



# Grass Roots

www.cmcustomlawn.com

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## Visit us at the 2014 Home Show!

Spring is around the corner, so it must be time for the Omaha Home Show. Our designers will be available to discuss your landscape projects and ideas and walk you through our design process. Stop by our booth and meet the CM's Professionals!



### Where:

CenturyLink Center of Omaha  
455 North 10<sup>th</sup> St.

### Hours:

March 20<sup>th</sup> 5 PM– 9 PM  
March 21<sup>st</sup> Noon– 9 PM  
March 22<sup>nd</sup> 10 AM– 9 PM  
March 23<sup>rd</sup> 10 AM– 5 PM



## Reminders

1. Schedule spring clean ups and deep-root feedings for trees and shrubs.
2. Prune ornamental grasses and perennials.
3. Submit your ask the arborist questions.
4. Visit CM's at the 2014 Omaha Home Show!

## Welcome Back Frank!

As of February 1, Green Acres, Frank Mac and

his foreman, Paul Casart, became part of the CM's team. After years of successful business ownership, Frank has decided to return to CM's, where he started his green industry career over 20 years ago. Frank has owned and operated Green Acres for more than a decade, providing exceptional customer service for his clients.



Frank Mac



Paul Casart

Frank has been no stranger around CM's as we have collaborated on multiple projects over the years and shared some of the same clients. We at CM's look forward to serving our new clients.

Frank decided to join CM's in order to concentrate on his client relationships. Paul will continue to build on his experience and will take the reins of a larger maintenance crew.



Ask The Arborist

## How Do I Prepare My Trees for Spring?

### Water

We have not had a lot of moisture in the form of rain or snow this winter. The tree's roots will be actively growing even **before** the tree puts on new leaves in the spring, so it is important to make sure there is adequate moisture available to the tree. It is unlikely that irrigation systems will be up and running early enough to provide that much needed moisture, so hand watering will likely be necessary.

### Prune

Late winter or very early spring, before new growth begins to show, is an ideal time to prune. Check tree and shrub limbs for signs of animal chewing or other damage and remove the affected limbs. Now is also a good time to remove any limbs that are broken or that may be rubbing against another branch or structure.

### Remove tree wrap

If you applied any type of tree trunk protective layer in the fall, remove it after the threat of severe temperature fluctuations has passed. It is imperative that the bark be exposed to adequate air circulation to prevent moisture build up on the bark that will lead to decay.

### Fertilize

Fertilize in the early spring to ensure that your trees have adequate nutrient levels for the growing season ahead. CM's lance injected fertilizer is applied with a pressurized system that forces the liquid into the soil at a depth of about 5 inches, which is where the majority of a tree's feeder roots are. In addition to the benefit of adding nutrients to the soil, our pressurized application method aerates the soil at the same time. This provides much needed oxygen to the root system and helps combat soil compaction in our heavy clay soils.

### Mulch

Maintaining a 3-4" layer of mulch will protect the root zone from extreme temperature fluctuations and help to keep the moisture level in the soil more consistent.



# Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Update

Emerald Ash Borer was confirmed in Creston, Iowa (Union County) in December 2013. This is approximately 80 miles east of Omaha, and the closest discovery near the metro area to date.

## EAB Quick Facts:

It is likely that EAB has been in an area for 5-6 years once an outbreak is found.

Once a tree shows symptoms of an infestation, it is likely been infested for 2-3 years, making treatment difficult.

Most EAB infestations in the U.S. have been started by people unknowingly moving infested firewood, nursery plants or sawmill logs.



## Treatment Notes:

The Nebraska Forest Service recommends to treat trees within 15-30 miles of an outbreak.

Preventative treatments have been proven to be very effective.

Preventive treatments also protect trees from other damaging insects commonly found in our area.

Treatment of established Ash trees is generally more cost effective than removal.

Mid April—Mid May is the optimal time for treatment in the Omaha area.

## Action Plan:

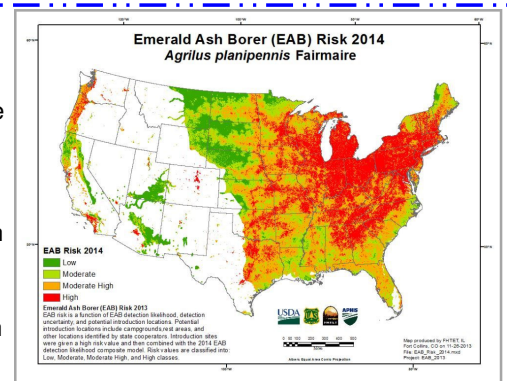


Example of declining ash with thinning canopy and epicormic shoots.  
Photo courtesy of the University of Wisconsin—Madison

If you are a current recipient of tree care service, you will receive a follow up phone call to discuss the monitoring of Emerald Ash Borer.

If you are unsure if you have an Ash tree or you are interested in learning more about Emerald Ash Borer and future treatments, please call the office at 402-738-1718 and ask to speak to Rachael (extension 647), one of 2 licensed arborists we have on staff.

EAB treatment, when appropriate, will consist of two applications: an imidacloprid soil injection and an imidacloprid trunk injection.



This map highlights the at risk areas for EAB as of 2014. As you can see, we are in a Moderate High to High risk area.  
Photo courtesy of the USDA Forest Service.



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