

OUR GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER

**Mike's  
LAWN SERVICE**

SINCE 1981

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# Green Scene

## Early Spring

# 2009

### Spring Lawn & Landscape Tips



### Today Your Lawn Was Treated With:

Today we treated your lawn with fertilizer, crabgrass preventor and broadleaf weed control. The fertilizer we applied contains 30% slow release nitrogen. Just the right amount was applied so it will be utilized by the grass and not leach away. It should last approximately 6 to 8 weeks. The crabgrass preventor will stop annual weeds for the next 3 months. Remember, crabgrass in this area usually germinates between May 10th to June 1st. No need to apply it very early in the spring. The broadleaf weed control will stunt or maybe control some broadleaf weeds. Spring is a tough time to control weeds because the sap flow is going up the plant instead of into the roots. If they don't completely die, we will finish them off with our next application.

**You can mow your lawn 24 hours *after* we sprayed, but please do not catch the clippings of that first mowing after the application.**

### News from Les

*Happy Spring Everyone! What a great winter we experienced! (at least for people in the snow removal business) We had an early start with our clean-ups, aerating and seeding this spring. We do not, however, begin our early spring applications until after April 8th. The fertilizer and crabgrass preventor will only be effective for a certain period of time, so the later it is applied the better weed control on the lawn.*

*With fertilizer prices doubling and some tripling last year, we are doing our best to maintain fair and competitive pricing. We insist on using only quality products, it **DOES** make a difference!*

*We appreciate your business, and encourage you to call us if there is anything we can do for you!!*

- Rake lawn if possible. Besides cleaning up the lawn it also stimulates new growth. Hand raking the lawn after we have treated it will not harm our application.
- Remove any broken or dead limbs from trees and shrubs. Rake dead leaves away from perennials.
- Mow lawn this spring so grass is 2-1/2" high after cutting.
- Seeding - since we treated your lawn today, hold off any seeding until late August, unless you loosen the soil to a 2" depth to break down the crabgrass preventor.
- Prune overgrown shrubs, such as potentilla, spirea or evergreens if needed. Now is also the time to cut back shrub roses to 6" above the ground. Cut back Potentilla 6 - 8" above the ground every 2 to 3 years to prevent them from becoming woody.

### ASH TREE ALERT!

**Have you heard of Emerald Ash Borer? This insect has killed millions of Ash trees from Illinois and Ohio and eastward. Tree experts think it will spread into Iowa by bringing in firewood, since the adult insect doesn't travel far on its own. The good news is that we have a product that will control the insect. There is no reason to treat Ash trees now, but IF the bug makes it into Iowa we are prepared.**

A Gallup survey reported 62% of all U.S. homeowners felt investment in lawns and landscaping was good or better than other home improvements. The investment recovery rate is 100 - 200% for landscape improvements, compared to a deck or patio that will recover 40 - 70%. Proper and well maintained landscaping adds 15% to a home's value according to buyers.