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# Green Up

## Lawns and Landscapes

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### COUPON ON PAGE 4

#### POINTS OF INTEREST

- Fall fertilization helps grass plants emerge from the difficult summer conditions and prepares them for the winter dormancy.
- Cooler weather and plentiful moisture make fall a great time for planting new trees and shrubs. Fall is the perfect time for aeration & overseeding.
- Green Up uses a grass seed certified by the State of Oregon. This insures you that weed seeds don't sneak into your yard through a non-inspected batch of seed.

## The Applications Your Yard Can't Go Without!

Fall is the optimal season for beautiful lawns and landscapes. Since most of the lawns in Southwest Virginia are comprised of cool season grasses, chances are the cool fall weather is what your yard has been waiting for. And our Fall Applications provide exactly what your yard needs to be at its best this season.

Our fertilization helps your yard recover from any summer damage, while also preparing it for the winter months ahead. Your lawn, trees and shrubs will be building up food reserves, setting down new roots and strengthening their old ones. In addition, they'll be busy repairing any stress damage that may have

occurred during the hot summer months (such as insect and disease damage, or root damage from too much or too little water). A heavy dose of fertilizer in the fall will give your lawn, trees and shrubs the energy they need for their yearly building and repair work. By treating them to a fall feast, you can expect:

**Improved winter hardiness** – Since their ability to hold water will be increased, your lawn and landscape plants will suffer less from the effects of dry winter winds and severe weather.

**Earlier, improved spring green-up** – Increased root expansion and larger food reserves will help thin areas to grow

denser, thicker and greener.

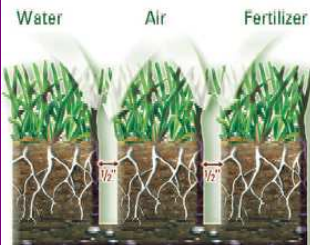
**Better blooming** – Flowering trees and shrubs will put on a more beautiful display when warm weather returns.

**Healthier growth for new trees, shrubs and lawns** – Faster and more complete establishment of new plantings throughout the winter will promote better growth in the spring.

**Improved disease resistance** – When plants are well-fed, their natural resistance to disease organisms is greatly increased.

Remember...your lawn, trees and shrubs are counting on you for a big meal this fall, so don't let them down!

## Rejuvenate Your Yard With Aeration & Overseeding



**Core aeration gets water, air, and fertilizer down to the roots of the grass. Also, new seed will fall into the soil.**

Fall is the best time to rejuvenate your lawn, and seeding is a great way to do it. New seed established this fall will be ready to jump to life in the spring. Milder temperatures also decrease competition from weeds and diseases. Core aeration with overseeding is the most effective way to seed your lawn, providing improved seed-to-soil contact for better germination.

This process removes thousands of plugs of grass and soil from your lawn (roughly the size of your little

finger). The plugs (or cores) are left on the surface of your lawn, where they eventually dissolve and help to break down thatch. Seed is spread after the plugs have been removed, making contact with the soil through the holes made by aeration.

By opening up the soil, core aeration reduces compaction, improves water filtration, increases the flow of nutrients to the roots, and reduces the thickness of the thatch layer (more

than 1/2" of thatch can be harmful). This will result in a thicker, greener, more resilient lawn next spring.

We can't emphasize enough the importance of core aeration as part of a good overall lawn maintenance program. Combining aeration with overseeding in the fall is a great way to thicken up a thin lawn and give your turf a head start on next year. Planting this fall gives seed 9 months to grow before next summer's heat.

# Composting for a Better Soil

## Did You Know?

- A 100' tall tree provides all of the wood and paper products used by the average American for an entire year.
- Over 850 different species of trees can be found in the United States. The Appalachian Mountains alone support more species of trees than can be found in all of Europe!



- Green Up uses grass seed that has been inspected and blue-tag certified by the State of Oregon, and shown to have a 90% germination rate. Non-certified grass seed can have a rate as low as 50%. That means only half of the seed you pay for actually grows!
- Whether it's applied in the fall or the winter, your shrubs will be much better off with mulch.

As the leaves start coming down this fall and raking chores begin again, you may want to consider turning leaves and other organic materials into compost. Composting naturally changes organic waste into a dirt-like material that's perfect for gardening. Leaves and other waste items are broken down by bacteria into nutrients that plants can use, including nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.

There's no need for expen-

sive composting equipment. In fact, a small pile of leaves left in a corner of the yard will work quite well.

If you'd like to speed up the process, you can put fallen leaves in a dark plastic bag, add a little soil and fertilizer, and pour in a small amount of water. Then place the bag in a sunny spot, and the leaves will break down quickly. If you'd rather not use plastic bags, composting bins can be purchased in various sizes and

price ranges.

Other materials that can be composted include: coffee grounds, tea leaves, eggshells, corn cobs, hedge trimmings, lawn clippings, pine needles, straw, weeds and other plant debris.

Be sure to turn your compost pile often, and add water whenever it gets dry. As soon as it turns dark and crumbly, it will be ready to use in your garden!



## Mulch Makes a Big Difference

Fall is a great time to add mulch to your landscape. Not only will mulch make your property look better, but it will keep soil temperatures more steady around your landscape plants.

Mulch can also be applied in the winter, after the first freeze of the year. This will help to prevent freeze/thaw cycles throughout the colder months, which can damage

plant roots and heave new plantings out of the soil in extreme cases. Mulch will also help to conserve moisture in the soil throughout the winter season, making your valuable landscape plantings less susceptible to winter stress.

Both organic and inorganic varieties are beneficial, and they should be applied no deeper than 4". Also, it's important not to pile mulch up against trunks and stems since this can encourage diseases to develop.



# Dormant Oil Spray Protects Trees, Shrubs

Late in the Fall, Green Up offers dormant oil spraying for your landscape trees and shrubs. Sometimes referred to as a horticultural oil spray, this application protects your landscape by eliminating insects and mites. It is especially beneficial in eliminating scale insects, such as the Euonymus scale and the Magnolia scale.

Dormant oil is a spray that combats insects by coating them in an oily residue. The oil blocks an insect's ability to breath.



**Deep Root Fertilization puts nutrients into the root zone**

Some oils further work by blocking the insect's ability to feed, as is the case with aphids.

In the late fall and winter, we will begin deep root fertilizations, which will further benefit the trees and shrubs by placing fertilizer directly into the root zone.

Our tree and shrub program is tailored specifically for the plants in this region. Locally owned and operated, Green Up understands the plants of Southwest Virginia

better than other companies. We will help you maintain an insect-free landscape that will not only have an appealing look, but will be much more enjoyable for the family. Healthy trees and shrubs are certainly key to any beautiful landscape.



## Our Grass Seed is Inspected to Keep Out Weeds



To learn more, click **"Certified Seed"** under **Tips on our webpage**

Unlike some grass seed, the seed that we use at Green Up has been inspected and blue-tag certified by the State of Oregon to contain no noxious weed seed. With some cheaper grass seeds that have not been inspected, there can be weeds already in the bag of seed. When planting and growing new grass, you can actually be planting weeds directly into your yard!

The state inspection also showed that 90% of the seed Green Up uses will germinate and grow. With non-certified grass seed, the germination rate can be as low as 50%. That means that only half of the seed you paid for actually grows!

Call Green Up when seeding your yard, and be sure to use good seed.

## Thinking of Planting? Now's the Time!

Do you have the perfect spot in mind for a new tree or grouping of shrubs? Maybe you lost a plant, or some of your older shrubs need to be replaced because they've become overgrown. If you're in a newer home, chances are there are still some parts of your master landscape plan to be installed. Or, if

you're planning to move, your landscape may need a facelift before you put your home up for sale.

Whatever your situation, if you want to install trees or shrubs, fall is a great time to do it. The cooler weather and more plentiful moisture give landscape plants a chance to put out roots and get used to

their new home before the stress of next summer's heat and dryness is upon them. They'll have an extra growing season to become established, and you'll have the pleasure of seeing your new landscape plants bloom or leaf out next spring.





Locally owned and operated in the Roanoke, Virginia area for over 25 years, Green Up is familiar with the soil types and climate of our region. We realize what a beautiful area we live in and are committed to providing quality, responsible lawn service.

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**The Guys in Purple!**

Our service programs are specifically designed with knowledge of the local environment. Our practices are environmentally friendly, as you would expect from a good neighbor.

We are a local company dedicated to providing friendly service and guarantee our work. Call the Guys in Purple today!



## First Treatment FREE

When you sign up for our  
Tree & Shrub Program



**Good  
 Aug 15th  
 2009  
 through  
 Jan 15th  
 2010**

- **The customer must sign up for our Tree & Shrub maintenance program to redeem this offer. Only one coupon per customer. Cannot be combined with any other discounts.**
- **CLIP THIS COUPON and call the office to sign up for our Tree & Shrub Program to receive your first treatment free!**