



Fall is for action and Planning

The calendar doesn't lie. This October and winter is only a few short months away. But just because nights are longer and temperatures are colder doesn't mean that landscaping chores are near completion. To the contrary, now is the time to plan for next year, to plant and fertilize new turf, and to ready your property for the snowy, cold months that lie ahead.

ACT NOW

Start with your lawn. Some of the grasses in your lawn may be struggling to survive under conditions that are no longer suitable for them. Changes in water availability or in temperature and humidity levels this summer may have stressed grass that once used to thrive. No matter what the reason for turf stress this summer, renovation - a combination of aerating, over-seeding, and fertilizing - will breathe new life into your yard.

Aerating opens up passageways for water, nutrients and air and creates a good nesting spot for seeds. Over-seeding with three or more different types of grass varieties will preclude one insect or disease from wiping out your lawn next year. Fall fertilizing is a good idea for both renovated lawns and lawns that are in no need of refurbishment. Fertilizing now will give the newly planted grass the nutrients it needs to get a good start, and it will help established grasses prepare for the cooler months ahead.

By the time you receive our newsletter, we may have already received our first frost. If it was a "killing" frost, it wiped out annual weeds, as well as your vegetables and flowers. Perennial weeds, though, will continue to live, storing nutrients in their roots for spring use. This is the perfect time to treat broadleaved perennial leaves that Mother Nature didn't or couldn't control. Even though annual weeds die off at the end of the growing season, many will return next year because they dropped their seeds this Fall. An application of a pre-emergent weed control early next spring will prevent their return.

PLAN, TOO

Fall is about action, about renovating, Fertilizing, mulching, and planting. It is also about planning. If you have been a customer of ours for awhile, then you know we also encourage property owners this time of year to be especially observant and proactive when it comes to their trees. If you see a tree on your property that looks like it is under stress - with excessive dead wood, cracks, or fractures, or has leaves that have changed color prematurely - give us a call.

Trees under stress going into the winter season are more susceptible to injury from storm damage than healthy trees. Pruning now will also help protect trees from storm damage this winter by removing weak or damaged limbs.

Start plans in motion to not only protect your landscape this winter, but to give it a head start next spring. Give us a call today. A Winkler's professional is available to inspect your trees to ensure they are prepared for the coming winter. In addition, we can also measure up your property and give you an estimate on what it would cost to keep your lawns looking lush and green next year. Winkler's Lawn Care has a complete maintenance regimen that will fertilize your lawns, trees, and shrubs and protect them from disease and insects.

Call Winkler's Tree Service today at (708) 544-1219 or Winkler's Lawn Care at (708) 544-3758 for more in-formation about how our tree and lawn care service professionals can help you act this year and plan for next year.

Vince Winkler