



Grass Roots

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M.U.D. Offers Rebate on Rain Sensors

Are you worried about wasting water when it comes to your turf? Do you ever

cringe when you come home in a down pour and see that your sprinkler is running? Let CM's help!

How it works

CM's installs a small transmitting unit outside and a receiving unit at your controller. The rain sensor will detect moisture and send a signal to the controller, turning off the irrigation system when necessary.

M.U.D. is offering a rebate for **residential or commercial** M.U.D. water customers who install rain sensors for their lawn sprinkler systems. By contacting CM's to install a Hunter wireless rain sensors, **you can earn a \$50 credit toward your M.U.D. account.** Rain sensors must be installed by a licensed sprinkler contractor. Additionally, rebate funds are limited. Visit mudomaha.com for detailed rebate information.

What is the next step you ask? [Contact us](#) to indicate you would like CM's to install a Hunter wireless rain sensor for \$150.00 or call CM's for more information. The CM's technician will bring the rebate form with him to the appointment and fill out all of the information required from us. You enjoy your \$50.00 credit and save additional funds when your sprinkler system does not run unnecessarily.



Reminders

1. Return 2014 contracts.
2. Schedule an appointment with one of our landscape designers.
3. Schedule tree-pruning and re-mulch.
4. Review damaged concrete areas in need of repair.

Meet the Newest Member of the NAA Board of Directors

Effective March, 2014, Rachael Monico is assuming a three-year term on

the Nebraska Arborist Association's (NAA) Board of Directors! As a board member, Rachael will play an important role and contribute to legislative and conservation efforts as well as participate in developing solutions for new challenges, such as **[Emerald Ash Borer \(EAB\)](#)**. We at CM's work to continuously expand our knowledge base to be of the most service to our clients. Rachael is a certified arborist with the NAA and the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). She also holds a Nebraska Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicator License. Thank you Rachael for taking on this leadership role!

The NAA exists to:

- ◆ Expand knowledge and encourage high ethical standards in the field of arboriculture;
- ◆ Improve tree conservation by promoting excellence in arboriculture practice;
- ◆ Initiate and encourage scientific investigations into the various aspects of the practice of arboriculture and to cooperate in making these results available;
- ◆ Encourage responsible legislation useful to arboriculture.



To find out more, visit www.nearborists.org.

Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!

The weather this winter is presenting us with a number of challenges

that may have an impact on yards and landscapes this coming growing season. While many do not enjoy the snow, it plays a critical role in our grass and plant growth the following spring. The lack of snow adds to the moisture deficit we are experiencing. The severe winds contribute to the water loss as well. Turf planted late in the season will be especially susceptible to damage in terms of die-back or failure to thrive.

Unless circumstances change, it will be critical to irrigate lawns as early as possible this spring. Try to limit foot traffic on stressed turf until some of the stress can be relieved. If at all possible, resist the urge to get out on the lawn the first time the temperatures warm up.



A reminder of summer in case you have forgotten what it can look like.

Congratulations!

Thanks to all who prepaid and returned their 2014 contracts prior to January 1! Catherine

Anderson, Jeff Miller, and Chuck Paskach have each won a free tree to be planted later this year.



Ask The Arborist

Why is My Evergreen Turning Brown?

Backyard Farmer recently posted an arti-



cle about this very issue. With the type of fall and winter Nebraska experienced, it could be winter desiccation, or winter burn. Winter burn occurs on evergreens during the winter months when the amount of moisture lost through the needles is greater than the amount of moisture being taken up by the root system. The result is dry, brown needles. The condition typically causes a general browning of either the entire plant or it may only affect one side of a plant.

Even though the damage is done during the cold winter months, it is common for the damaged needles to keep their green color until spring, when the needles turn from green to brown rather quickly.

Damaged branches should only be pruned after new growth has emerged in the spring. The affected areas of the tree may have live buds that will send out new growth and may cover the affected area within a few years. After the new growth has emerged, any branches that are brown and dead should be pruned out, as they can provide an entryway for harmful insects or fungi to attack the plant.

There are several ways to protect plants against winter burn. The most important step is to make sure the plant is getting sufficient water throughout the summer, fall, and into the winter. A tree that has suffered from drought conditions over the summer is much more likely to suffer from winter burn. It is a great idea to maintain a 3-6' diameter ring of mulch around the plants, at a depth of 3-4", as it will help keep the moisture level more consistent for the root system of the plant. CM's can also apply an anti-desiccant to help prevent excessive moisture loss through the needles. The product consists of a liquid pine oil polymer that forms a clear, flexible coating on plant leaves and stems, but does not interfere with normal plant respiration or photosynthesis.

For more information on winter burn, visit the [Backyard Farmer's website](#).

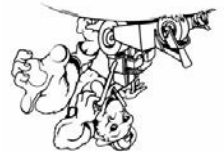
Refer new clients! Earn credits!

Thank you for all of the referrals you send our way. To show our appreciation, we will issue a credit to your account for any client you refer who takes at least one of the following services:

- * Weekly mowing (on a full-time basis)
- * Landscape Construction
- * 6-step fertilizer program
- * Irrigation Installation

You don't have to do a thing! There are no forms to fill out, no calls to make, no coupons to redeem. We will ask the referred client how they heard about us. If they take any of the above services, we send you a note stating that a credit has been placed on your account. On your next invoice you will see a credit.

Thanks again for all of your referrals.



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