



LATE WINTER NEWSLETTER 2009

Hello everyone! We have had more snow than usual this winter. It looks beautiful. For those of us born in the south, it's such a welcome respite to see a rare blanket of snow on the ground. It provides moisture for our landscapes too. So bundle up, grab some hot cocoa, and enjoy the AA Tex Lawn Newsletter!



What Does a Landscaper do in the winter???

Warm season grasses are dormant during the winter. Even cool season grasses do not grow as quickly in these cold months, so mowing does not need to be done as often. This winter, particularly, has been very wet. Mowing too much might pull out the tender new growth from the overseeding that was done in the fall.

Even if not mowing, our crews are on-site weekly to pick up debris, remove leaves as necessary, pick up gumballs (those annoying, spikey fruits of the American Sweetgum tree), etc. We will be spraying for winter weeds like chickweed and henbit. It's also the time to trim ornamental grasses like pampas grass and liriope. Depending on your contract, we will be taking care of these services for you.

More on Leaf Removal

Our leaf removal season is over. We were asked some questions on leaf removal, though, so we wanted to explain our process. For most properties, we do not remove leaves every week. One week we may blow them into the natural areas to help insulate. Then we may vacuum the leaves the following week. It all comes down to balancing our time and equipment with your community's specific needs to provide the best value for your money.

Feed your Trees!

Now is the time to make sure your trees have the nutrients they need for a good growing season. Deep root feeding is a process by which we inject fertilizer directly into the root zone. It not only puts the product at the root zone (where it is most effective) but also aerifies the soil and stimulates root growth. This is a standard process for tree care, but we have adopted it to use on ornamental trees

and shrubs, too. Contact our office and we will be happy to take care of this service for you.

Get Ready (or what's coming up)....

In the next couple of months, we will be:

- Applying the first application of pre-emergent to green up your turf
- Starting up irrigation systems to be ready for the spring growing season
- Dormant pruning: Crape Myrtle shaping, directional pruning, on-going tree pruning, elevations, etc.
- Systemic insecticide application in crape myrtles, roses and some azaleas to prevent Japanese beetles and other pests from decimating your flowering shrubs



What's NEW with AA Tex Lawn

Training is paramount in these slower growth months. Mark, Cory, and Billy recently attended the NC Cooperative Extension 2009 Landscape Seminar. Topics included: Weed and Insect Management in Ornamentals, Turf Management updates, and Pesticide Safety. Our irrigation specialist, Justin, attended a Carolina Irrigation Association sponsored Field Hydraulics class for irrigation system installation and maintenance.



AA Tex Lawn will have a display at the 49th annual Southern Spring Home and Garden Show. The Show runs from March 4th to March 8th at the Charlotte Merchandise Mart. To find out more information, go to the following webpage:

<http://www.southernshows.com/sss/>

Winter is also a good time to plan for success in the coming year. We have been servicing our equipment to maintain a safe environment for our workers and customers. We are holding planning meetings to help with productivity and follow-through. Our goal is always to empower our customers and team members to grow and prosper.