



# Grass Roots

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## Turf Talk 2015.06



There is still much to do before winter. If you have not yet aerated, there is still time to do so. This is prime fertilizer time. It is also

the best time for the control of broad leaf weeds—dandelions, wild violets, ground ivy, and the like. Using a variety of products, we will spray with our last two applications to reduce the populations of these weeds. Why is now the best time to spray (you ask)? During the fall, it is much easier for the products we spray to move from the surface of the plant to the root system. Our goal is eradication; and while we are good at that, we continue to stress that weeds cannot find a home in a dense stand of turf. Periodic overseeding with good varieties of grass will build that protection against weeds.

By the end of October, leaves will certainly start falling. Rake them on a regular basis, preventing an accumulation that may be difficult to handle. Letting them lie on the turf under snow during the winter promotes unhealthy conditions for your lawn and may create disease, starting your lawn at a deficit for the growing season. On a related note, turf need not be leaf-free for us to apply product. We ask our applicators to make judgements about leaf coverage; but if you are raking on a regular basis, we should not have a problem.

If you have questions about your lawn, now is a great time to ask them while we still have some growing season left to evaluate the situation and address as conditions permit.

[Contact CM's with your lawn care questions!](#)



### Reminders

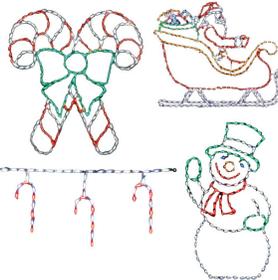
1. Schedule sprinkler winterizations
2. Schedule fall bulb planting
3. Schedule holiday lights installation

## CM's Favorite Things (Holiday Lights Edition)

(To the tune of Rodgers & Hammerstein's "My Favorite Things," Published in 1959.)



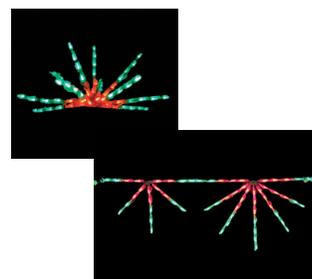
(verse 1)  
There are red lights, green lights and blinking lights too  
There are starbursts and stockings to name a few  
Lit up toy soldiers and presents galore  
There are wreaths and garland to adorn your door.



(verse 2)  
Santas with sleighs, snowmen and some choo-choo trains  
Trees, bows and holly—also candy canes  
Anything you can think, we have in store  
Put them together, you've got quite a chore!



(verse 3)  
Unearthing boxes and untangling the lights  
Climbing the ladder and a slight fear of heights  
Watching the forecast to avoid the snow  
There's an easier way to do this you know!



(chorus)  
CM's will install  
Then we'll take down  
Even store them too  
You simply enjoy your holiday season  
Let CM's do this for you!



[Contact CM's for Your Holiday Lighting Needs!](#)



Ask The Arborist

## When is the best time of year to plant a tree?

Trees can be a big investment and will add a lot of value to your property. So naturally you want to give them the best possible start. For most trees, fall is the best time of year to plant. When a tree is first planted, it goes through a somewhat stressful period of transition. Both the soil and root system are disturbed during transplanting, therefore the root system will not be functioning at 100% until it has a chance to get settled and recover from any breakage that may have occurred during the planting process. Fall is an ideal time of year to plant because trees at this time are beginning to dramatically slow growth for the year as they enter a state of hibernation. Therefore, the tree will have time to get settled and put on some new root growth before the next growing season begins.



Quaking Aspen, fall color



Top: American Hornbeam, fall color  
Bottom: American Hornbeam, fall color close up

Another bonus to planting trees now is that you will still be able to enjoy some great fall color! Small ornamental trees such as certain varieties of crabapple trees will begin to turn various shades of oranges and yellows which look striking along with the brilliant small red fruits. And of course we will soon be enjoying the bright reds, oranges, yellows and purples of the larger trees like Ohio Buckeye, American Hornbeam, Sugar Maples, and Aspen trees.



Sugar Maple, fall color

## Contact a CM's arborist to select your tree!



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