a misconception that grass clippings contribute significantly to thatch. Grass clippings are mostly water and decompose rapidly, returning significant amounts of fertilizer to the lawn. Research shows that up to one-third of applied fertilizer can be recycled by simply returning clippings.

5. Myth: Golf courses cut their grass short, so it's a good idea to do the same.

Reality: Golf courses use incredibly sophisticated and expensive mowers to achieve a short height of cut. Check the appropriate mowing height for your species of grass, but in general, never cut more than one-third of the grass leaf at a time.

6. Myth: The best time to fertilize your lawn is in early spring.

Reality: Different varieties of grass like nutrients at different times of the year. You need to use the right fertilizer source, at the right rate, at the right time, and in the right place. Cool-season grasses, like Kentucky bluegrass, are usually given nutrients in fall and early spring when it is cooler. Warm-season grasses, like Bermuda grass, usually like nutrients in late spring and early fall when it is warmer.

7. Myth: The products lawn care companies use are dangerous and more powerful than what a homeowner can use.

Reality: Most of the products professionals use can be purchased at the gardencenter, but the difference is that professionals are regulated and, by law, have to use the proper amounts, apply them correctly, and dispose of them properly.

8. Myth: While digging in my lawn, I saw a grub worm. I should apply a grub control application every year.

Reality: Most of the time, grubs don't attack fescue lawns because of their deeper root zone. Grubs in small numbers are not harmful to a lawn; in fact, they are beneficial, as they aerate the soil. It's having too many that can be harmful. Call a professional to evaluate your lawn.

9. Myth: Lawns are not "organic."

Reality: Sometimes, lawns are thought of as areas that don't provide environmental benefits. However, they are actually highly complex and dynamic organic systems that not only contain turfgrasses, but also earthworms, fungi, soil microbes, and other life forms that coexist and make possible the lawns we all enjoy for recreation, sports, and aesthetics.

10. Myth: Watering the lawn with the garden hose saves more money than installing an irrigation system.

Reality: Consider installing an irrigation system that uses smart controllers which have sensors that only allow for watering when conditions require it. Smart irrigation can offer a cost savings of approximately 15-20 percent on water bills. Convert irrigation spray nozzles from sprinklers to rotating nozzles; these spread heavy droplets of water at a slower pace, which makes them more targeted and effective.

NEW & EXCITING:



Look for us on HGTV~ we are so excited to announce that we will be on "Property Brothers"~ filming is set for next week and into June. Stay tuned for date it will air.

Don't forget about that perfect gift for Mother's or Father's Day.

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available.



01 SPRING'S HERE! 10 LAWN CARE MYTHS DISPELLED

02 WINNING THE WAR ON WEEDS

03 THE BENEFITS OF MULCH - WHAT COLOR MULCH IS BEST?

DID YOU KNOW?

The average cubic foot of soil contains between 10,000 and 15,000 weed seeds!



WINNING THE WAR ON WEEDS

Of the many battles Curti's Landscaping, Inc. faces with proper TURF care, - insects, disease, nematodes and improper watering practices, Weeds prove to be the most challenging. First, the average cubic foot of soil contains between 10,000 and 15,000 weed seeds. Second, weeds provoke bad vibes with clients. Customers are aware when a few dandelions are present, particularly if they are blooming. Third, weeds establish easily amongst thin weak grass strands. If turf becomes compact or damaged by lack of or excessive watering or foot traffic most grass plants will die, leaving the turf open for weed invasion.

Although we at CURTI's incorporate pre-emergent herbicide (chemical applications that sterilize weed seeds before germination) and post-emergent herbicide (chemical applications that kill the weed after germination) for optimal weed control, the BEST DEFENSE AGAINST WEED INVASION IN YOUR TURF IS THICK, HEALTHY TURF because it successfully competes with weeds for light, nutrients and water.

As for those pesky weeds in your landscape beds. THE BEST DEFENSE AGAINST WEED INVASION IN YOUR LANDSCAPE BEDS is simple: Shredded Hardwood Root mulch.

This is the reason we stress the importance of mulching your beds annually, proper watering and although we believe lawns are for playing, reducing excessive foot traffic helps greatly. Both turf weed and landscape weed problems can be more easily kept at bay by having a weed management plan. Speak with Gavin Miele, Client Account Manager and/or Sam Fava, Irrigation Manager, for ideas and facts. They will be glad to come and meet with you to discuss measures to successfully protect the investment made in your landscape turf and planting beds, and help you with the War on Weeds!

\$600.00

**That's the amount
of our 2015 Pledge Contribution~**

presented this past weekend at the Great American Cleanup

\$2.00 for each Signed Residential Grounds Maintenance Contract of 2015



WHAT COLOR MULCH IS BEST?

Did you know Mulching is one of the best things that you can do for your landscape, and that the type of mulch you have can greatly affect your lawn and landscape? Double ground shredded Root Mulch tends to be the most popular type of mulch supplied and installed and for good reason. The ways that applying a fresh 2-3" mulch layer, each year or two, provides a plentitude of benefits are:

- * Controls weeds * Retains moisture * Prevents soil erosion
- * Maintains Soil Nutrients * Controls Pests * Encourages Earthworms
- * Polishes up your garden beds

THE BENEFITS OF Double Hammered Shredded Root Mulch

- Retains moisture and prevents loss of water from soil.
- Helps control soil temperature.
- Decomposes into rich organic compost.
- Provides beneficial nutrients to plant material.

THE RISKS OF Color-Dyed Mulch

- Contains chopped up, dry pallets.
- Has no nutritional value.
- Chemically dyed to obtain color.
- Does not decompose into compost material.
- May result in stunted plant growth.
- May increase disease and insect problems.

Occasionally you may want to brighten up your property by using color-dyed mulch. we hope the above points will help you when choosing which type of mulch to install.

Are you Convinced yet?

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