



BRIAR COVE LAWN CARE PROGRAM
For Fall, 2014 – Summer, 2015

Briar Cove

Customized Lawn Care Program

LAWN MOWING PRACTICES

PROPER IRRIGATION PRACTICES

FERTILIZATION PROGRAM

Soil Sampling and Testing

Provide 12 month maintenance

Work with our contractors to properly implement program

Environmental friendly products and practices

Provide follow-up reports

Conduct walk through check-ups

Attend one association meeting

About This Turfgrass Maintenance Program

- Environmental impact is minimized
- The recommended turf care products are available from nearby suppliers
- Gentle, steady, even feeding with custom blended fertilizer is prescribed
- Timing is VERY important!
- Proper irrigation is needed to maintain healthy roots and turf
- Proper mowing promotes turf density, maintain healthy roots
- Aerification is very beneficial
- Soil testing as needed to adjust program
- Updating to the program as needed



**CONSULTING TURFGRASS AGRONOMIST
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Words from Phil Hargarten on our lawns from Consulting Turfgrass Agronomist

- **“All lawns appear to have very good density – one of the benefits of aerification.”**
- **“Root depth is at least 6 inches – very good and a far cry from the shallow (2 – inches root systems of two years ago, another benefit of aerification.”**
- **“The maintenance program is designed to grow and maintain deeper roots to help keep grass green longer during stress periods..**
- **The fall fertilization will help the turf grow out of some of the “Dollar spot disease” which is improved since last year.**
- **Promotes extra rooting and food reserves for next year until the ground freezes .**
- **Promotes two to three-week earlier spring green-up, and carries color well into May.**
- **It replaces early spring fertilization and the early spring crabgrass preventer application; and it helps reduce spring and summer disease incidence.**
- **Aerification is still highly recommended. Once a year, in the fall is recommended for several years because of the tight soil conditions.**

Turf-Soil Observations *from*

Philip Hergarten,
Consulting Turfgrass Agronomist

Briar Cove Home Association,

- As had been predicted with all the snow we had this winter, there was evidence of snow mold (grows as snow melts). This disease grows primarily on the surface (leaves) but can affect and kill the crowns. What I had seen, the turf should recover just fine. Also, some species and varieties of grasses are more prone to it than others. (i.e., Always use the newer improved varieties (www.ntep.org) that have greater resistance to snow mold and other diseases. In general favor bluegrass as your primary grass as it can handle the full array of environmental stresses of the Mid West (heat, cold, drought, excessive moisture, etc.) and the varying soil conditions at Briar Cove better than other species that are available. To maintain a more disease resistant lawn and mimic the color, density and texture of the original sod, refrain from using grass seed from the garden centers and big box stores. Forever Green can get the grass seed that will provide more uniform and better long-term results.

- Some homeowners continue to over seed their lawns with improper and/or poor quality seed mixes. I recommend only using seed mixes with 80% to 100% improved Kentucky bluegrasses and 0% to 20% improved turf-type perennial ryegrasses, an examples such as “Legend Pro II.”
- Legend Pro II, Can be ordered through Forever Green, is very clean and do not contain weed seeds or other strange thing that the seed mixes at big box stores usually have. These varieties having very high NTEP ratings (www.ntep.org) – bred for dark green color, greater density, and improved disease resistance.

From a nutritional standpoint, I recommend that complete soil nutrient testing be done in selected areas to get a general picture of what else may be limiting the turf. A customized lawn maintenance program can then be designed based on the soil test results to more adequately address the needs of the lawns. Any “problem” areas that do not respond adequately to the program can be dealt with on an individual basis.

Sincerely,
Phil Hergarten

Turf-Soil Scope of Work

Philip Hergarten
Consulting Turfgrass Agronomist

August 20, 2014

The following is my proposal for turfgrass consulting at Briar Cove for the period August 15, 2014 to August 15, 2015:

Retest soils at the four properties designated - one soil testing conducted for each during the period.

Design a lawn maintenance program to address current soil test results and any other lawn issues discovered over the past months.

Work with your contractors to properly implement the program.

Conduct four walk-through check-ups throughout the program period and provide reports.

Attend one formal meeting to answer any questions.

Be available via phone and email to answer any questions or concerns about the program.

Consulting for individual lawns and extra soil testing are not covered in this proposal.

Thank you for allowing me to work with you in the past twelve months. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,
Philip Hergarten,
Consulting Turfgrass Agronomist



**2014 - 2015 FERTILIZING SCHEDULE
MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

Fall, 2014

- **Aug 15 to Sept. 15**
- **Fall Fertilizer and extra supplements per soil test results – The 1st round to fertilize**
- **Aerate 2 passes**
- **Kentucky Bluegrass/Ryegrass 70/30 blend**
- **Conserv Legends Pro II**
- **Spot spray weeds**

Mid-Fall 2014

- **Oct 1 -31**
- **Spray entire lawn areas for dandelions, etc.**

Late-Fall (2014)

- **Apply fertilizer (with crabgrass preventer)**

The 2nd round to fertilize!

The grass takes up the nutrients from the fertilizer at this time of year and builds up food and extra roots (for next year) until the ground freezes. Benefits of late fall fertilization include: 1) promotes two to three weeks earlier green-up in the spring without spring surges of growth and with color that will carry well into May (i.e., replaces early spring fertilization). 2) helps promote deeper roots for improved stress tolerance and reduced disease incidence next year, and 3) combined with crabgrass preventer (only prodianine will overwinter), this early spring task is also completed at this time.

- **Core aerify – two passes minimum with 6” X 6” patterned aerifier.**

Winter



**2015 FERTILIZING SCHEDULE
MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

Spring 2015 (Apr 15 to May 30)

- **Spring fertilizer per soil test results**
The 3rd round to fertilize.
- **Spot spray weeds as needed**
- **Apply summer weed preventer**

Summer 2015 (Jun 1 to Aug 15)

- **Jun 1 to July 1**
 - Grub preventer
 - Spot spray weeds

- **Jul 1 to Aug 15**
 - Spot spray crabgrass “escapes” and broadleaf weeds
 - Retest soils and revise program accordingly



2015 LAWN CARE MOWING

Basic Lawn Service

- **Mow lawn to maintain 3-1/2” height.**
 - Maintain 3-1/2” height in summer.
 - Shorter in fall to prepare for winter.
 - Maintain sharp blades.
- **Mulch of grass clippings per instructions.**
 - Spring - mulch in rear yards, bag in front.
 - Summer – mulch as condition warrant.
 - Fall – mulch grass and leaves as needed



2015 IRRIGATION LAWN PROGRAM

2015 Irrigation Lawn Program

- **Our irrigation needs, call for a review of the system and develop a long term maintenance plan.**
- **With a two (2) step program we would spread out the cost and work over specific time frame.**

First Step

Irrigation tune up would be incorporated into the spring start-up.

The scope of the tune up includes checking all heads for proper spray alignment and repair of faulty heads.

Second Step

- 1. Relocate sprinklers by moving heads blocked by obstacles, shrubs, flower pots, etc.**
- 2. Lawns modified by homeowner would be a homeowner expense.**
- 3. Check sprinklers that may be below ground level.**
- 4. Identify area receiving too much or too little water.**
- 5. Ensure proper size head to suit area of watering.**
- 6. As we repair heads along driveways and sidewalks, they could be moved away from the edge of driveways and sidewalks.**

Briar Cove Comprehensive Lawn Care Costs 2014 - 2015

Fertilizing Budget Lawn Care Cost for 2015 program \$25,700

*Note: Cost excludes other fertilizing services.
Costs are estimated and subject to review.*