

Quarterly update  
3-20-14

Well, after a long cold & snowy winter spring is finally here, at least that's what the calendar says. This winter has been very hard on lawns & plants especially with a 6" layer of ice lying across most of our lawns for several months. Now is a good time to start thinking about what needs to be done to get our lawns & plants back into shape for the upcoming season. Below are some helpful tips on how to get you landscape looking great for the year ahead.

**Lawn Care** - It might be a bit of a sorry sight after the past 6 months, but with a bit of work, you can bring it back to life. If you can see a fair amount of thatch (the dead, straw-like stuff) you will need to rake it out before you attempt any other lawn care projects. The reason, anything you add, such as new seed or fertilizer will simply sit on the thatch, rather than getting down into the soil, unless it is removed. Once you have de-thatched your lawn, you can add your fertilizer application. This helps the lawn to green up and recover from winter stress. Weed control and crabgrass preventative should also be applied during this step if you are not attempting to grow new grass. If you would like to find out more or get a quote on these services, just give us a call & we would be happy to come out and take a look.

**Plant Fertilizer and transplant** - April and May are good times to plant those new roses, flowering shrubs, fruit trees, evergreens and most deciduous plant but so are the cooler months of late August into September. Now is also the time to fertilize all you plants to ensure healthy root growth for the season to come. Remember not all plants require the same type or amount of food, so be sure to check what type of plant food is right for the plants you have. We highly recommend holly tone for most flowering evergreen plants & deciduous trees, it works really well in the New England climate. If you are not sure just contact us for some help.

**Pruning** - If you need to prune off winter kill the best time to do this is before growth starts in the spring. The exceptions to that rule are spring-flowering shrubs. For those, you need to wait until after they finish flowering (mid-season May-July). Spring would be a good time to prune roses and ornamental grasses if they look like they need a trim. We are happy to assist you on any particular pruning questions you may have or give you a quote to do it for you to keep your landscape healthy and shape/size in check.

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