

## PAVER PATIO SANDING

ED SMITH

CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR

If you have a paver patio, walkway, or driveway and the sand needs to be replenished between the pavers, the best alternative is to use polymeric sand, which bonds the pavers together, keeps out weeds, and is less susceptible to ants and insects.

Polymeric sand is a granular material placed between the joints or seams in paver patios, walkways, and driveways. Its primary function is to improve the interlock and therefore the durability and stability of a paved surface. Until recently, this function was performed most often with silica or torpedo sand. The sand would be swept between the joints of a paver patio or walkway, and its mere presence would enhance the interlock between pavers via friction between the pieces of pavement, thus resisting movement of the pavers. Often that sand would be stabilized by applying a sealer to the pavement; the sealer would help maintain certain characteristics of the pavers or stone and would harden the uppermost layer of joint sand, making it resistant to water washouts, ants, and weeds.

More recently, sand with polymers added to it has been quickly growing in popularity for this purpose. Its use has all but eliminated sand being washed out during a big rain storm. The polymeric sand provides a near-perfect prevention of weeds between pavers, washout resistance, and a barrier against ants.

In addition, polymeric sand provides greater durability of the pavement. With polymeric sand in place in a paver patio or pathway, water has less opportunity to seep below the hard wearing surface of the pavement and into the sand and/or crushed stone below. Without water beneath the pavement, silt and sand have no ability to migrate from one area to another, and the drier base and sub-base are less likely to deform under traffic loads because water, the great lubricator, is nowhere to be found. This means your paver patio or walkway look perfect longer when polymeric sand is used to fill the joints.

For the polymeric sand to adequately firm up in the seams between brick pavers or stone, the full depth of the joint needs to be filled with polymeric sand. Adding a bit of polymeric sand on top of existing joint sand will only provide a shallow depth of sand with an activated polymer, making it unable to resist ants, weeds, or washout/erosion. If you are retrofitting a patio with poly jointing sand, you should first clean out all existing sand from between the pavers. This is best done with a power washer, but can be done with a hose equipped with a high-pressure nozzle. If you do not remove the old sand, there will not be enough polymeric sand to seal the joint and bond the pavers together. You will need to remove enough sand so that you will be putting 1.5" to 2" of new sand into the joint. The patio must be completely dry before proceeding with the sand. This is a very important step; it really must be dry.

Once the sand has been swept in, special care needs to be taken to ensure that no stray sand is sitting on the face of the pavers. Check in corners, along steps, and anywhere else sand has a tendency to collect. You can either use a broom or a blower to gently clean off that last bit of sand prior to wetting.

Starting at the highest point of your patio, a water mist is sprayed over the paved area, working toward the lowest part of the paved area, lightly soaking the pavers and sand. The objective is to try to wash any remaining poly sand dust or particles off the surface of the pavers while not washing the sand from between the joints. The water mist activates the polymers, which will begin to harden the sand. Most manufacturers recommend allowing the sand to cure/set for 10-15 minutes, then misting the area again with a light spray of water.

The sand may take a full 24 hours to completely activate and harden, but it only takes 1 hour on a sunny area for the joint sand to harden enough that it doesn't adhere to your boots and get deposited elsewhere on the face of the pavers.

Polymeric sand is the perfect solution for weeds, ants, and stabilizing your patio, but it must be installed properly. If you think your patio is in need of resanding, please contact H&M Landscaping for a free estimate.



## CONTACT US!

10389 KINSMAN ROAD  
P.O. BOX 69  
NEWBURY, OHIO 44065

[PHONE] 440.564.1157  
[FAX] 440.564.5609

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**H&M**  
**LANDSCAPING**  
A LANDSCAPE DESIGN / BUILD FIRM

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## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Our Commitment Is To Exceed Your  
Highest Expectations The First Time*

ate a unique and seamless experience for our customers. In today's fast-paced society, where time is so precious, we want to enhance your relationship with us by leveraging technology. H&M Landscaping is rolling out a mobile app that will be compatible with both the Apple and Android platforms. Our app will allow customers to interact with our office to request a proposal, report a service concern, pay an invoice, and will feature many other useful tools. We are hopeful that this will streamline your experience with our company. I have always been one to be hypersensitive to any customer concerns and issues with our landscaping services. We feel that the best way to improve customer contact is to allow you to communicate with our staff of profes-

sional landscapers at the click of a button. We are confident that our new app will enable us to address any questions or concerns you might have in a precise and timely fashion. Scan the QR code below to quickly download our new app to your smart phone. Thank you for the many years of loyalty to our company! Without each and every one of you there would not be an H&M Landscaping; and for that, I am greatly humbled.

*Mark Mazzurco*

Mark Mazzurco, President



Hello and a happy spring to all! The warm weather is finally making an appearance as our Northeast Ohio summer quickly approaches. It's time to start thinking about getting your yard back in shape and installing that new outdoor environment you've always wanted for your family. Our landscape team has been busy over the winter season trying to develop new processes and systems to cre-

**H&M**  
**LANDSCAPING**  
A LANDSCAPE DESIGN / BUILD FIRM  
P. O. Box 69  
Newbury, Ohio 44065  
Office 440-564-1157 / 440-729-4252  
Fax 440-564-5609  
www.hmlandscaping.com

## THE H&M INSIGHT



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR H&M TEAM MEMBERS

Jason Kenney, February 10

Mark Mazzurco, February 14

Vito Magistro, February 15

Fredy Preza, February 23

Ed Smith, February 25

Antonio Susca, February 26

Scott Rossman, February 27

Sam Kent, March 10

Mark Barker, March 21

Nathan Caywood, March 25

Miguel Murillo, April 6

Ralph Smith, April 13

Scott Wood, April 21

James Velotta, April 22

Dave Hartman, April 25

Dan Sorg, April 30

Enjoy your day!

## HOW TO CHOOSE A SERVICE PROVIDER

MARK BARKER  
BRANCH MANAGER

A well maintained landscape can make your property appear clean and well taken care of. Each customer has different needs when looking for a Landscape Company to maintain their specific property. Landscape Maintenance Contracts offer a variety of services. As a customer you can choose a basic lawn maintenance package and all the way up to a deluxe maintenance package. Depending on the company you choose the service packages will vary in the amount of services offered in the contract and pricing will also vary from company to company.

It is important to qualify any company that you may consider to maintain your property. Before you receive a quote be sure to check online to see if the company has any reviews, good or bad. Check to make sure the company is insured, with a minimum of a million dollar liability policy, which is standard in the landscape industry. It is also extremely important to check for workers compensation insurance. Checking both of these will protect you from any liability.

All customers require a different amount of attention to their property. Some customers only want their grass cut, while other customers want a company to do everything from cut their grass to clean their water feature every month. It is easier to choose a company if you are looking for a company to just cut your grass. There are a lot of companies that specifically provide grass cutting and nothing else. It is a lot more difficult to find a qualified contractor when you demand more service. The customer that wants their lawn cut, fertilized and pest applications applied. Irrigation opened up in the spring and shut down in the fall. Outdoor lighting maintenance. Water feature maintenance. Shrub pruning, bed maintenance, plant fertilization and mulch installation have a lot more to consider.

Take into account the reputation of the company. Ask for references, check for online reviews. Call the local Better Business Bureau and see what the company's rating is. Ask for a complete list of services that the company provides. It is a lot easier to deal with one company for all of your landscape needs. Consider the size of the company. Larger companies have a lot more versatility and capability than smaller companies. They tend to have more equipment and man power to get the job done properly. Ask questions about crews, equipment, employees, company history etc.

There are a lot of factors to consider when choosing a landscape company to maintain your property. Make sure you take all of your needs into consideration and be sure to consider the positives and negatives of each company that you are considering. Whatever company you choose is going to be in charge of maintaining your property for the thirty two week season. A quality company can improve the appearance of your yard in a short period of time and keep it looking its best for the entire season. On the other hand an unqualified company can let your yard fall apart in as few as one visit to your property. It is as easy as cutting your grass to short or improper pruning or fertilization of a tree or shrub. There are a lot of companies to choose from, just make sure that you due your due diligence prior to hiring the company that will maintain your property.



## SPRING CLEAN UP PREPARATIONS!

EDDIE MURILLO  
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

With spring just around the corner, it's time to start thinking about outdoor activities and curb appeal. Begin with a full winter debris and leaf removal from your lawn and bed areas. It is important to define deep edges around beds with a 3" minimum depth. Pruning of hedges, shrubs and branch trimming from overgrown trees should also be done. At this point in the season, all perennials are beginning to emerge with new growth, so protective mulch from winter should be moved away from the plant. New plant installation (or transplanting) can safely be done at this time. An application of Miracle-Gro or triple 14 plant fertilizer, prior to a new 2" mulch application, is recommended and should be done throughout all planting beds. If you would like to learn more regarding a spring cleanup or a full maintenance program, please feel free to contact us for a free consultation.

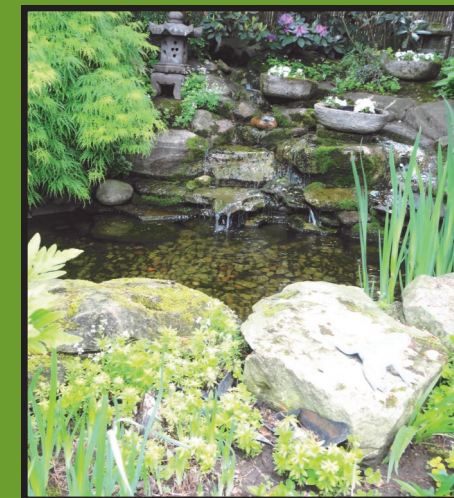


## SPRING START UP FOR YOUR WATER FEATURE

BRIAN FRANKO  
CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR

Spring is just around the corner and it's time to start thinking about getting your water feature ready for the upcoming season. Call H & M Landscaping and we will get you up and running in no time. We have the capability to handle the smallest pond-less water feature as well as grand waterfalls with ponds. We perform a thorough cleaning of your feature and an overall inspection of the area. We also look for any leaks or problems that might prevent your water feature from running smoothly all season long. H & M Landscaping can provide advice regarding chemical treatments, aquatic plant and fish life, complete

pump replacements and pond rebuilds if needed. Are you sick of having to refill your water feature every week or so? Moving water can 'over splash' the water feature's boundaries and a considerable amount of water is lost to evaporation. Utilizing your existing lawn irrigation system, we can add an Auto-Fill package that will automatically top off your water feature on a set schedule every week so you never have to worry if your pond will run dry and burn out your costly pump. Lacking that beautiful landscape to surround your water feature..... we can help with that too!



“Our goal is to rise above  
our client's highest  
expectations and deliver  
the ultimate landscape”



## DID YOU KNOW?

NICK TINIK

MAINTENANCE PRODUCTION MANAGER



- The first day of spring is called the vernal equinox. What does that stand for you ask? 'Vernal' is Latin for spring while 'equinox' is Latin for 'equal night'.
- The reason there is more daylight during the spring is the earth's axis tilts toward the sun at this time of year.
- Spring fever is not just a saying. Experts say the body's makeup changes due to different diets, hormone production and temperature.
- The first Spring flower to bloom is often the dandelion. The flower was originally from Asia and can be used as food and medicine.

- Harbor-Brookings Bench, an area located along the California/Oregon border, produces 95% of the 11 million Easter Lily bulbs each year

## CHECK OUT H&M ONLINE!



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