

## LAWN HEALTH - Programs

### Fertilizer & Weed Control

#### **Guaranteed weed control with Premium and Standard Programs**

We carefully select the highest quality fertilizer and weed control products that will build disease resistance and create a healthy, thick turf. As certified professionals, you expect us to do what's best for your lawn, and that's just what we do!

After great results last year, we will again be adding our Rettmann Lawn Service proprietary formula of humic acids and bio stimulants to the Premium, Standard and Budget applications. This will help your lawn recover from the last 3 years of drought. This formula makes the nutrients, oxygen and moisture more available to the grass. It's also a great way to improve the soil over time, which also results in a healthier and better-looking lawn!

**If seeding is planned in Spring or Fall, please let us know so we can modify our applications accordingly.**

#### **A) Premium Fertilizer Program (5 application program)**

- Early Spring: Crabgrass pre-emergent and slow-release fertilizer is applied to the entire lawn. Generally, this may be before weeds emerge. Broadleaf weeds will be treated if they are present. (Dandelions, Creeping Charlie)
- Spring: Crabgrass pre-emergent is applied again, with slow-release fertilizer. Lawn is blanket sprayed with broadleaf weed control to eliminate the weeds that are present. Creeping Charlie is most effectively eliminated during spring bloom.
- Early Summer: Premium high potassium and iron, slow-release fertilizer is applied for premium color, density, and resistance to disease and drought.
- Summer: Crabgrass, and all those obnoxious summer weeds are spot sprayed. (Weeds can be somewhat resistant in mid-summertime). Slow-release fertilizer is applied.
- Fall: Slow-release fertilizer is applied for good root growth. Weeds are sprayed. Fall is the best time to get control of the perennial weeds. (i.e. persistent Creeping Charlie)

#### **B) Standard Fertilizer Program (4 application program)**

- This includes Early Spring, Spring, Summer and Fall applications as above.

#### **C) Budget Fertilizer Program (2 application program)**

- Spring and Fall fertilizer applications as described above. The crabgrass is treated in Spring and broadleaf weeds are treated twice in the year, but annual weeds that germinate in late spring and summer will still exist.

### Organic Fertilizer – 2 options

#### **Strictly Organic**

This would include the humic acid liquid organic fertilizer that we have used for many years. We also apply lime in the spring to optimize the organic applications throughout the season. This program does not have any guarantees for weed control. However, as your lawn gets healthier, it can crowd out the weeds on its own. For best results, we apply 5 applications throughout the growing season. Applications are done in a series of 3 apps in Spring and 2 in the fall at 2-3 week intervals to achieve the best results.

#### **Modified Organic**

We start with the Early Spring application from the Premium Program above, which includes crabgrass pre-emergent, broadleaf weed control and slow-release fertilizer. The program then continues with 4 organic fertilizer applications for the rest of the season. There may be some summer weeds, and we can spot treat or blanket spray if there are some serious weed issues that you want to eliminate.

This method takes advantage of the optimal early springtime for application of chemicals, effective for preventing a lot of problem weeds. With this program, you can feel good about choosing organic products, but you don't have to give up weed control. The modifications are helpful for transitioning to an organic lawn, or for keeping crabgrass and some weeds at bay.

*It may take a full season or two to see the difference that organic fertilizers can make in the health of your lawn.*

## Mosquito & Tick Repellant – 6 application program

ALL NATURAL, garlic-based solution that kills, and keeps mosquitos and ticks away. DOES NOT HARM kids, pets, bees, butterflies, pollinators, or the environment. *So, you and the bees and butterflies can actually enjoy your yard all summer long!*

Applied approximately every 3-4 weeks, starting mid-May. The spray kills the majority of mosquitos and larvae that are already in your yard, and it also creates a barrier for any that are trying to get in. Then every 3-4 weeks, we spray again, killing any remaining mosquitos or ticks, ensuring a pest free summer.

Satisfaction guaranteed with full season program! We will re-treat if an application was not effective.

## LAWN HEALTH – Ala Carte

### Lime Application

When soil becomes too acidic, lawn grasses struggle. Weeds or moss, which flourish in acidic soil take their place. Lawn diseases and insect pests also prefer acidic soil. Low pH can also inhibit the effectiveness of fertilizers and some herbicides.

Lime is a powdered calcium applied to the lawn to raise the pH which will improve the lawn’s vitality.

The pH adjustment prevents dog urine spots, helps grass seed germinate. Typically done once per season.

### Core Aeration with Overseed, Starter Fertilizer & Moisture Manager

This process can be used to restore a lawn, and it is also a great way to thicken the lawn, or to introduce new grass types that are more drought tolerant. A healthy, thick lawn can crowd weeds out and reduce the need for chemicals to control the weeds. One application of Moisture Manager is included with this project, to draw moisture to the root zone for better germination and to provide the new seedlings with consistent access to water.

Plan ahead for adequate watering. Normally a lawn should be watered deeply but infrequently, however, when you are watering new grass seed, you must water every day, and possibly twice a day to keep it moist at **all times**. If you don’t have an inground sprinkler system, we recommend oscillating sprinklers. Hand watering or hose end sprayers are not recommended. We have also seen the best success by using a timer on the faucet, and a splitter that will run 2 hoses/sprinklers at the same time. This is inexpensive but an essential investment in the success of the project. Expect your water bill to increase for this season.

Recommended in spring for shady lawns, fall for sunny lawns. Dormant seeding is also an option for any lawn, done in late fall for germination in early spring.

### Core Aeration

Aeration is recommended annually for clay soil and every other year for sandy soil. Plugs of soil and thatch are pulled out of the turf and left on the surface. This increases nutrient and water penetration, and soil/air exchange as well as reducing compaction. Roots can grow deeper. Lawns become thicker and more resistant to disease, drought, & stress. Almost all lawns benefit from this. Great lawns demand it! This is typically done in early fall.

### Microbial Aeration

Microbial aeration is a ***new technology in the Green Industry that uses microbes to aerate the soil under your turf without disturbing the surface of the lawn.*** The product is a concentrated consumable carbon food source for soil microbes. The effect lasts longer & goes deeper into the root zone than mechanical core aeration. This option is ideal for lawns with sprinkler systems, invisible fencing, etc. where the mechanical core aeration would not be desirable. For a Premium lawn, we recommend microbial aeration in the spring, and mechanical core aeration in the fall.

### Moisture Manager

After several drought periods in the past years, we recommend Moisture Manager applications to help the lawns thrive, and to **reduce the need for so much watering**. Moisture Manager attracts moisture like a magnet and provides the roots with beneficial moisture. This product helps maintain ideal moisture levels between periods of rain and drought, and prevents irregular moisture areas in the lawn (soggy areas, dry patches). Proven to reduce plant water consumption by as much as 50%. This product is applied twice per season. Healthier grass, less water, lower water bills! It’s a Win-Win-Win situation!

## Grub Prevention

Grubs have the potential to destroy all or parts of your lawn. They are part of the annual lifecycle of the Japanese Beetle and other beetles. Every year, the life cycle starts over, so preventative treatments **need to be done annually**. The prevention is much less costly than the restoration that would be needed after the damage is done.

Unfortunately, we can't keep the adult beetles from flying into your yard, and it's hard to predict which lawns they will use to lay their eggs. The key to controlling grubs is to stop the life cycle of the insects, by killing the eggs before they hatch into little grubs which cause damage to your lawn. The grubs pass through the root zone of the turf and eat away at the roots of the grass plants. This damage can cause your lawn to die in spots, or even large areas. Seeding or sodding may become necessary to restore the lawn.

**Preventative** grub control is applied in the spring or early summer. **Bee friendly!**

Treatments are also available for active grub infestations. (*Unfortunately, this is not a bee friendly product*) It's important to keep an eye on any sudden changes that appear in your lawn. The key is early diagnosis.

## Mole Scram

Moles do like to eat grubs, but their main diet is earthworms. So, while grub prevention is good for your lawn, it isn't always effective in controlling moles because it doesn't eliminate their main food source.

The Mole Scram application uses a **natural deterrent** to drive them out of your yard. This application needs to be watered in. Once moles are eliminated, monthly applications around the perimeter are recommended to keep them out. We do not offer trapping services.

## LAWN & LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

### Power Edging

Power edging is a great way to **enhance the look of the lawn**, using a metal blade to cut a crisp edge, and create a manicured look where turf meets hard surfaces. This makes edge to edge snow removal easier also because your equipment does not get caught on the grass overhanging your sidewalk areas. Recommended twice per season or more.

### Preventative Weed Control in Beds

This is a granular application that provides weed prevention in your landscaped areas and blocks the weeds for up to 3 months. Spring application is recommended, after the perennials have emerged. It can also be applied any time during the season after weeding to prevent additional weeds from growing.

Starting at \$99 per application (includes up to 900 square feet of landscape area).

If you have mulch in your landscaped areas, adding a layer of mulch annually is also recommended as a barrier to weeds and it will enhance the beauty of your yard as well! A mulch layer of 3" is recommended. Contact us for a quote.

### Shrub Pruning and Shaping

**Pruning** is the measured removal of parts (branches, stems) from plants. It isn't done just for shape and style; pruning helps to manage the growth and structure of shrubs and trees.

- Pruning will remove dead, diseased or damaged stems and branches to encourage the development of new and healthy growth. Pruning discourages pests and diseases by keeping the plant interior open to light and air movement.
- Prevents injuries or property damage caused by dead branches falling.
- Helps protect your investment in your landscape!