



Grass Roots

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Turf Talk 2015.05

Now is the time to overseed,

strengthening the turf that you have by introducing newer cultivars as well as increasing turf density to crowd out weeds. For lawns in greater need, we can add power-raking to complete the process we term turf renovation. If a lawn has bare areas or areas with dead turf, power-raking is a good technique for removing the dead turf. It typically follows a double-plug aeration, where it breaks up the plugs that are pulled and scratches up enough of the soil to improve the seed bed (more seed-soil contact). We seldom use power-raking outside of a fall lawn renovation.



It is rare that irrigation systems go unused in the summer, but many of you did not use supplemental irrigation this season and your turf did just fine. If you are renovating or overseeding, now is the time to use your system. Newly seeded

areas/lawns need to be kept moist so the seed does not dry out prior to germination. That can require multiple, shorter periods of irrigation throughout the day. How frequent and how short depends upon the weather we are experiencing. This may require only two sessions per day for cooler, wetter conditions or three to four sessions per day for hot, dry and windy conditions. Once the seed germinates, typically three to four weeks for bluegrass and fescue seed, gradually wean the new turf to your normal irrigation pattern over a period of several weeks.

For those of you without irrigation systems, your options are to drag hoses or choose dormant seedings. The objective of a dormant seeding is to use nature to assist in germination the following spring. We aerate and seed late in the year when germination can no longer take place. We hope for snow cover which, as it melts in the spring, provides the initial irrigation necessary to assist germination. Typically, spring rains assist the process.

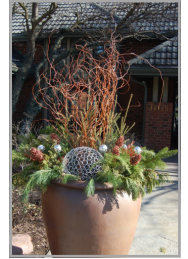
As the season winds down, continue to mow regularly, at the highest setting, with a sharp blade.

We are in the middle of our fourth application. Our fifth application will start in September. Remember: we apply 70% of the year's nitrogen in these last three applications. Your turf needs them all.

Winter Wonderland

Does the mention of

winter in September have you racing to check the latest forecast to see if we know something you don't know? Our crystal ball does in fact show a chance of snowflakes and icicles, but only those of the holiday lights variety! They come in an assortment of colors, and you can have as many or as few of them as you would like. Who says you can't control how much it snows?



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

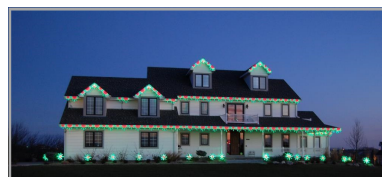
and commercial properties with energy efficient LED lights in a variety of colors and styles for any decorating plan. CM's installs both linkables and traditional C9 strands. In addition to snowflakes and icicles, other options include starbursts, stockings, holly and many more. Linkables are not just 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 lights is included in the contract price the first year we install them. In future years, you will only pay for the installation, removal and storage. Repairs and any additional lights you add in the future will be billed as applicable.



CM's also installs holiday planters! If your home or business needs that little accent piece for the front entry way, a planter may be the way to go. They can be filled with various plants, greenery and holiday décor.

Are you still wondering why we would think of discussing holiday lights in September? Our first installations actually start right around Halloween and we want to ensure not only that you have ample time to plan, but also to ensure there is space available on our schedule. Will you be left in the cold this fall? Skip the ladder, tangled lights and the replacement bulbs 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!](#)

Contact CM's to arrange your design and installation!



Reminders

1. Schedule turf renovation or aeration & overseed.
2. Schedule fall clean-up.
3. Schedule fall bulb planting
4. Schedule holiday lighting installation.



Ask The Arborist

Why is it so important to fertilize my tree in the fall? Isn't it going to sleep soon?

* Fall is one of the best times to fertilize your trees. This is when trees prepare for the grueling activities in the spring.

- * The process of pushing new leaves in the spring takes an enormous amount of energy and depletes the energy reserves that the tree built up last fall. It is important that the tree is healthy and has the necessary nutrients so it can have a successful spring.
- * When the leaves begin to turn color in the fall, trees re-absorb vital nutrients from the leaves to be stored over the winter.
- * At the same time the root system is actively taking up nutrients from the soil to add to the energy reserve.



Royal Rain Drops Crab



Red Sunset Maple

* When we "feed" the tree in the fall, the tree takes advantage of the nutrients by collecting and storing them.

* The nutrients collected in the fall and stored in the winter give a tree the energy to push new growth in the spring.

* The tree will spend the rest of the season making food for growth and storage used in the following spring.

CM's offers deep root feeding in spring and fall. We use professional-grade fertilizer applied with equipment that pressure injects the liquid formula into the soil at a depth of 4-6 inches.

Contact a CM's licensed arborist to find out more about our
Deep Root Fertilizer applications for trees and shrubs!



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