



Grass Roots

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Turf Talk 2014.04

We are well into our fourth round of fertilizer applications. This year, we have changed the order of the products we typically use in the fall. This will get more of the nitrogen down earlier when the turf can make better use of it. Getting more nitrogen down with this particular application can help with rust, which shows up in some lawns this time of year. Moving the application with iron earlier can help restore the green color to turf.

It is still not too late to overseed or renovate your lawn. We will offer these services until the middle of September. The goal is to get seed to germinate and the new turf mowed several times before a hard freeze.

We have had sufficient rainfall to date. Supplemental irrigation has been almost unnecessary. Continue to be aware of changes in the weather. It is not unheard of to have high temperatures and wind in the fall. Turf can dry out quickly. The dry fall and winter that we experienced last season destroyed many plants and some turf as well. We encourage you to make sure that you irrigate turf, plants, and trees if we do not get at least .75" of moisture per week this fall.

One of the benefits of this job is the opportunity to keep learning. We have often mentioned how great a benefit the University of Nebraska is to those of us who work in this profession. From the annual Turf Conference in January to the field day at Mead, Nebraska in the summer, to the many Turf Info publications throughout the year, the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture and the Department of Entomology provide invaluable assistance to us as well you.



Fall is a great time of year in Nebraska. Spend time on your lawn and in your landscape!



Reminders

1. Schedule turf renovations or aerating & overseeding.
2. Schedule fall clean-up.
3. Schedule fall bulb planting.
4. Schedule holiday lighting installation.

Will Jack Frost be nipping at your nose?

Just the thought of winter is enough to send shivers down your spine. Brrrrr! Will you be on your roof hanging lights in the cold weather? Grab a cup of hot chocolate, a blanket, and stay inside. Let CM's A Cut Above take care of the holiday lights chore for you.

Whether you are considering outlining your home, decorating your trees or including an animated array, CM's is your holiday lighting contractor. We offer state-of-the art designs, installation, removal, and storage for residential and commercial properties with energy efficient LED lights in a variety of colors and styles for any decorating plan. CM's installs both linkables and traditional C9 strands. Some popular linkable choices include icicles, starbursts, snowflakes, stockings and holly, but many more are available. Remember that linkables are not just for the roof! They can also be installed on stakes in the yard just like starbursts, trees, gifts, trains, toy soldiers and other displays.

A CM's representative will assist you in selecting the lights you would like for your display. The purchase of your Christmas lights is included in the contract price the first year we install them. In future years, you will only pay for installation, removal, and storage. Repairs and any additional Christmas lights you add in the future will be billed as applicable.

Will you be left out in the cold this fall? Skip the ladder, tangled lights, and the cold this year. We have our premier installation teams ready to turn your home into the envy of the neighborhood this holiday season! [Contact CM's](#) to set up your design and installation sessions. [Financing is also available for as low as 0% for 12 months!](#)



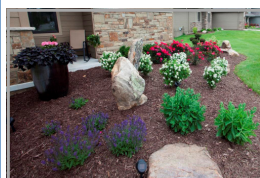
The landscape crews, led by John Tyler and Cesar Quezada, have received numerous accolades this year!

"Just a note to tell you how impressed we are with the landscaping and equally impressed with the guys who did the job! They worked the longest days., 7:30-6:00, and they worked tirelessly, doing hard labor the whole time! John was so professional and easy to talk to, a great representative of your company. Jose was an incredible worker and so friendly, too! Both of them had great ideas with flagstone, boulder and plant placement. Alejandro was here today. He was awesome too, worked so hard and was even picking up any little rock or dirt clod in the grass. They were just meticulous with everything.... And then to top it off, we were amazed they asked to replace the sod by the street for us. You guys have a great company to do that and amazing guys who would want to! Thanks for your great design and patience. You've been great to work with and we couldn't be happier with the outcome. It's beautiful!" — Stacy N.



"I couldn't be more pleased or impressed with the work that John Tyler and his crew did yesterday. They showed up and worked hard all day, and are very nice men."— Jim C.

"Thank you for the beautiful design of flowers in my yard. Your workers were very nice and respectful. Hope to see you soon! Thanks a million" — Karen R.



"WOW! It looks AWESOME! So glad I had CM's come back and finish up the backyard! I love it!"— Diana H.

Our crews appreciate your compliments. If you have a moment to provide feedback to our crew, please [contact us](#) or [post a review](#).



Ask The Arborist

Why should I work with a *certified* arborist?

Tree care is complicated, potentially dangerous and has a substantial impact on our environment. The certifications require specific coursework and continuing education to provide certified arborist with the latest information to ensure proper care and treatment of your trees. It is of utmost importance to stay abreast of the most recent trends and treatments to combat issues such as the potential devastation of our ash tree population due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB),

Tree care is

The organizations that offer certification programs in Nebraska are the Nebraska Arborist Association (NAA) and the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).



Green Ash Tree, fall color

CM's has 2 NAA Certified and ISA Certified Arborists on staff!

NAA certification includes successfully completing the Arborist School, which consists of 3 courses: Tree ID, Evaluation & Selection, Planting & Establishment; Pruning, Climbing, and Safety; Plant Health and Biology. Applicants must pass an exam covering the topics listed above, with a focus on

pests and disease that affect us specifically here in Nebraska, and the unique challenges we face with our heavy clay soil. After passing the exam, applicants may then apply for certification, where they also must provide a Red Cross First Aid and CPR certification and a copy of the Public Liability and Workmen's Compensation Insurance carried by their employer.



Autumn Applause Ash Tree, fall color

The ISA program includes a comprehensive exam covering similar topics to the NAA such as tree biology, pruning, and tree health care. Because it is an international program, the ISA focus is on the basics of tree care such as tree assessment and risk management, tree nutrition and fertilization, and the topic of urban forestry, including regulatory and legal issues.

In order to keep these certifications valid, arborists are required to obtain at least 30 continuing education credits, depending on the specific arborist certification, over a three year renewal cycle. Both of our arborists have taken advantage of several continuing education opportunities, including, "How Trees Heal," which provides the latest research on how trees respond to pruning wounds so that we can better understand how to prune in ways that benefit the tree instead of harm the tree and "New Elms for American Cities," which covers introducing new elms that have been bred to be resistant to Dutch Elm disease. Keeping safety in mind, they also attended "Tree Hazard Awareness." Of course, they have taken courses for EAB, which include treatment options, fact versus fiction about EAB, the state of Nebraska's response plan, as well as management and impact of EAB on Nebraska.

By fulfilling the requirements for certification, our arborists are continually updating their skills and knowledge regarding the best tree care practices, leading to the best care for your trees. Our arborists are here to answer your questions, diagnose your tree issues, and provide them with continued care. Please do not hesitate to seek their advise and services. [Contact a CM's certified arborists](#) with your tree question and concerns.



Autumn Blaze Ash Tree, fall color



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