



**Landscape  
Maintenance Manual  
A Touch of Green, Inc.**



📍 12720 W. 159th St.  
Homer Glen, IL 60491

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# STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

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We, at A Touch of Green, strive to achieve 100% customer satisfaction with our high quality landscape material and unique design solutions. Our employees work hard to ensure that your landscape stands out amongst your neighbors and that you are happy with the finished product. We are constantly determined to incorporate innovative solutions to assist in all your landscape needs.

This Maintenance Manual outlines the standards of care we suggest and stand by in order for your landscape to flourish and succeed. We pride ourselves in having the best material around and these guidelines serve as a helping hand, once the installation is complete. Our core values are to help our customers with whatever they may need, whenever they may need it. Our staff is always available to answer any questions that this manual may not answer or that may not be clear.

By maintaining the proper aftercare this booklet outlines, you are practicing exemplary standards of horticulture for your site and the care will show in the living landscape you now have.

Thank you for choosing A Touch of Green to help make your landscaping the way you have always dreamed it to be. If there are additional services that you desire, know that our team is fully staffed and equipped to install brick pavers, plants, natural stone, etc... Check out our website for some precedent projects that may spark other design ideas you may have. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We will be more than happy to help you in any way that we can.



## NEW INSTALLATION WATERING NEEDS:

**NOTE: When it comes to watering, there are no hard or fast rules. It's a judgment call that depends on the type of plant, the soil, the weather, the time of year and many other variables.**

### **SHRUBS:**

- All shrubs and evergreens should be watered once daily for the first week.
- **NOTE:** When watering by hand, run hose water with a slow to medium pressure for approximately 1-3 Minutes per plant. Evergreens need to be watered about 5 Minutes each day. A good tip is to run over each plant a few times to allow water to reach the root zone. During hot weather, additional watering may be needed.

### **TREES:**

- Newly planted trees need to be watered 3 - 4 times a week, at 1/4 turn of hose nosel, for 15-20 minutes each.

### **PERENNIALS & GROUNDCOVER**

- Water every other day until the plants are established.
- They will need watering every day during hot weather



## ESTABLISHED PLANTS WATERING NEEDS:

**SHRUBS:** Water 1-2 times per week, depending on the weather.

**TREES:** Once trees are established, only water in drought conditions where there is less than 1" of rain per week.

**PERENNIALS & GROUNDCOVER:** Water 3 times per week for 3 months.



## FERTILIZING NEEDS:

- Fertilize all shrubs, evergreens, trees, groundcovers and perennials twice a year
- Fertilize once in the spring and once in the mid summer time.
- Suggested Fertilizers:
  - **FERTILOME TREE AND SHRUB FOOD**
  - **MILORGANITE**



## PRUNING YOUR PLANTS:

- All shrubs and evergreens are pruned on installation. Additional pruning to shape and size your plants can be done as needed.
- Reference our maintenance Schedule on sheet 5 for more information.



# PRUNING TECHNIQUES - How to Prune Your Plants



**REASONS FOR PRUNING:** TO TRAIN THE PLANT, TO MAINTAIN PLANT HEALTH, TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE FLOWERS, FRUIT, FOLIAGE OR STEMS AND TO RESTRICT GROWTH.

## SHRUB PRUNING TECHNIQUES:

**1. PINCHING BACK:** Simply use your fingers to pinch off the terminal bud of the branch. This will encourage lateral branches to form and can be a great way to prevent more pruning later on.



**2. HEADING BACK:** This method removes the terminal bud, resulting in more branches. Cut the branch at an angle, about ¼" above a branch bud and sloping down and away from the bud. The branches about 6" to 8" below your cut will be stimulated the most, so keep that in mind when choosing where to cut. The bud nearest the cut determines the direction the branch grows, with the outward facing bud usually resulting in the best shape. If a heading cut is made in the middle of a branch with no bud, the result will be a flush of growth at the site of the cut.



**3. THINNING:** Thinning involves removing branches while leaving the terminal bud. Make the cut just outside the branch collar, which is the bulge where the branch meets the stem, but don't leave a stub. Thinning can produce a more open, shapely plant, without altering its overall size, shape, or growth habit.



**4. RENEWAL OR REJUVENATION PRUNING:** Renewal pruning involves removing the oldest stems and branches at the base, then thinning or heading back the younger stems to promote regrowth. With rejuvenation pruning, the entire shrub is cut to stubs less than 12". This drastic measure is usually done if a shrub has become an overgrown, tangled mass that is not blooming well.



**5. SHEARING:** Shearing involves trimming off the tips of branches and is best used only for formal hedges. Shearing alters the shrub's natural shape and promotes thick growth only on the exterior of the plant, which results in dead foliage and lack of growth on the interior branches.



INFORMATION SOURCE: <https://todayshomeowner.com/basic-shrub-pruning-techniques/>

# SOD CARE - Establish Your Lawn



**\*\*NOTE:** Avoid all activity on your newly laid sod for the first 2-3 weeks after installation. This will prevent having an unlevelled yard.



## INITIAL WATERING NEEDS:

### ***Water newly laid sod Immediately as follows:***

- ***First two weeks:*** Twice a day for 20-30 minute per section
- ***Third week:*** Once daily for 20-30 minutes per section
- ***Fourth week and on:*** 2-3 times per week
- ***In extreme heat(85 degrees or higher):*** extra watering may be needed



## ESTABLISHED LAWN WATERING NEEDS:

- Established lawns require approximately one inch of water per week. During hot summer months, some additional watering may be required
- Watering should take place in the morning hours to soak up the most moisture.
- Avoid watering in the heat of the day and wet conditions in the evening.



## MOWING:

- ***First cut:*** Approximately 2-3 weeks after installation. Make sure to test the sod to make sure that it cannot be pulled up easily. Set mower at highest setting for first cutting and water thoroughly afterward.
  - ***Normal Mowing:*** Should not be more than 1/3 of the blade of grass.
  - Mow once a week in spring and fall
  - Mow every 2-3 weeks in the summer months
- \*\* NOTE:** Never mow when the sod is wet.



## FERTILIZE AND WEED CONTROL:

### ***We Recommend:***

- ***4-step GREENVIEW Program-*** Apply 4 times a year. A great guide to knowing the best times and to stay on track is Easter, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor day.
- ***MILORGANITE*** - Apply twice a year. Note that this organic fertilizer does not keep weeds away. Try pairing with an organic herbicide for best results.
- You may find either of these products, amongst others, in our Garden Center at A Touch of Green.



# GRASS SEED CARE- Establish Your Lawn



\*\*NOTE: Avoid all activity on newly seeded lawn until it is time for the first cut.



## WATERING NEEDS:

### ***It is crucial to maintain a watered but not wet area:***

- Be careful not to overwater as this may cause disease. Make sure there are never any puddles in the seeded areas.
- Be careful not to underwater. There should never be any cracking or dry looking areas in the soil. Keep the seeded area moist at all times.
- ***First two weeks:*** Twice a day for 5 minutes per section
- ***Third week:*** Water same as first two only with a broad misting fashion
- ***Fourth week and on:*** Slowly reduce the amount of watering (every other day) to train the roots to reach deeper for water source.
- ***In extreme heat(85 degrees or higher):*** water more often as needed



## MOWING:

- ***First cut:*** When the grass is about 2" tall, it is ready for the first mow. Set mower at highest setting for first cutting and water thoroughly afterward.
  - ***Normal Mowing:*** Should not be more than 1/3 of the blade of grass.
  - Mow once a week in spring and fall
  - Mow every 2-3 weeks in the summer months
- \*\* NOTE: Never mow when the grass is wet.



## FERTILIZE AND WEED CONTROL:

### ***We Recommend:***

- Begin process after the first cut. It is important to not over fertilize or fertilize too soon as it can burn new seed.
- For the first year, use a starter fertilizer or only fertilize with a non weed control
- For following years, use the following as a suggested program for fertilizing.
  - ***4-step GREENVIEW Program-*** Apply 4 times a year. A great guide to knowing the best times and to stay on track is Easter, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor day.
  - ***MILORGANITE -*** Apply twice a year. Note that this organic fertilizer does not keep weeds away. Try pairing with an organic herbicide for best results.
- You may find either of these products, amongst others, in our Garden Center at A Touch of Green.

# HYDRANGEA CARE



## PANICLE:

Bobo, Fire Light, 'Limelight', Little Lime, 'Little Lamb', Pinky Winky, Quick Fire, Little Quick Fire, Phantom

- SUN: Filtered shade to full sun

- Bloom on new wood: prune in late winter/early spring

## BIG LEAF:

Cityline, Endless Summer, Bloomstruck, Annabelle, Lets Dance, Tuff Stuff, Lemon Daddy, Incrediball

- SUN: Partial shade to partial sun

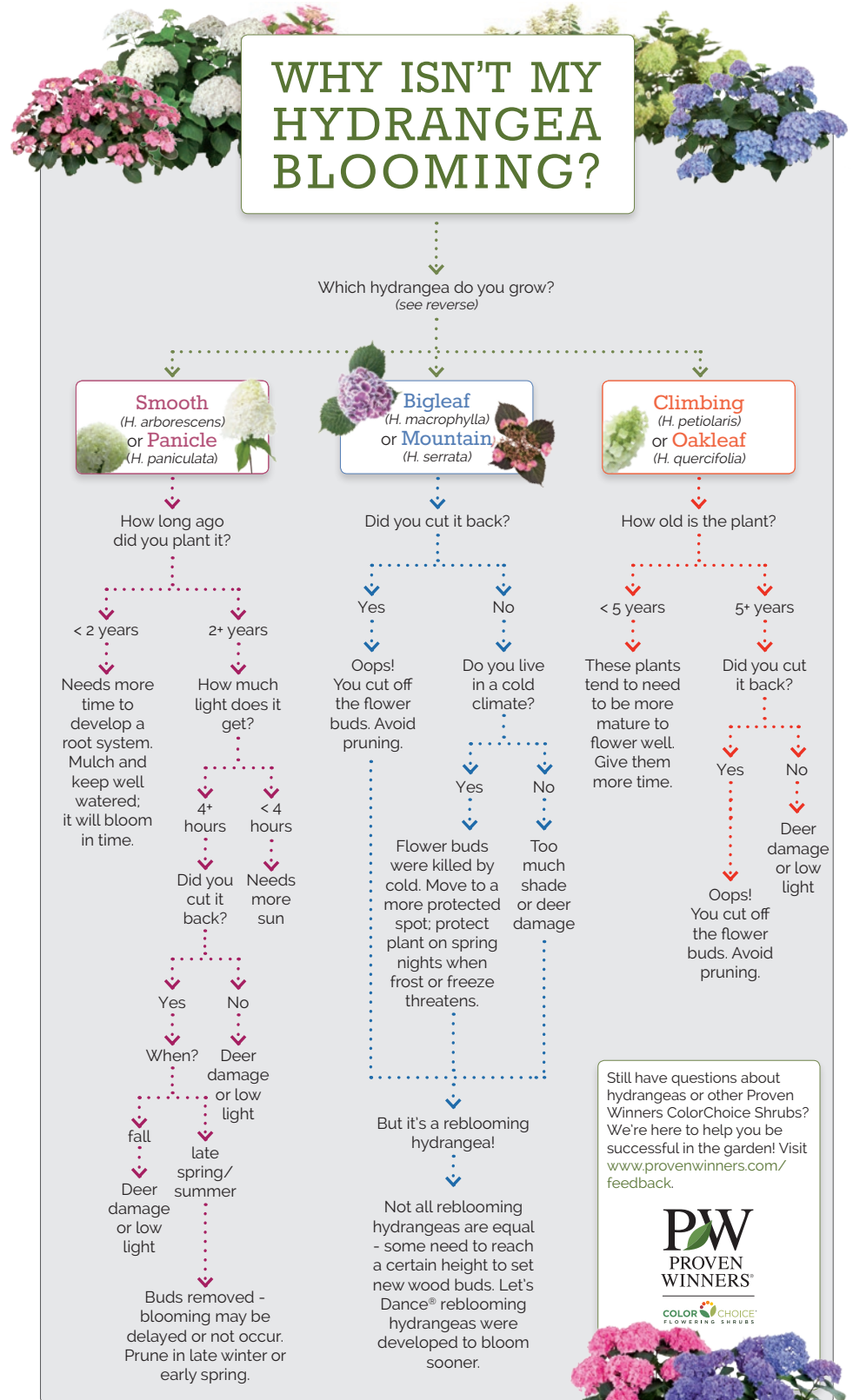
- Bloom on old wood: do not prune, protect in winter

## OAKLEAF:

Gatsby, Oakleaf Alice

- SUN: Partial shade to full sun

- Blooms on old wood: Prune once flowers are done blooming



How old is the plant?

< 5 years

These plants tend to need to be more mature to flower well. Give them more time.

5+ years

Did you cut it back?

Yes

Oops! You cut off the flower buds. Avoid pruning.

No

Deer damage or low light

But it's a reblooming hydrangea!

Not all reblooming hydrangeas are equal - some need to reach a certain height to set new wood buds. Let's Dance® reblooming hydrangeas were developed to bloom sooner.

Still have questions about hydrangeas or other Proven Winners ColorChoice Shrubs? We're here to help you be successful in the garden! Visit [www.provenwinners.com/feedback](http://www.provenwinners.com/feedback).



COLOR CHOICE  
FLOWERING SHRUBS


INFORMATION SOURCE: <https://www.provenwinners.com/Hydrangeas-Demystified>



# ARBORVITAE CARE



-  Water: Like moderately moist, well-drained soil
-  Likes full sun to part shade


 Soil Tolerance: Wide range of soils, but prefer moist well drained loams with 6-8 pH Neutral - Slightly Alkaline

## TWO MAIN TYPES OF ARBORVITAE

### Emerald Green Arborvitae

*Thuja occidentalis 'Emerald Green'*




 Mature Size: 15-20' tall, with a spread of 3-4'

- Grows about 6-8" per year
- Does not require pruning, but can be pruned into topiary
- Foliage is dark green in winter and lightens up in summer months. Browning on the inside is normal in winter.
- Heavy ice and snow can damage stems in winter. Make sure to brush off of plant.
- Watch foliage for spotting, canker, bagworms, scales.

### Green Giant Arborvitae

*Thuja 'Green Giant'*



 Mature Size: 40-60' tall, with a spread of 5-8'

- Fastest growing arb at about 1-1.5' per year
- Young plants can be easily pruned into hedge or screen
- Sturdy and adaptable
- Withstands heavy ice and snow
- Foliage remains a dark glossy green throughout the seasons.
- Bagworm and rots may occur, watch for scale and discoloration.

## WATERING AND SOIL MAINTENANCE GUIDE:

### When first planted(0-3 weeks):

- Water deeply every other day for about 5-10 minutes depending on the size of the tree. Water as needed based on rainfall during that week. Rainfall does not always reach the root ball of the shrub, about 6-8" deep. Make sure ball of tree is soaked well. keep soil evenly moist but not saturated.

### While establishing (3 weeks to a year):

Watering can occur 3-4 times a week, depending on temperature and rain. More often during the first couple of months.

- Hot Summer months will require more water.
- It is important to keep the soil well-drained with a slight alkalinity. This is established through applying compost and mulch lightly over the root zone every year. Do not pack down on roots as this will increase water retention.
- \*Add root stimulator, at time of planting, to help with root growth.

### NOTE:

\*If you see yellowing or browning of the foliage or the foliage is crunchy to touch. = Symptoms of Underwatering or Arb needing water

\*Feel and observe the soil to see if it is dry or light in appearance.

\*Discolored foliage or dieback

\*Feel and observe the soil to see if it looks dark or wet or if it is compact and puddling is occurring. = Symptoms of Overwatering or Arb not needing water

\*Browning on outside toward the center of arborvitae. = Symptoms of possible bug problem

### TIPS:

- \* Is the rootball of your arb slightly raised? This is important for the plant to have proper drainage.
- \* Is there about 1-2" of mulch over the rootball of your arb? This is important so that the plant is holding in moisture and essential nutrients.

INFORMATION SOURCE: <https://www.thespruce.com/emerald-green-arborvitae-trees>; <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org>

# MONTH OF MARCH



## FERTILIZE & WEED PREVENTION:

### Flowering Crabs, fruit Trees and Evergreens

- Apply **FERTILOME HORTICULTURAL OIL AND INSECT DRENCH**. This will prevent damage from Scale and Mites.
- NOTE: Outside temperatures should not be lower than 40 degrees when applying the oil.

### Bulbs

- Add bone meal or bulb booster to the soil. Do this when the foliage from spring bulbs starts to appear from the soil.

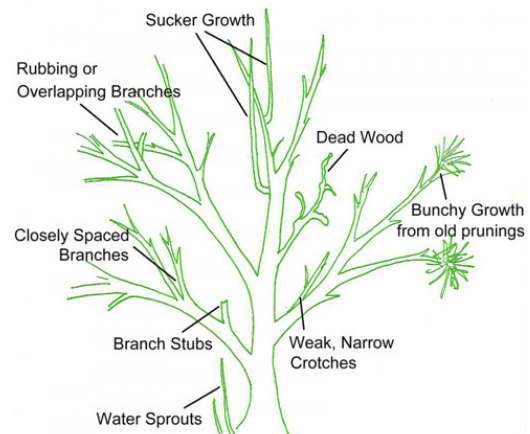
### Weed Prevention

- Preen should be applied to all of your landscape beds. This will prevent the germination of weeds and grass seeds. This can also be done additional times during the spring and summer prior to weed germination.

## PRUNING:

### Examine all trees and shrubs early in the month, before leaves start to emerge.

- Look for signs of damaged or diseased wood similar to the images below.
- Prune and remove any rubbing or crossing branches. Reference page 5 for pruning techniques.
- NOTE: Do not trim any Magnolias, Forsythias or Lilacs until after they have flowered in the spring.



### Ornamental Grasses

- In spring, after the last frost, cut back about 3-4" above the ground. This will promote new growth.

## REMOVALS AND CLEAN UP:

- Remove all winter debris from your lawn and plant beds
- Slightly move any mulch away from your perennials. This will allow the soil to dry and warm.

## HELPFUL HINTS:

- Pruning your plants will keep them healthy and vigorous. Since many plants flower on new wood, pruning your plants will also improve flowering. Pruning also removes damaged and old dead wood, which in turn promotes new growth.

INFORMATION SOURCE: <https://todayshomeowner.com/basic-shrub-pruning-techniques/>



## FERTILIZE & WEED PREVENTION:

### Groundcover areas

- Apply **FERTILOME OVER-THE-TOP WEED AND GRASS KILLER**. This will eliminate any unwanted weeds and grasses and will not damage any groundcover.

### Flowering Crab Trees

- Inspect for tent caterpillar webs and bag worms. If they are found apply **TRIPLE ACTION** until they are gone.

### Shrubs, Evergreens and Trees

- Fertilize with **TREE AND SHRUB FOOD**. This can be done at the end of each month.

### Weed Prevention

- Preen should be applied to all of your landscape beds (if not done in March). This will prevent the germination of weeds and grass seeds.

## LAWN CARE:

### Mowing

- Cut your grass for the first time of the year. Make sure grass is dry when cutting. Reference sheet 6 for sod care tips.

### Core Aeration of your Lawn

- Core aerating your lawn will help to give it a good start for the season. Gypsum should be applied after core aeration to help loosen compacted soil. Compacted soil can be a serious problem in lawns in our area.

## HELPFUL HINTS:

- Spider mites do the most damage to spruce trees and many other conifers. These pests appear as dark green or black specks and are about the size of a pepper grain. To check if your spruces are infected with spider mites, take a piece of white paper, place it under the branches and tap the branch allowing the pest to fall on the paper. You may also know if you see spider webs in the early morning with the dew.
- Try using Insect Drench or triple Action as a treatment if your trees have spider mites. If you notice them during the summer, you can apply **FERTILOME TRIPLE ACTION** or **PYRETHROID PESTICIDES** to kill off adults.
- You can also spray and wash the foliage of the tree down with a strong stream of water on a weekly or bi-weekly basis in Spring and Fall to keep the pests off.



## FERTILIZE & WEED PREVENTION:

### Dandelion and other broadleaf weed prevention from lawn

- Apply **FERTILOME WEED-OUT** on a moist lawn. Be sure not to water your lawn for 24 hours after application of product. Also, be sure not to cut your grass before applying this product. The bigger the leaf, the more the **FERTILOME WEED-OUT** will stick to the leaf

### Shrubs, Evergreens and Trees

- Fertilize with **FERTILOME TREE & SHRUB FOOD** if not already done.

### Prevent damage from Bronze Birch Borer and Leaf Miner

- Use **FERTILOME TREE & SHRUB DRENCH**. If these pests are not taken care of, they can pose a serious threat to the health of your plants.



## PLANTING:

### Time to Plant Annuals!

- In our area, the frost free date is May 15th. Planting of ALL annuals is recommended to be done after this date. You can find a large variety of your favorite annuals and perennials, plus all of your gardening needs, in our garden center!



## LAWN CARE:

### Repair bare spots in your lawn

- Grass seed can be spread over bare spots in your lawn. This will repair any bare areas, and will give you that lush, beautiful lawn you are looking for. Reference sheet 7 for growing grass seed.



## HELPFUL HINTS:

- When mowing your lawn, try various mowing patterns. Using the same pattern every time you mow will tend to compact your soil. It will also cause wear patterns in your grass. Changing your mowing patterns is good for your lawn and it also makes mowing a little more interesting



## HAVE A POOL?

A Touch of Green carries Chlorine and pool chemicals!



## FERTILIZE & WEED PREVENTION:

### Shrubs, Evergreens and Trees

- Fertilize with **FERTILOME TREE & SHRUB FOOD** if not already done for Spring. You may also do a second application, at this time, if you have already fertilized in early spring.

### Weed Prevention

- Preen should be applied to all of your landscape beds for the second time of the season.

### Plant food

- Feed all of your annuals, perennials and vegetables with **FERTILOME, ROSE FOOD, GARDNERS SPECIAL, OR ALL PURPOSE PLANT FOOD**

## PRUNING:

### Shrubs and Evergreens

- Prune all to give them the size and shape that you desire.

## LAWN CARE:

### Mowing

- Raise the height of your lawn mower to 3"

### Apply a preventative fungicide treatment to your lawn.

- We recommend that you use either **BAYER LAWN FUNGICIDE OR FERTILOME F-STOP**. This application will last approximately 30 days. Liquid fungicide containing **DACONIL** will also work. This should be done in 7-10 intervals. Treating your lawn in the beginning of June with a fungicide will minimize the damage to your lawn from other outbreaks of fungus; which will cause brown patch in hot, humid summers.

### Check for grub damage in your lawn

- Check for signs of grub damage near the end of the month. Grub damage will be yellow or brown patches and areas that lift and roll just like new sod does. An application of **MERIT** (a season long grub control) or **GRUB WITH DYLOX** (for 24 hour killing) is recommended. This will avoid having grub problems in your lawn. Re-apply in late September or Fall.

## HELPFUL HINTS:

- If you start to notice mushrooms growing in your yard, don't panic. Mushrooms come from prolonged period of wet weather. This only means that there is decaying organic matter underground. Mushrooms will not cause damage to your lawn and are easily removable. To remove them, you can use a lawn rake or you can apply **FERTILOME CONSAN 20** to control them. These particular mushrooms are not edible.





## FERTILIZE & WEED PREVENTION:

### **Annuals and Vegetables**

- Fertilize with *MIRACLE-GRO* or *MILORGANITE* or *FERTILOME PRODUCT*.

### **Shrubs**

- Fertilize all shrubs, but only use 50% of normal application.
- Your trees do not need to be fertilized, just watered thoroughly

### **Lawn**

- Fertilize for the second time this year.



## WATERING:

### **Lawn, Trees and all other plants**

- Provide supplemental watering to your lawn and planting areas as needed. It is better to water established plants thoroughly. Once a week is better than “sprinkling” every day. Remember normal watering is 1 inch of water to your plants and lawn per week, either by rainfall or manual watering.



## HELPFUL HINTS:

- Leaving your grass clippings on your lawn will not contribute to thatch build-up. Grass clippings are 90% water and will dry up to almost nothing. They will not pile up or tangle with thatch. About 1/3rd of your lawn’s nitrogen requirements can be supplied from decomposing grass clippings.
- You will start to have problems when the grass has grown too long, or if you mow the grass while it is still wet. Long, wet grass clippings will form clumps that will build up and tangle with thatch. This will also shade the areas below, and cause your lawn to thin.





## **LAWN CARE:**

### **Treatment**

- Your lawn should be treated with **BAYER SEASON LONG GRUB CONTROL OR TRIAZICIDE** insecticide. This treatment will help to prevent damage from grubs, sod worms and chinch bugs. This treatment can be applied now and throughout the late summer, up until Halloween. This will control grubs and insects in their early stages. You should check for the following symptoms: yellowing patches, large amounts of bid activity on your lawn, tunnels from moles or ground squirrels and spots in the lawn that can easily be lifted just like new sod.
- You should continue to spot treat your lawn with **FERTILOME WEED-OUT SPRAY**, if you have a few weeds. This will help control dandelions and other broadleaf weeds and help keep your lawn looking beautiful.



## **A TOUCH OF GREEN'S ANNUAL SIDEWALK SALE!**

For all of you bargain shoppers out there, this one is for you! A Touch of Green Garden Center will be holding its ANNUAL SIDEWALK SALE. Come and visit us on the first weekend of August and take part in the fun! Save big on nursery stock while supplies lasts! Also, bring the kids to come enjoy fun and games!



## **HELPFUL HINTS:**

- During the hot summer months, leaf scorch is a common problem. Leaf scorch is caused by excessive evaporation from the leaves. In the hot summer weather, water in leaves will evaporate more rapidly from the foliage of plants. If the roots can not absorb and provide water fast enough to replenish the loss, the leaves will turn brown and wither. To avoid this problem, you should deep water your trees during the hot weather periods. A sure sign your trees are thirsty are the premature fall coloring and browning of the leaves.

# MONTH OF SEPTEMBER



## FERTILIZE & WEED PREVENTION:

### Shrubs and Evergreens

- Fertilize your shrubs and evergreens with **MILORGANITE**

### Lawn

- Fertilize your lawn for the third time. If there are dry weather conditions when you get ready to fertilize, be sure to provide adequate water to your lawn.

## PRUNING:

### Shrubs, Evergreens and Trees

- You can Trim all shrubs, evergreens and trees. This will not only get rid of noticeable overgrowth, but get them ready for winter

## PLANTING:

### Time to plant Fall Mums, Ornamental Kale and Fall Pansies

- Come get your beautiful fall plants from our garden center!

### Fall Plantings

- This is a great time of year to plant trees and shrubs for a beautiful finished look for next Spring!

## LAWN CARE:

### Treatment

- Spot treat your lawn with **FERTILOME WEED-OUT**, to control any remaining weeds.

### Grass Seed

- You can overseed or reseed any bare spots or bad areas in your lawn. When seeding large areas or new lawns, be sure to apply **FERTILOME NEW LAWN STARTER** slow release fertilizer

## HELPFUL HINTS:

- Rake your leaves into one pile. Mow them to shred them into smaller pieces. Then, rake them into black plastic garbage bags. Stack bags on top of each other, store in a sunny spot and wait until spring. When spring comes around, open the bags and spread in your annual or perennial beds. The decomposed leaves are a homemade compost called "Leaf Mold". This coarsely decomposed compost makes a great soil amendment and is excellent mulch for your flowerbeds. To help this decomposed compost along, add a little **HI-YIELD COMPOST MAKER** to the plastic bags before you close them up in the Fall.







## **LAWN CARE:**

### **Winterize your Lawn**

- You should winterize your lawn toward the end of the month with **GREENVIEW FALL FERTILIZER OR FERTILOME WINTERIZER**, and water thoroughly

## **PLANTING:**

### **Spring Bulbs**

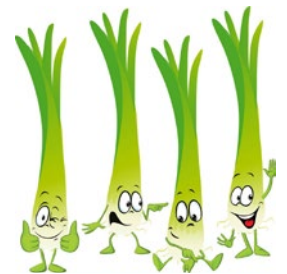
- Plant your bulbs for spring now. Bulbs should be planted when the soil temperature cools to below 60 degrees. Add peat moss and/or potting soil to planting beds. This will help provide drainage for bulbs. Bone Meal or Bulb Food used at the time of planting is recommended. This will help promote good root development.

## **REMOVALS AND CLEAN UP:**

- Remove all annuals and vegetables should be removed from planting beds and cultivate beds. Note: This should be done after a hard frost.
- Remove all leaves and debris from planting beds and lawns. This will reduce the risk of overwintering, insects and diseases. To control fungus growth, you can drench the soil with a fungicide.

## **HELPFUL HINTS:**

- The key to good bulb planting areas is proper drainage. You must be sure that your bulb bed does not sit in water or your bulbs will rot before they sprout.
- You can plant your bulbs in your annual flower beds. When the bulbs are done blooming in the Spring, cut them back and plant your annuals.



# MONTH OF NOVEMBER



## LAWN CARE:

### Last Cut

- Cut your grass for the last time. Be sure to lower your mower blade to the height of 2 1/2 inches.

## PRUNING, REMOVALS AND PREVENTATIVES:

- Remove the balance of the leaves and debris away from plants.
- Cut back roses to 10" in height and mulch around the base before the cold weather hits.
- Cut back Hostas and Daylilies to 2"
- Mulch perennial beds to prevent frost damage.
- Apply animal repellent to your plants to minimize damage from rodents, rabbits and other critters
- You can protect your broadleaf evergreens (Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Holly and Boxwood) with **WILT PRUF**. This will reduce the damage to your plants from drying wind and harsh winter temperatures.
- Winterize your lawn mower and have the blades sharpened so you are ready for spring.

## HELPFUL HINTS:

- If you grow perennials or mini roses in planters during the summer, you can over-winter your plants by doing these few simple steps:
  1. Sink your pots in the ground, this will provide insulation for the roots
  2. Fill in and cover any spaces with mulch so water does not accumulate, freeze, or form frozen rings around your plant.
  3. In the spring, after the danger of freezing is over, lift your pots out of the ground and set back in its summer pots.





## Trusted by golf course professionals and homeowners for over 90 years.

**ALL PURPOSE.** Milorganite is an all-purpose organic-nitrogen fertilizer composed of heat dried microbes that have digested the organic matter in wastewater. It can be used on lawns, shrubs, trees, flowers, vegetables and as a seed carrier. See back for recommended application guidelines.

**DOES NOT BURN.** Milorganite's salt free formula will not burn plants or scorch lawns even in the hottest temperatures and driest conditions.

**SLOW RELEASE—FEEDS UP TO 10 WEEKS.** Milorganite releases its nutrients slowly and feeds plants and soil on a constant basis resulting in uniform growth and well-established root systems.

**DOESN'T HAVE TO BE WATERED-IN.** Milorganite doesn't need to be watered in after application. It's ready to work when moisture arrives, making it ideal for areas with water restrictions.

**IRON FOR ENHANCED GREENING.** Iron is essential to make plants green. Greening power is what you'll get from Milorganite—our iron is organically complex and readily absorbed by plants. Milorganite even works in poor soils, regardless of soil pH, and will NOT stain nearby walks, patios, drives, fences or walls.

**SEEDING WITH MILORGANITE.** Add Milorganite when seeding for a fast-developing lawn. The nitrogen releases as the seedlings need it. The non-leaching phosphorus is available to immature roots to aid in giving energy to support fast growth, and won't burn tender seedlings.

**SAFE FOR CHILDREN AND PETS.** Milorganite is tested daily and surpasses the EPA's "Exceptional Quality" standards—the most stringent safety regulations in the fertilizer industry. Children and pets can safely go onto areas that have been fertilized with Milorganite.

**ADDS ORGANIC MATTER.** Organic matter in Milorganite feeds microorganisms in the soil, improving the foundation which plants grow. Enriching the soil with organic matter improves soil structure which improves the soil's capacity to hold water and nutrients. Healthy soil is the long term key to lawn and garden success.

**APPLICATION GUIDELINES.** A 36 lb bag of Milorganite covers 2,500 sq ft. For best results, four lawn applications per year are recommended. Please see the back for lawn, flower, vegetable, fruit, tree, and shrub application schedule and rates.



**ALL PURPOSE** lawns | flowers | vegetables | trees | shrubs

# Application Guidelines

3 cups of Milorganite = 1 lb

LAWNS	
<b>NORTHERN GRASSES (COOL SEASON)</b> (Kentucky Bluegrass, Fescue, Perennial Ryegrass)	
<b>Four Applications - 36 lbs per 2,500 sq ft</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorial Day (<i>late Spring</i>)</li> <li>• 4th of July (<i>mid-Summer</i>)</li> <li>• Labor Day (<i>early Fall</i>)</li> <li>• Thanksgiving (<i>Dormant Feeding</i>)</li> </ul>	Apply last application as late in the season as possible before the first deep freeze or snow fall. This fertilizer application is known as dormant feeding. Fertilizing this late in the season will allow for an early spring green up.
<b>SOUTHERN GRASSES (WARM SEASON)</b> (Bermuda, St. Augustine, Centipedegrass, Bahia & Zoysia)	
<b>Four Applications - 36 lbs per 2,500 sq ft</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easter (<i>after turf breaks dormancy</i>)</li> <li>• Memorial Day (<i>late Spring</i>)</li> <li>• Labor Day (<i>early Fall</i>)</li> <li>• Early October (<i>or when overseeding</i>)</li> </ul>	In regions where killing frosts can be expected, avoid nitrogen applications to warm-season grasses in the fall less than one month prior to the average date of the first killing frost. For best results, fertilize when overseeding. Centipedegrass and Bahia grass prefer spring and summer feedings. Avoid late fall fertilization of these species to prevent possible winter kill.

NEW LAWNS	
<b>72 lbs per 2,500 sq ft</b> Seed Bed or Sodding Preparation	Mix into the top two inches of soil before seeding or sodding. After third mowing of lawn, apply one 36 lb bag per 2,500 sq ft of lawn. Then follow the normal schedule for your particular type of grass.

SHRUBS	
<b>Transplanted Shrubs</b> ½ lb per ft of shrub height	Mix with soil at the bottom of the hole prior to inserting shrub. Three months later, hand spread 2 lbs of Milorganite under the plant and lightly rake into the soil.
<b>Established Shrubs</b> 5 lbs per 100 sq ft	Scatter uniformly over the soil surface and work in with a hoe or rake. For individual shrubs, apply 1 lb of Milorganite per shrub in the root area.

FLOWERS	
<b>ANNUALS</b>	
<b>Two Applications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spring (prior to planting) - 1½ lbs (4½ cups) per 50 sq ft</li> <li>• Summer (budding)- 1 lb (3 cups) per 50 sq ft</li> </ul>	Mix into soil when preparing flower bed or container. When flower buds form, apply an additional application.
<b>PERENNIALS</b>	
<b>Two Applications</b> 2½ lbs (7½ cups) per 50 sq ft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spring</li> <li>• Summer</li> </ul>	Apply in spring and again after plants bloom to strengthen plants for the following year.

VEGETABLES	
<b>Two Applications-</b> 4½ lbs (13½ cups) per 50 sq ft ½ cup per plant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to planting</li> <li>• Halfway through growing season</li> </ul>	Prior to planting, work Milorganite into the soil. Halfway through growing season sprinkle Milorganite around plants or between planted rows to revitalize your garden.

FRUITS	
<b>Fruiting Trees and Shrubs</b> Apply 1 lb (3 cups) per tree per year of age, when leaves lose their natural green color.	Do not apply more than 16 lbs per tree per year. Annual applications are usually sufficient for good fruit yields.
<b>Strawberries</b> First Year - Apply ¾ lbs (2½ cups) per 50 sq ft or 1 tbsp per plant Bearing Years - Apply 3 lbs per 50 sq ft or 3 tbsp per plant	Work into the soil between planted rows or sprinkle Milorganite and work into the soil of your container. Milorganite encourages growth without interfering with fruiting.

TREES	
<b>Established Trees</b> 5 lbs per inch of trunk diameter	Pour into holes (1" wide x 12" deep) spaced 2 ft apart along drip line.
<b>Transplanted Trees</b> ½ lb per ft of tree height	Mix with soil at the bottom of the planting hole prior to inserting the transplanted tree. Three months later, hand spread an equal amount of Milorganite slightly past drip line.

16-081 8-9-16


[www.milorganite.com](http://www.milorganite.com)





*Thank You*

Come pay our Garden Center a visit for all of your landscape necessities! We would be happy to assist you in any way we can.

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