

WATERING YOUR LAWN IN A DROUGHT

NICK TINIK

MAINTENANCE PRODUCTION MANAGER

The topic I'm discussing today always seems to be a common question I receive from my customers. "Nick, how much water should I give my plants", "How often should I water my lawn", "Do I need to water my established trees?" I'm sure you have found yourselves asking or wondering these same questions at one time or another. So let me clarify some important common practices of being water wise.

Efficient watering practices conserve water, maintain healthy landscapes, and reduce maintenance costs. It also helps conserve energy cost which in turn helps reduce your carbon footprint and contributes to a healthy environment.

Let me start with lawns, new lawns require the most attention and care as the first growing season is the most vital to a new lawns success. New lawns should be watered 3-4 times daily in short increments maintaining a moist soil composition using a misting method or a fine spray to avoid wash away. It is also very important to avoid standing water, as this will decay the seed and prevent proper germination.

Established lawns on a regular feeding program are a little easier to maintain. A established lawn requires about 1-inch of water or rain a week preferably broke down into two ½ inch increments evenly timed apart. The best time to water a lawn is between 4a.m - 8a.m. Evaporation is low at that time, so more water get absorbed by the soil. The vegetation dries quickly once the sun rises, minimizing the risk of disease or fungus. Deep watering practices ensure grass root systems grow deep, strong, and long.



Tree and shrub watering is pretty simple as well, but is crucial to new and established plants existence. With trees and shrubs you want use a soak method; this means taking the nozzle off and just use the natural stream of the hose. With Most shrubbery, 3 minutes per plant is sufficient and it's important that you water around the tree or shrubs drip line. The drip line varies based on size of specimen. Smaller trees and shrubs. For tree's, pine and deciduous 10-15 minutes per plant is sufficient again watering around the drip line area. The frequency per week varies based on time of year and mother nature. Early spring/summer once a week is enough. The drought time of summer to early fall twice a week is recommended. And Fall once a week again is good. An easy way to test is to take a metal hanger and bend it straight, take the hanger and stick into the soil about 12 inches. When you pull the hanger out if it's dry and dusty you need water. If you pull it out and it's muddy you're over watering. If the wire will not penetrate the soil, water immediately!!

I know all of us have busy schedules this time of the year with the kids back in school activities and holiday parties. That's where the professionals here at H&M come in. There are ways to water with out having to stand there with a hose. Like irrigation systems, temporary irrigation systems, timers on the hose bib, drip hoses, and gator bags. All of which we install and service in house. If you think this may be a good option for you to protect your current investment and do your part in maintaining a clean environment, then give us call and set up a free consultation to decide the plan that's best for you. Thanks for your business and I hope everybody has a great autumn!



CONTACT US!

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

[PHONE] 440.564.1157
[FAX] 440.564.5609

SEPTEMBER 2013

H&M
LANDSCAPING
A LANDSCAPE DESIGN / BUILD FIRM

PROFESSIONAL | DEDICATED | EXPERIENCED

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Envision Your Dream Environment The H&M Landscaping Way

aside and take the time to read while I'm at home. I do make it a point to choose at least one or two books to read while I am on vacation. Most of you know I lost my father January 25th of this year. The reason I bring this point up is because one of my designer Karen Sasak bought me a book call "The Stuff My Dad Says" [THANK YOU AGAIN KAREN]. I will tell you that in the last 6-7 months every time I thought of my dad it was never with a smile, but for two hours of my life as I read through this book I laughed hysterically [many times my daughters would ask are you ok as tears rolled down my face from laughter]. It truly felt like I was back in my childhood listening to my father and his one liner jokes. As the day wore on I found myself over in a corner of the resort away from all the hustle and bustle of the kids splashing around in the pool yelling and screaming. As luck would have it there was a nice water element with a shaded cabana that I made my home for much of the vacation [at least until my kids tracked me down later in the week]. Anytime I could slip away for a couple hours and read in this secluded little slice of paradise I found myself extremely relaxed and energized

after I was finished. That's when it hit me. What my mind needed was the sound of the water filtering out the noise from the resort. I was still surrounded by children yelling and having fun, but the subtle noise of the water feature was able to drowned out that noise. I actually Googled noise on my Ipad and found that some experts consider noise a form of pollution and recommend you remove yourself from noisy environments for at least two hours per day. Noise can cause tension, anxiety and stress related illness. For those of you that have a water element in your backyard I am sure this rings true for you as well. There's nothing that energizes you more than sitting next to your own water feature, reading a book and forgetting about everything around you. Thank you to all of you who have entrusted your new outdoor environment or property maintenance to our team. For all of you that don't have a water feature in your backyard you are missing out on a slice of paradise even if it is in Cleveland, Ohio. See you in the fall!

Mark Mazzurco

Mark Mazzurco, President



RELAXATION!!!!!! I am sure that all of you reading this article at some point have said "I have had enough, I need a vacation!". I feel it is always good to recharge the batteries throughout the year. It helps you clean your mind and pull together that energy it takes to make the final push to the finish line. I recently had an opportunity to spend some time with my wife Stacey and my two daughters, Isabella and Maria, on a family vacation. Although vacationing with a 10 and 14 year old can be less than relaxing. One activity I love to do on vacation is to read. I usually don't have enough spare time during the hectic day's and weeks to pull myself

LANDSCAPING
A LANDSCAPE DESIGN / BUILD FIRM
H&M

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

Terry Mahaffey, September 1st
 Anthony Comella, September 3rd
 Neil Zelonis, September 3rd
 Jon Webb, September 8th
 Brian Franko, September 11th
 Lee Wise, September 12th
 Tyler Weil, September 13th
 Rebecca Berman, September 14th
 Karine Gomez, September 26th
 Nolan Widing, September 26th
 Todd Dyckes, September 29th
 Jude Palmer, September 30th
 Geronimo Hernandez, September 30th

Anthony Corbo, October 2nd
 Rod Knaus, October 9th
 Patrick Sarver, October 17th
 Jeff Weaver, October 18th
 Katie Shirring, October 19th
 Steve Peterson, October 21st
 Miguel Juarez, October 21st
 Mike Valentino, October 22nd
 Nick Ieash, October 24th
 Juan Urbietta, October 25th
 Mike Mazzurco, October 27th

Enjoy your day!

LAWN AERATION AND OVERSEEDING

ED SMITH
 CHEMICAL AND QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR

Lawn aeration and over seeding brings many positive benefits to your lawn. Aeration is the process of removing small plugs of grass and soil from the ground, creating new air spaces in the lawn and allowing nutrients to be absorbed closer to the root, which strengthening the root system.

Lawn aeration also helps to decrease the buildup of thatch. Thatch is the buildup of dead roots, rhizomes, and lawn clippings that have not been broken down between the surface of the soil and the layer of grass. If this buildup of thatch becomes too thick, it soaks up any moisture like a sponge and does not allow the roots to properly affix them into the soil. The root system is not able to get the necessary nutrients it needs to withstand changes in temperature and long-term good health. In addition, excessive thatch provides a breeding ground for pests like insects and grubs, which will harm the lawn even further.

Aerating your lawn in the fall allows oxygen, fertilizers, and water to penetrate into the root system, making it stronger and more resistant lawn then before. Lawn Aeration gives an excellent opportunity for lawn seedlings to develop, following lawn aeration, lawn seeding helps thicken up the turf layer and reduce weed growth. Lawns are living things. They get tired just like we do, so we need to revitalize them with over seeding.

Overseeding compensates for that natural slow down of the lawn's reproduction. You want to keep your lawn thick and lush because thin grass invites weeds. The younger grasses are stronger and more resistant to disease than those varieties already in your lawn. The best time to overseed your lawn is along with aeration. Aeration allows water and oxygen to get into the soil under your turf to keep it moist. If you overseed at that time, the seed is able to get into the small dirt holes which allow it to germinate much easier than on top of the grass.

Fall overseeding is best because the amount of moisture we get is beneficial in allowing the seed to germinate and get establish and harden off before winter. We need the roots to be strong to fight off any weeds that may be lurking about. There is usually more rain in the fall too which helps keep the moisture in the soil. Keeping the seed moist for the first two weeks after seeding is very important for strong root growth in the fall. After spreading the grass seed it should never be allowed to dry out; it must always be kept moist until you get full germination. That means watering new seed daily for at least two weeks.

Getting a jump on aeration and overseeding will have your lawn looking the best on the block this fall.

LOOKING AHEAD

MIKE MAZZURCO

Well its hard to believe that summer has come and gone so fast! I know we all don't want to think about that four letter word... SNOW! Before you know it we will be putting our snow boots on, hats on our heads and gloves on our hands so that we can tolerate the Northern Ohio winter that will be soon upon us. In preparation for this, H& M Snow Pros will be ordering in our winter products. From bags of salt, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride and blue melt-away.

At H&M we have a product that may be suitable for your business or home needs to help control the freezing and icing problems that you may incur. We can arrange delivery or you can pick up the products at our office. Please call the office and ask for pricing and delivery options that will suit your needs. Thanks again for your patronage.



DID YOU KNOW?

NICK TINIK
 MAINTENANCE PRODUCTION MANAGER

- On the first day of autumn, the sun is aligned with the center between the North and the South of the planet. On that day, the light and dark hours are exactly the same length. That's why it is called 'equinox', derived from the Latin word 'aqueous' which means equal.



- There are only two days of the year when you can stand an egg on its end, the autumn and spring equinox. To do this you will need an egg. (It does not have to be hard-boiled) Place the egg on a hard, flat surface on its largest end. Carefully pull your hands away and it should remain upright.
- Plants use sunlight to create nutrients and feed themselves, keeping their color green. As the days become shorter and plants get less sunshine, they stop producing those nutrients and display a different color. Yellow and oranges sit below the green all the time and red and brown are made from wastes and nutrients trapped in them.
- Many people suffer from allergies that are based on pollen and mold spores from plants. As the plants slow down their creation of chlorophyll they also reduce the number of spores and pollen they create. This alleviates the potential



for more severe allergy attacks. It is generally felt that the first hard frost kills the leaves completely and stops all production of spores and pollen. The ushering of the cool weather is a sign of relief for those who suffer from allergies.



“What can H&M
do for you?”

FALL IS IN THE AIR TIPS FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE

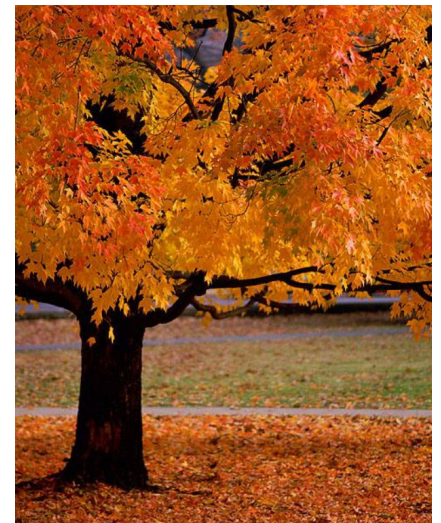
JOE MAZZURCO

PRODUCTION MANAGER

As fall approaches, we must prepare our yards for five services: lawn aerations, irrigation blow outs, fall pruning, and fall leaf clean up and snow.

- Fall aeration will promote new lawn growth, allow for fall fertilization to help strengthen root system and also help with drainage.
- Fall irrigation blow out—this process will help irrigation lines from freezing under ground; back flow preventors from having water in them and cracking, and also prevents any of the PVC pipe from cracking too.
- Fall pruning - pruning will help reduce the size of plants for spring, cut back all perennials and grasses for a clean appearance and allow for new growth for the spring.
- Fall leaf clean up - this helps give the yard and lawn a neat appearance, maintains health by not letting leaves get matted in which turns into creates bare spots.
- Finally, Snowplowing - the thought of snow in 2-3 months! Let H&M give you peace of mind during the winter months with our proven snow services!

Give H&M a call and we can set up any or all of the above services



CHECK OUT H&M ONLINE!

WWW.HMLANDSCAPING.COM
 WWW.HMSNOWPROS.COM
 AND SEARCH US ON FACEBOOK!

