



Specialists in Turfgrass and
Landscape Design

TURFGRASS & LANDSCAPE DESIGN
517-627-9669
Since 1971

Need Help?

Please review this list of services we can
provide to you.

- Fertilizing
- Weed Control
- Aerating & Seeding
- Mowing Service
- Fungus/Insect Control
- Tree & Shrub Care
- Vegetation Management
- Pruning & Trimming
- Mulching/Topdressing
- Perennial Beds
- Consulting
- Field Mowing
- Commercial Snowplowing/
Salting
- Landscape Design &
Installation

Commercial & Residential • State Certified Technicians

— (517) 627-9669 —

P.O. Box 190 • Grand Ledge, MI 48837



P.O. Box 190
Grand Ledge, MI 48837



THE GREEN
INFORMANT

TURFGRASS & LANDSCAPE DESIGN
517-627-9669
Since 1971

Specialists in Turfgrass and Landscape Design
Commercial and Residential ■ State Certified Technicians

(517) 627-9669 ■ Fax (517) 626-2645 ■ E-mail: dlblawntech@starband.net

SUMMER 2007

OFFICIALLY . . . SUMMER!

ARE YOU A WINNER?

Lawn Tech is awarding our loyal customers by sponsoring a *tree giveaway*. In each quarterly newsletter, look for your customer number in the prize box. If your customer number is posted you could win a 2" caliper Red Maple this summer, a 5' Blue Spruce this fall or a 3' Japanese Maple this winter. If your customer number is listed, call our office to confirm and your name will be entered into the drawing. Each drawing will have a deadline to call by, so be sure to read every issue. In each newsletter, *Curt's Landscaping Corner* will feature the selected tree to be given away, detailing all the features and aesthetics that are native to the species.

Congratulations to John Donahue of DeWitt for winning the 6' Juneberry this spring!

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

- Perennials
- A Miracle Weed?
- Landscaping Corner
- Plant ID

Summer is officially here, according to the calendar date, as I write this article. Although weather-wise it was here over two weeks ago. Mother Nature must have been in a bad mood coming out of her sporadic winter weather pattern. She threw at us a spring that came late and turned right into summer, some late heavy frosts, gusty windy days, and a considerable amount of moisture that was a recipe for a challenging spring start for all lawn and landscape operators. Lawn Tech and its staff worked diligently to complete the spring workload, all obstacles considered.

Many of you have had a chance to meet the technician that services your lawn and you may have noticed some new faces. Joe Peters and Will Lawson are two of the new faces that will be able to handle any of your lawn care needs. Shay Bliss is another new face in our sales arena. She will be taking care of new sales calls, assisting with landscape sales and designs, along with answering any questions you may have. Barry Smith is a new addition to our landscape division. Some customers may have already met Barry on the jobsites, and others we hope will soon! Last but not least is Kyle Grice, a new addition to our

mow division as a technician that handles our weekly mow accounts. Needless to say, much training has been going on by our foremen and we hope we have met your expectations and will continue to build a core staff to meet your lawn and landscape needs.

I would like to congratulate our spring tree winner as noted on the left. Please be sure to check the prize box in this issue for the summer tree giveaway as well as in our fall newsletter issue.

As always please do not ever hesitate to call our office to inquire with any questions you may have. Our goal is to provide quality service and communication while making it easy to do business with Lawn Tech.

With summer officially here please remember to water your lawn to ensure the service we are providing you gives you the results you are asking for!

Have a restful summer!

Dan Boak

Dan Boak
President

CURT'S LANDSCAPING CORNER

OUTDOOR LIGHTING

*Would you like to enjoy your landscape at night?
Would you like to enhance the view of your current landscape?
Do you need to add light outside your home for security?*

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, outdoor lighting is an option you need to explore. Lawn Tech can install decorative light fixtures into your landscape. Among options for outdoor lighting, it can be used to light up a pathway, to shine on a tree for accent, or to shine thru the tree for backlighting. Lawn Tech installs Vista Professional Outdoor Lighting systems. These lighting systems are high quality and come with an unbeatable warranty. If you're not sure about lighting and what it could do for your

landscape, give us a call to experience outdoor lighting at no cost. Lawn Tech will come out to your property free of charge and set up a demo kit that you can enjoy for a few days to see what outdoor lighting really is. **Totally free.** We will also include a free estimate for installation of an outdoor lighting system for your home. If you have any questions on outdoor lighting or would like us to come out and setup the demo, please give us call!

Curt Boak
Landscape Designer

PLANT ID

Acer rubrum 'Red Sunset'
Red Sunset Maple
Height: Mature Height: 40'-60' but occasionally reaches 100'-120' in the wild

The red sunset is a great shade tree to plant in a backyard, in a park or even along the street. As the leaves emerge in the spring they are reddish tinged and gradually start changing medium to dark green above with a distinct gray shade beneath. The fall color can vary from greenish yellow to yellow to brilliant red. The flowers are red, rarely yellowish. They appear mid- to late-March into April in dense clusters before the leaves.

Don't forget to see if your customer number is posted in this issue to be eligible for a chance to win 1 Red Sunset Maple planted by Lawn Tech.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN FEES:

\$500.00 — Full Landscape Design. Fee includes initial meeting, drawing and follow-up meeting to discuss details of drawing and project or revisions.

Consultation/Estimate Charge — \$45.00 per hour, one hour minimum. No charge for existing clients with a full-service program.

Visa and Mastercard are now accepted at Lawn Tech!

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, SERVICE CONTINUES FROM SEASON TO SEASON. FOR A CHANGE IN SERVICE, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE.

LANDSCAPE PROJECTS WANTED:

CALL CURT OR SHAY TODAY AT LAWN TECH TO MAKE YOUR DREAMS A REALITY.

WATERING QUICK TIPS

1. As soil becomes dry, daily watering of ½" is suggested or 1 ½" weekly. The best time to water is during the highest temperature period of the day, which is generally early afternoon. The moisture received during this high stress time will create a cooling effect for the grass plants.
2. Measuring of your watering source can be done with a rain gauge, coffee can or a tuna can. By measuring the depth of water applied, you will be able to adjust the timing up or down to get the exact amount of moisture needed.
3. Be sure your irrigation system or sprinkler is covering the lawn area uniformly.
4. Different soil types may require different water management practices. Please consult your irrigation contractor or contact Lawn Tech for additional consultation.
5. During dry periods if moisture is not received in 30 days, a watering of the lawn is recommended to ensure that the grass plant survives. Once natural rainfall occurs, combined with cooler temperatures, your lawn will naturally come out of dormancy from heat and drought stress.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR PERENNIALS

When many perennials are finished blooming, removal of the spent flower heads (commonly called "dead-heading") generally extends (and occasionally causes additional) blooming. In some plants the removal of the seed heads is highly recommended as the seeds revert to the wild forms, gradually crowding out prized cultivars. Removing spent flowers also allows the plant to spend its energy on producing healthy roots and storing energy for the winter and next spring instead of on unnecessary seeds. Many plants, such as candytuft, perennial geranium, and coreopsis, can be cut back drastically (to 4 or 6 inches) after bloom, to encourage re-blooming later in the season. Most perennials should be cut back in the fall once they have browned or been frost-killed. The removal of debris helps to minimize the spread of disease. Plants with winter interest such as perennial grasses or coneflowers are best left standing to decorate the winter landscape. Most perennials benefit from leaving up to 6" of stem and foliage to protect the crown over winter. Remaining plant debris should be removed in spring when new shoots are visible.

MIRACLE WEED?

Kevin Frank
Crop & Soil Sciences

I'm a skeptic, it's just my nature. When someone tells me about the latest miracle grass or secret lawn potion, I usually smile, listen, wish them luck, and tell them to call me when they have some research data that backs up their claim. Recently I stumbled across some interesting facts during an early morning Google episode on the web. Listen to this!

NEW MIRACLE HERB REVEALED!

This herb will reportedly when eaten as part of your daily diet:

- Prevent or cure liver diseases.
- Cleanse your skin and eliminate acne (teenagers take note!).
- Lower blood pressure.
- Reduce acid indigestion (how do you spell relief?).
- Improve bowel function (no comment necessary...).
- Assist in weight reduction!!!!!!

The best part of this story is that you don't even have to go to the local drug store to secure your supply. Just go outside and look at the sea *Taraxacum officinale*, that's right dandelions. There may truly be gold in those dandelion fields. If you're looking to control dandelions, the puff ball stage should be arriving soon and this is an effective time to try and suppress the dandelion population.

LAWN TECH PRIZE BOX

If your customer number is posted, call our office by August 31, 2007 to be entered into the drawing for your chance to win one 2" Caliper Red Maple. Customer numbers:

4865 1011 1709 4863 4515 5170 2860 2652 5508
4433 1093 5335 1178 3425 1603 5155 4608 5151
4954 5230 3957 4946 3379 4679 1904 4964 2434
1604 5095 5089 3592 2468 3684 4161 3874 3411
4259 4690 4475 4570 4458 5098 3603 4738 3796
5075 4457 2211 2471 4733 5083 5552 3550 5570
4232 4712 4254 4114 4409 5197 1669 5314 4808
2882 5243 2043 2314 1179 3267 4918 4503 5283