



### **Fertilization Program**

Our six-step fertilizing program has been carefully developed to provide for maximum turf health and the prevention and/or elimination of unwanted pests and weeds. Below are some explanations of the services we provide with our **Athletic Fertilization Program**.

#### **Core Aeration**

A healthy lawn starts at the roots. Grass roots, though underground, require a certain amount of oxygen for the blades above to flourish. Over time, soil compaction (a naturally occurring process oftentimes accelerated by heavy foot traffic and lawn rolling) literally squeezes the oxygen out of the ground. Not only does this deprive roots of oxygen, but it also makes it difficult for water and other nutrients to penetrate the soil.

Core aeration relieves soil compaction, allowing oxygen, water, and fertilizers easier access to the grass roots. A core aerator is a piece of equipment which 'pokes' thousands of finger-sized holes into the lawn, removing small plugs of soil in the process. These plugs are dispersed throughout the lawn and disappear naturally in a few days. Best results are attained when the soil is soft from either snow melt, or heavy rain. Core aeration can be performed any time during the lawn care season, though Spring is the best time, followed by Fall.

Aeration aids in thatch reduction, relieves soil compaction, increases root activity, stimulates new growth, and increases water, nutrient, and air movement to the root zone.

A free visual on-site lawn analysis will be provided to you along with your service quote. Upon request, new customers who sign up for the service will receive a chemical lawn analysis at no charge.

#### **Grub and Insect Control**

Insects and grubs can create unsightly bare spots or destroy a beautiful lawn. Grubs feed on the roots underground, while insects cause additional damage from above. Our products effectively control Beetles, grubs, ants, chinch bugs, sod webworms, and many other pests. Prime surface insect and grub control depends on the chemical and weather conditions.

#### **Over-seeding**

Over-seeding is simply the distribution of new grass seed, via walk-behind broadcast spreader, to an area where turf has already been established (this typically means your whole yard). Best results are attained when this is done in either early Spring or Fall, but we can provide the service at any time during the lawn care season. The primary purpose of over-seeding is to increase lawn density, thus making it less susceptible to disease, weed infestation, and loss of grass due to drought.

The seed we generally use when overseeding is a Sun and Shade Mix. Designed for lawns in our region, it is a mix of Kentucky Bluegrass, Turf type tall fescue and Perennial Ryegrass. Though this is our mixture of choice, we are happy to accommodate other preferences.

A seed starter fertilizer may be used to aid seed in germination and initial growth