

THE Leaflet

SEEDS OF THOUGHT FROM EVERGREEN LANDSCAPES 970-630-4373 evergreenlandscapes.net Volume 1, Number 1

New Growth

Introduction to the Newsletter

Welcome! You are reading the premier edition of Evergreen Landscapes' informative newsletter THE Leaflet. This handy reference will be packed full of beneficial tips about landscaping and all things 'green'. We will also announce any specials we may be offering as well as providing you with a calendar to keep you up to date on timely bits of landscape wisdom. We thank you for being a customer of Evergreen Landscapes and remind you to look at our Services Offered list to stay current on all of the products and services we offer.

When it comes to Green, think everGreen

Many individuals and organizations are becoming more and more conscious of our environment and our effects upon it. Evergreen Landscapes recognizes this awareness and is offering additional organic "green" services that address these concerns. Services such as our Pro-Ganic 8 step lawn care program utilize natural fertilizers and begin to restore the microbial balance to your soil. Even with our conventional programs, however, you would be wise to consider adding a Lawn Enrichment service, which combines a thorough lawn aeration with a top dressing of an organic material (peat humus, etc.). This helps to 'enrich' your soil with valuable organic materials and micro-organisms. Call us today to add one of these Green Services.

What lies beneath

In early spring, as the snow melts, you may notice patchy, matted areas of turfgrass that don't green up as quickly as the surrounding grass — welcome snow mold, a turfgrass fungal disease that appears when areas of your yard remain covered with snow for long periods of time. Fungal growth begins in the winter, beneath a cover of snow on unfrozen ground. Growth can take place at temperatures slightly below freezing and may continue after snow melts, as long as the grass remains cool and wet. There are two types of snow molds that become active under the snow cover. Gray snow mold activity stops when the temperature exceeds 45°F or the surface dries. Pink snow mold activity may continue during wet weather in the fall and spring, as long as the temperature is between 32° F and 60° F.

Symptoms first appear in the lawn as circular, straw-colored patches when the snow melts in the spring. These patches continue to enlarge as long as the grass remains cold and wet. Grass within the patch often has a matted appearance and colored fungal growth. The fungal growth may cover the entire patch or develop along the margins, with gray snow mold being white to gray in color and pink snow mold being white to pink in color. Occasionally, fungal fruiting bodies (mushrooms) may be seen emerging from infected turf. Hard spherical structures, called sclerotia, may also develop on the leaves and crowns of plants infected by gray snow mold, but not pink snow mold.

Snow molds seldom cause serious damage. Generally, infected areas are just a little slower to green up. Gently rake affected areas of the lawn to promote drying and prevent further fungal growth. The grass usually will begin to green up within a few weeks after raking. If it doesn't come back, overseed the area with the appropriate turfgrass variety. Use of fungicides isn't necessary, nor are they particularly effective.



Featured Ornamental

Russian Hawthorn Height: 15'-25' Width: 20'-25' Bloom Color: White Hardiness: Zone 3 Full Sun

Great specimen for Northeast Colorado, the Russian Hawthorn is a small attractive broad-headed tree with a moderate growth rate. Its gnarled habit gives the tree an interesting silhouette. Leaves are deeply lobed and medium green in summer. Numerous corymbs of white flowers to appear in late May. In mid to late summer the whole tree begins to glow as the very abundant 1/2" cherry-like, glossy dark red fruits ripen. They decorate the branches like ornaments for 2-3 weeks and are great for attracting birds. It occurs as a single or multi-stemmed form. Fits in virtually any landscape setting.

Price for a 2" caliper tree is \$275.99, Professionally installed and staked \$386.50. Call 970-630-4373 to place your order today!



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CALENDAR

February

Now is a good time to check out your lawn mower, particularly your lawn mower blades.

Mower blades are recommended to be sharpened every 4 to 6 mowings (or also after about 10 hours of use). Dull mower blades tear the grass instead of cleanly shearing the grass blade. The resulting shredded ends leave a whitish cast over the lawn, and can make the grass very susceptible to disease and insect damage. Additionally, researchers have found that mowers with sharp blades actually cut mower fuel consumption by 22%. Factory specifications call for a precise 30 degree angle on the blade, with all burrs removed and ground to a smooth finish, without overheating ('bluing') the metal. Evergreen Landscapes has a professional sharpener and balancer to provide this necessary service to you.

March

March is a good time to begin to prepare your lawn and ornamentals for spring awakening. Make sure your ornamentals (trees/bushes/perennials) are cleaned up, inspected for winter damage, and watered deeply (ask us about our deep root feeding and fertilizing service). If there are old snow piles on the lawn, this is a good time to break those up and spread them around so that they melt away quicker. Rake any matted grass and water the turf deeply at least once this month, particularly if there are hard, dry, and/or highly trafficked areas in your landscape. Think about adding a aeration service or an early Lawn Enrichment service (aeration following by an organic top dressing).

Members of the Colorado Association of Lawn Care Professionals

Evergreen Landscapes is a member of the Colorado Association of Lawn Care Professionals (CALCP). We are also licensed by the Colorado Department of Agriculture to apply turf and ornamental fertilizers and pesticides. (three licensed technicians). It is a Colorado law that companies or individuals that apply fertilizers and chemicals have current licensure and insurance in compliance.

everGreen SERVICES

Call 970-630-4373 for details and a quote.

Yard Maintenance

Lawn Mowing, Large Lot Mowing, Spring & Fall Cleanup, Gutter Cleaning, Shrub Trimming, Sidewalk & Curb Edging, Mower Blade Sharpening

Lawn Services

Spring & Fall Aeration, Aeration Plus Revive, Power Raking, Dethatching

Turf Treatment Plans

Basic, Intermediate, Intermediate Plus Grub, Professional, Pro-ganic

Specialized Spraying

Grub Control, Fungus Treatment, Broadleaf, Turf & Native, Bindweed, Complete Weed Control, Season Long Weed Control, Mosquito Spraying

Tree Spraying and Fertilizing

Insect & Mite Control, Fungus Control, Deep Root Fertilizing, 4-Step Complete Care Program

Lawn Renovation

Lawn Enrichment

Top Dressing: Compost, Top Dressing: Peat Humus, Top Dressing: Organic Fertilizer

Irrigation

Spring Startup, Fall Winterization, Summer Timer Reprogram, Wireless Rain Sensor Installation, Freeze Sensor Installation, Evapo-Transpiration System, Hydrant Installation & Repair, Other Services

Grass Seeding

Hydroseeding Turfgrass, Hydroseeding Native Grasses, Seed Bed Preparation, Brillion Seeding, No-Till Drilling, All Types of Reclamation

Landscape Construction

Complete Landscape Installation, Ground Preparation, Sod Installation, Edging Installation, Rock & Mulch Installation, Tree, Bush, & Perennial Installation, Landscape Lighting, Pondless Waterfall Installation

Other Services

Rototilling (small & large areas), Sod Cutting, Trenching, Pipe Pulling, Cable Pulling, Backhoe Work, Skid Steer Work, Rototiller Rental, Sod Cutter Rental



Irrigated?

If you have an underground sprinkler system, it is a good idea to have a professional startup service done in the spring to protect your investment. Evergreen Landscapes follows a strict process and we pay attention to the details. First, we safely introduce water back into your irrigation system, inspect the backflow valve for proper operation in compliance with local safety ordinances. We check each zone valve for proper operation, perform a complete walk through of the system while it is running to visually inspect each zone for breaks, leaks, and other problems. We clear the area around each sprinkler as necessary and verify proper sprinkler head operation, making adjustments as necessary. We check and clean the rain sensor (don't have a rain sensor? see water conservation tip #14.) Finally, we program the controller for appropriate zone timing for your specific landscape needs as well as replacing the controller batteries. Note: reprogramming may be necessary as the season progresses and water needs change. If you do this yourself, call us if you have any questions or need repairs, we will be glad to help.

A lot of people like snow. I find it to be an unnecessary freezing of water.

~Carl Reiner

WATER CONSERVATION TIP #14



Millions of gallons of water are wasted each year when irrigation systems turn on during or following a rainy period. This problem can easily be resolved with a rain sensor connected to your automatic sprinkler controller. This device can be simply adjusted to the amount of precipitation that makes the system shut off and automatically comes back on once the dry out period is over. Featuring tough construction, optional bypass switch, and a five year warranty, the Hunter Rain Sensor is almost a no-brainer. We can even provide a wireless version to allow installation in virtually every application. It just makes "sense" to conserve water, an increasingly valuable resource.



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