

Chores This Month

- ⇒ Prepare Lawns for Overseeding (It's Time!)
- ⇒ Aerate, Overseed and Fertilize Fescue / Bermuda Lawns
- ⇒ Trim shrubs such as Crape myrtle for additional blooms
- ⇒ Prepare beds for Fall and Winter Color (Floriculture Program)
- ⇒ Cut Back Perennials
- ⇒ Mow, Edge and Trim All Turf Areas
- ⇒ Pull / Spray Weeds in Beds
- ⇒ Trim Upright and Standard Hollies
- ⇒ Scout for Landscape Insects such as Lace Bug on Azalea
- ⇒ Check Watering Schedules for adequate moisture
- ⇒ Plant New Shrubs and Perennials
- ⇒ Install Landscape Lighting

Volume 4, Issue 9

September 2003

Landscaping Has Come a Long Way

In recent years landscaping for the property owner has taken on a whole new meaning.

People have learned that landscaping can add to the value of a home or business, dramatically increase living space, and contribute greatly to an improved home lifestyle or general well being for workers.

Some common questions are: **Q. I once read that kitchen remodeling often makes sense because when you sell your home you'll get back most of what you spent. Does landscaping work the same way?**

A. Depending on the project, landscaping can have a dramatic impact on the resale value. For projects that focus on the front yard and, especially, the area around the front door, it's possible to increase the value of the home by even more than the cost of the project. If the resale value is a priority, make sure you work with someone who can help you focus on features that impact the resale value the most.

You may have talked to neighbors or friends that spent over \$25,000 on a landscape project. Q. Does landscaping typically cost that much?

A. One of the wonderful things about landscaping is that you can do it on whatever scale makes sense to you. The best solution is to break the job down into phases. You might do part this fall, more in the winter or spring and another chunk next summer.

The key is to have an overall plan so that each of these phases fits well with the others.

Planning and Design

Greenkeeper's can help you integrate all kinds of practical and esthetic considerations into an overall plan that achieves the effects that are most important to you. Whether you want to attract birds or create a fanciful outdoor recreation area for the grandchildren, landscape designers can help you put it all together so that it really works together.

Greenkeeper's can help you work within a budget and implement the plan in stages spread out over several seasons. (Many homeowners who do their own landscaping end up redoing parts of it time and time again, trying to create the right look without creating a maintenance nightmare.) Greenkeeper's can help you develop an approach that doesn't waste your time and money.

The design staff at Greenkeeper's has years of experience and has studied landscaping from every angle over a long period of time. We are in the best position to help you juggle thousands of variables to end up with the ideal plan for you. Even if you decide to formulate a plan on your own, have us review your ideas before you begin moving dirt around or buying expensive plants.

Want to know more about landscaping on your property? Call Randal Wise at 234-3810 for expert advice.

Care Instructions for Overseeded Lawns

Or... How to Water Properly (Please keep these instructions as a reference)

Your Part In A Successfully Overseeded Lawn.

It is your responsibility to keep your newly seeded lawn watered properly. We are not responsible for the performance of seed or grass that has not had adequate water as outlined below. We do not guarantee the performance of seed that has not been cared for by the owner or property manager. The only reason to skip a watering day is adequate natural rainfall. Adequate rainfall would consist of at least 1/2 inch measured in your rain gauge at your location. Don't trust weather reports since rainfall measurements (which take place at Tulsa International Airport) could be inaccurate for your specific locality.

Watering Week One and Two: It is imperative that the upper layer of soil containing the new seed be kept moist or damp during germination. Germination usually takes 10 days to 2 weeks. We suggest that you water all newly seeded areas 7-10 minutes, twice per day. If this cannot be done, we suggest watering 10-15 minutes, once per day instead. Don't stop watering!

Watering Week Three: At this stage the young grass plants are very vulnerable to drying conditions. It is imperative that your new lawn gets water every day. **The Best hour to to begin watering is 4-5 AM.** We suggest 10-15 min., once per day. High winds and very dry conditions suggest that you water slightly longer or twice per day. Don't stop watering! (First cutting may take place this week.)

Week Four and After:

Grass plants are immature at this stage requiring water less often but watering should be deeper to encourage roots to grow as deep as possible. **The Best hour to water is 4-5 AM.** Please, Don't stop watering!

We suggest watering 15-20 minutes or up to 25 minutes 3-5 days per week depending on your site conditions. We will help you with these specifics if you desire.

After week four, 3 days per week should be adequate if conditions are not too hot and dry. Water more if necessary. Don't let the grass dry out or it will die. Water through the winter months too. 1-2 times per week in the winter should be adequate.

GLI's Overseeding Procedure Understood (Happening in your yard in September)

The Green Resource is a monthly publication and is published by Greenkeeper's Landscapes, Inc. for its clients and friends in Northeast Oklahoma and around the world.

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The Greenkeeper's Procedure
Our plan for overseeding yards is one that requires specific steps and timing so you end up with a beautiful green lawn. The best results are realized by starting in the beginning of September.

Step one is a Core Aeration that aerates your lawn to allow air and water to cycle in and out of your soil. This job also provides for the best seed/soil contact and improves germination.

Step two is Seeding your lawn with a high quality Turf Type Tall Fescue seed. We have used the transition blend Fescue seed from Lesco for over 4 years and find it to be the best

we have every used. (Lesco is the largest grower of fine Fescue seed in the world.)

Step three is to Fertilize your newly seeded and aerated lawn with a starter fertilizer providing just the right nutrients to begin germination and the initial growth phase.

Step four is to return after approximately 30 days to reseed any areas that are not up to our standards for plant population per square foot.

Step five is to Fertilize your turf again approximately 45 days after the first fertilizing visit. This job provides the best level of nutrients to keep the new young grass green and healthy throughout the winter months.