



EARLY
SPRING

ARBOR CARE

Tree, Shrub & Lawn

Service, Inc.



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WWW.ARBORCARES.COM



REMINDER...IT'S
SIGNUP TIME!

Enclosed, you'll find a copy of your 2012 Renewal Form. Listed to the left are the services you've requested in the past. To the right, we have included extra value services that we feel would benefit your property. Please fill out your Renewal Form as soon as possible and return it to us in the envelope provided. We look forward to working with you again in 2012!



P.S. You can save 5% when you prepay for your services up front! See Renewal Form for details.

Crabgrass is Ready for a Comeback

HEALTHY LAWNS HAVE LESS OF THIS BOTHERSOME WEED

It's a fact: No lawn is completely immune to crabgrass. Thankfully, there are steps that can be taken this spring – and throughout the growing season ahead – to keep crabgrass under control.

AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE

Just one mature crabgrass plant can produce thousands of seeds, which are able to grow in poor conditions. Even in hot, dry weather and compacted soil, and along sidewalks and driveways, these seeds have no trouble germinating.

SO WHAT CAN BE DONE?

The healthier and thicker your lawn, the less crabgrass it's going to have. Four keys to a lush lawn include:

- Fertilizing regularly
- Controlling insects and diseases as needed
- Removing no more than 1/3 of the grass blade each time you mow
- Making sure your lawn gets from 1" to 1 1/2" of water per week from rainfall or sprinkling

EXTRA PROTECTION

Post-emergent herbicide can be used to treat any established crabgrass plants in your lawn. This type of herbicide will kill off the crabgrass as it is absorbed through the leaves (or blades) of the mature plant.

Pre-emergent herbicide is also very effective against crabgrass as long as it's applied at the right time (before the crabgrass seeds germinate). This preventive treatment will form a barrier in the soil, and newly sprouted crabgrass will be killed off as it makes contact with the herbicide.

Remember, there are always going to be crabgrass seeds in your lawn. Even if some of them don't sprout this year, they can stick around and germinate next year. So, annual treatments with pre-emergent herbicide, and post-emergent herbicide as needed, are recommended for ongoing control. In addition, if you're planning on reseeding this spring, it's important to wait six to eight weeks after a pre-emergent application to avoid killing off the new grass seed as it tries to germinate. Likewise, post-emergent herbicide shouldn't be used on newly seeded lawns until the new grass has been mowed at least three times.

With a combination of good lawn care practices, post-emergent herbicide as needed and annual applications of pre-emergent herbicide, crabgrass doesn't stand a chance! Give Arbor Care a call today to learn more.

5 Steps to Crabgrass Control

- 1 Fertilizing
- 2 Insect & Disease Control
- 3 Proper Mowing
- 4 Watering
- 5 Herbicides





SPRING SEEDING

QUESTION: Can my lawn be reseeded in the spring?

ANSWER: Yes, but fall is a better time for it.

Soil is still cool in the spring, so germination is slower than in the fall. The new grass will also have to contend with hot summer temperatures soon after sprouting, so lots of extra watering will be needed throughout the growing season.

In the spring, crabgrass and broadleaf weeds can choke out new grass plants before they have a chance to get established. It doesn't help that broadleaf weed controls shouldn't be used on spring-seeded lawns until the new grass has been mowed several times. Plus, if pre-emergent crabgrass controls are applied to your lawn in the spring, you'll need to wait six to eight weeks before planting grass seed.

Fall seedlings benefit from cooler temperatures, so they don't have to deal with heat stress as they're putting down roots. The soil is warmer in the fall, which encourages faster germination. There's less competition from weeds during the fall season. Fall-seeded lawns also have both the fall and spring seasons to get established before summer's heat and dryness return.

If it's absolutely necessary, seeding can be done in the spring. For more successful seeding with less hassle, though, reseeding in the fall is your best bet.



After a Long Winter, It's Time to Eat

The trees and shrubs on your property spent the past winter subsisting on food reserves that they built up in their root systems last fall. Now that those reserves have been depleted, it's time to provide your landscape plants with a much-needed spring meal.

Spring is one of the best times of year to fertilize your trees and shrubs. Extra rain and soil moisture are available, making it easier for your landscape plants to absorb nutrients and put them to good use. Plus, fertilizer works better during the active periods of root growth that we usually have in the spring.

WHAT GOOD DOES FERTILIZER DO?

Fertilizer works by replacing the nutrients that your landscape plants would normally absorb from the rich soil in a forest habitat. The most important nutrients provided by fertilizer are nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Nitrogen promotes strong color and top growth, phosphorus stimulates root development, and potassium helps with disease resistance and water retention.

It's also important to remember that your trees and shrubs must contend with more heat and pollution than they would normally encounter in the forest. With regular fertilization, your plants will have a better chance of thriving in these less-than-ideal conditions.

By fertilizing now and sticking to a regular feeding program throughout the year, you'll be rewarded with healthier, more beautiful trees and shrubs and reduced plant decline in your landscape. Plus, your trees and shrubs will be better able to resist attacks from insects and diseases as the growing season continues.

For more information on tree and shrub fertilization, or to schedule this service, call Arbor Care today.



Regular fertilization provides the nutrients needed for healthy, beautiful growth.



Whose House is This, Anyway?

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR HOME BUG BARRIER PROGRAM

In making your home comfortable for your family, you also make it attractive to insects searching for a pleasant environment. Some insects enter through open doors and holes in window screens, but even greater numbers may enter through untreated openings that you don't even think about. A barrier treatment of your home's perimeter can help protect your home against pest invasion.

Insects can invade your home through cracks in the foundation, loose dryer vents, partially open mortar joints, loose-fitting window frames, drains, sump pumps or any other openings from the outside. Some crawl across your door sills and slide under ill-fitting storm doors or entry doors. Successful perimeter pest control depends on the application of a barrier treatment to all possible points of entry.

PREVENTION IS THE KEY

Battling an infestation of pests can be frustrating, expensive and time-consuming. Avoid problems by having Arbor Care apply a barrier treatment to your home throughout the year.

Seasonal treatments are important, because newly active insects in the spring will be heading inside to avoid sudden cold snaps or find a handy source of food for the season. Summer treatments fight newly hatched crickets and fleas. In the fall, barrier treatments will prevent spiders and millipedes from getting inside to seek shelter from the cold.

Just give us a call to schedule perimeter pest control treatments. We can help you keep insects outside your home where they belong.



Barrier treatments can provide year-round protection against pest invasions.



WWW.ARBORCARES.D.COM

No way, not me!

You going in there?



IT'S FREE!

If you haven't signed up for our FREE e-newsletter yet, we invite you to do so right now. You'll receive seasonal lawn and landscape tips as well as special offers on a regular basis.

To sign up, simply visit our website at www.arborcaresd.com and fill out an estimate request form. While you're there, we hope you'll take a few minutes to explore the site and bookmark it for repeat visits!



TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Brent Vonk – Vice President, Arborist

If you ever have questions regarding your trees' health or pruning needs, Brent is one of

the experienced Arborists we have on staff to provide you with answers. Joining the Arbor Care team in 1999, Brent began his career by devoting his talents to the lawn care division before branching out to additional areas of interest. Nine years ago, the seed of passion for trees had germinated and has since developed into a vast canopy of knowledge about tree health care. During this time Brent has been providing you with proper pruning and health care recommendations to keep your landscape vigorous and aesthetically pleasing.

Day to day you will find Brent providing free pruning and removal estimates. In addition, he assesses nutrient deficiency as well as disease and insect treatment options including fertilization, trunk injections and spray programs. As Vice President, Brent offers administrative decisions and leadership for other team members.

Brent grew up on a farm near Beresford and currently resides in Tea with his wife, Kristi and daughter, Kayla. Kristi is the helpful voice who greets you when you call Arbor Care. During the winter months, Brent enjoys added family time and snowmobiling in the mountains of Montana, Utah and Colorado.

Why Do it Yourself?

EXTRA VALUE SERVICES FROM ARBOR CARE

PREMIUM LAWN PROGRAM – Everything your lawn needs for lush, healthy growth in six visits, including fertilization, crabgrass and broadleaf weed control, and insect control.

GUARANTEED GRUB CONTROL – Grubs can ruin your lawn if nothing is done to stop them. Our guaranteed preventive protection program keeps grubs out of your lawn all season long.

FALL AERATION – Breathe new life into your lawn. Aeration relieves compaction, builds strong roots, enhances heat and drought tolerance, and improves fertilizer uptake.

PERIMETER INSECT CONTROL – Protect your home from insect invasion with a barrier treatment around your home's perimeter.

PRUNING – Optimize tree and shrub health, structure and beauty with regular, maintenance-level pruning performed by our staff of Certified Arborists.

TREE, SHRUB AND PERENNIAL FERTILIZATION – Proper feeding is essential for the long-term health and beauty of your plants. We'll provide them with the right amount of nutrients at the right times of year.

EMERALD ASH BORER MANAGEMENT – Millions of ash trees have been destroyed by the emerald ash borer. We can provide powerful insect protection to safeguard the valuable ash trees on your property.

TREE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM – Healthy trees are less likely to suffer damage from insects and diseases. Our Tree Health Care Programs provide a systematic and scientific approach to protecting your landscape investment.

Choose one or more services...



Free \$25.00 Gift Card For Each!
With qualifying purchase.

It's that simple!

SIMPLY FILL OUT THE GIFT CARD REDEMPTION CERTIFICATE ENCLOSED!

DID YOU KNOW



LIGHTNING MAKES PLANTS GREENER

If your lawn and landscape plants seem greener after a thunderstorm, it isn't just your imagination.

Each time lightning strikes, nitrogen in the atmosphere combines with either hydrogen or oxygen to form ammonium and nitrate (two different forms of nitrogen). This nitrogen is then washed to the ground in rainfall, where plants absorb it from the soil and use it for growth.

Since nitrogen is a significant component of chlorophyll, which causes green pigmentation in plants, the plants grow greener after the storm.

It's estimated that about 250,000 tons of nitrogen are produced by roughly 1,800 thunderstorms every day!

