

# Landscape Maintenance Without the Work

# Take back your weekends!

Level 3: Create a Custom Plan Lawn Care Services

- Core Aeration
- Fertilization Program
- Grub and Insect Control
- Lawn Mowing
- Liming
- Over-seeding
- Slit-seeding
- Spring and Fall Cleanup
- Mulch Installation
- Tree and Shrub Fertilization plus Pest Control
- Tree or Shrub Trimming and Removal
- Landscape Bed Maintenance



#### **Core Aeration**

A healthy lawn starts at the roots. Grass roots, though underground, require a certain amount of oxygen in order 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

# **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. The application schedule is primarily based on the time of year, though weather conditions and specific turfgrass issues may also play a role in determining the ideal time for a specific treatment.

The following is a brief summary of each step in the program. Note that each step includes some form of turf fertilizer.

## Step 1:

Crabgrass preventer + slow-release fertilizer (early to mid-April) Helps to Prevents crabgrass and certain other weed grasses from germinating.

# Step 2:

Crabgrass preventer + slow-release fertilizer, Liquid broadleaf weed killer (mid to late May) Existing perennial broadleaf weeds (i.e.- dandelions, etc.) are eliminated.

# Step 3:

Slow-release fertilizer (late June to early July)

Helps to relieve stress and ensure maximum resistance to warm, dry weather during mid-summer. **Step 4**:

Grub & insect killer + slow-release fertilizer (late June to early July)

Kills any subsurface and surface feeding insects & larvae including grubs, cutworms, and sod webworms.

#### Step 5:

Liquid broadleaf weed killer (granular optional) + fertilizer (mid-September)

Any existing perennial broadleaf weeds (i.e.- dandelions, etc.) are eliminated.

# Step 6:

Winterizer + slow-release fertilizer (early to mid-October)

Promotes healthy fall growth with prolonged greening and helps to ensure winter vigor.



#### **Core 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.

## Liming

A lawn that appears thin, discolored, or has moss, despite regular watering and fertilization, may be experiencing a low soil PH. Issues of low soil pH (below 6.5) can easily be remedied by the application of lime.

Lime comes either in powdered or pelletized form and is applied to the lawn via a broadcast spreader. Liming neutralizes the soil, which makes nutrients from fertilizers more available to your grass. This results in greener, thicker grass that is more resilient to weed infestation.

Lime can be applied at any time during the lawn care season, though the service is most performed in the Spring. Testing your soil pH (which we can do) is a good way to determine whether your lawn would benefit from liming.

## **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

#### Slit seeding

This is the best method for overseeding established turf. Slit seeders have vertical cutting blades that cut through the thatch layer and open a slit or miniature furrow in the soil. The depth of the slit or miniature furrow is based on the type of grass seed used. A general rule of thumb is to go no deeper than half the length of the grass seed husk. The slit-seeding unit should have concave disk blades that follow in the slits and keep them open while the seed is dropped; it ensures the seed gets into the soil where it can germinate.

Slit seeding generally takes less seed than broadcast seeding, because most of the seed gets into the soil so it can germinate. More seed-to-soil contact means a higher germination rate and a better stand of new grass.



#### **Spring or Fall Cleanup**

A spring or fall cleanup is the systematic collection and removal of any leaves, sticks, and debris littering the property because of the change of seasons. The open areas of the lawn, as well as any landscape beds and hard surfaces, are included in the spring/fall cleanup package. This service is primarily performed using a variety of wheeled and backpack blowers, though certain areas may be raked by hand when applicable.

Cleanups are performed on a first come-first serve basis, and only when ground and weather conditions are appropriate. The debris is hauled away for a small additional fee.

## **Mulch Installation**

Our mulch services include hardwood mulch, hardwood mulch that has been dyed brown, red, or black and Cedar Mulch. Mulch retains moisture in the soil, so you need to water less, and it helps prevent germination of weed seeds reducing the need for weed killers. It keeps the soil warm in winter and cool in summer and gives your planting beds a clean, finished look.

# Tree and Shrub Fertilization plus Pest Control

Like all living things, trees and shrubs must receive regular nourishment to maintain health and beauty. They also must be protected against harmful insects and destructive diseases which, when ignored, can destroy plants, or leave them damaged.

That is why your choice of Wellman's Lawn Care Tree & Shrub Care is so important. Our tree and shrub services have been carefully developed using modern horticultural techniques. Our trained tree and shrub technicians, with state-of-the-art equipment, apply properly formulated materials on a regular treatment schedule that best suits the needs of your trees and shrubs.

A customized Wellman's Lawn Care Tree & Shrub Care program delivers more than proper nourishment and plant protection. It also:

- Protects the considerable investment represented by your Trees and shrubs replacement costs can amount to thousands of dollars.
- Enhances the overall market value of your home.
- Creates an esthetically pleasing environment to provide more enjoyment for you and your family.
- Guarantees stronger, healthier, more beautiful trees and shrubs through a continuing, year after year, professional program.

# **Insect & Disease Treatment**

Consists of three insect and disease treatments. Spray applications are made to foliage for control of insects: Japanese Beetles, sawfly, tent caterpillar, cankerworms, aphids, scale, mites, leaf miners, and webworms. Diseases reduced include anthracnose, rust, apple scab, leaf spot, and powdery mildew. We would recommend a minimum of at least 2 treatments for maximum effectiveness!

#### **Spring & Fall Fertilization**

A balanced blend of fertilizers is injected into the root zone. This encourages root growth and builds plant strength for maximum summer growth and for surviving the cold winter stress.



#### Tree or Shrub Trimming and Removal

Deciduous and ornamental trees below 12 feet and deciduous and evergreen shrubs below 6 feet are trimmed and maintained to enhance the natural beauty of the plants. Groundcover and perennial areas are trimmed as required. This trimming is only a shaping of the plant material and controlling of outgrowth, not hard pruning of branches. Debris is removed and hauled away upon completion of each seasonal trimming.

#### Landscape Bed Maintenance and Maintenance of Flowerbeds and Perennials

Flowerbeds and tree rings are cultivated to give a groomed appearance. Beds and tree rings are edged with a steel blade, and bed areas are checked weekly and hand-weeded as needed to maintain a neat appearance. Flower heads are pinched and dead heads removed throughout the growing season. A preemergent weed control is applied in spring to reduce weed seed germination in mulched beds. Additional fresh mulch may be installed on request.

- Weed management and prevention
- Mulching and Removal of leaves and other debris
- Edging of beds