

FROM THE DESK OF: MARK SMITH, OWNER



## Change Is In The Air

*It's officially Fall*

### What is Halloween?

"Hallow" — or holy person — refers to the saints celebrated on All Saints' Day, which is November 1. The "een" part of the word is a contraction of "eve" — or evening before. So basically, Halloween is just an old-fashioned way of saying "the night before All Saints' Day" — also called Hallowmas or All Hallows' Day.

### This Month's Reminder

If you forget to winterize your sprinklers, you run the risk that water will freeze in the irrigation valves, pipes and sprinkler heads. When water freezes, it expands causing the parts of your system to burst and destroying your sprinkler system. Call today to schedule the winterization of your irrigation system.



## Our Departments

### LAWNCARE

As routine mowing continues, crews will begin to prepare for fall cleanups. During fall cleanups, crews will remove debris and leaves from landscape beds and lawns with backpack blowers, rakes, and mowers. Mulching leaves and grass clippings is an effective method to building soil and supporting a healthy yard.



### SOFTSCAPES

Landscape installs are in progress as trees, shrubs and perennials planted this time of year will establish strong root systems and be prepared to flourish come spring. Our crews will also begin fall prunings later this month.





Lawn Techs are working on round 5 applications for weed control and fertilizing. Fertilizing in the fall is like winterizing your lawn. Fertilizer will help to build stronger, deeper roots for winter, resulting in a thicker, greener lawn next spring. Deep root feeding for trees and shrubs will begin soon and help to provide nutrients needed for the cold months ahead.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Fall colors are caused by the amount of sugar in leaves. The more red in the leaf, the more sugar that leaf is storing. That is why Maple trees are so vibrant. Evergreens don't change because their leaves have a thick wax covering that protects the chlorophyll (green) in the leaves.
- Leaves fall off trees so that the trees can survive the winter. The changes in weather and daylight trigger a hormone that releases a chemical message to each leaf that it is time to prepare for winter. Over the next few weeks, abscission cells form a bumpy line at the place where the leaf stem meets the branch. And slowly, but surely, the leaf is "pushed" from the tree branch.

### **Winter Preparation Tips**

- Clean out your gutters, disconnect and drain all outside hoses. Shut off outside water valves.
- Repair roof leaks and remove tree branches that could get weighed down with ice or snow and fall on your home.
- Make sure furniture is not blocking heating vents.
- Remove or empty anything that may collect stagnant water to prevent the breeding of mosquitos. Mosquitos breed when the temperature is around 50 degrees.
- Have proper snow removal tools for home and vehicles.

## **Our Departments**

### **EXCAVATION/SEEDING**

Fall is the best time for planting grass seed. The autumn season comes with a mix of warm soil and cool air, perfect for planting grass seed and allowing time for new grass roots to develop before winter sets in. Watering newly seeded or overseeded lawns is critical for germination and success of the seeding. The overnight dew at this time of year will typically be enough to sustain seed bed moisture.

### **HARDSCAPES**

Now is a great time to plan your new paver walk, patio, or driveway. From retaining walls to full outdoor living areas our crews can build your next hardscapes project. The schedule for the remainder of the 2020 season is already full and new projects are now being scheduled for Spring 2021. Call today to begin working with one of our representatives.



### **Trees**

Fall is a great time to plant trees – even better than spring. Trees planted in the fall are given a chance to establish their roots before winter, allowing them to be ready for new growth in the spring.

