



A Green Note

April, 2016

Season Kick Off

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Welcome Spring!

The weather this year has had the wackiest patterns in a long time. Typically it is time to start fertilizing when the weather gets above 50 degrees. We got there very early this year. However this Lawn Guy program starts in April, and that is when I am comfortable that the weather will keep getting consistently warmer. Slowly but surely your lawn is coming **out of hibernation** and is getting ready to spend time with you.

How does the grass grow in the spring? Simply put UP..... Obviously. The roots, they grow DOWN. This seems logical. However in the fall the roots grow horizontally, which is why it is better to seed in the fall. The roots of the grass spread out for a thicker turf. This helps in getting ready for the following season.



What is your soil's pH? The ideal pH for soil is 7. Soil acidity is probably the single most important factor affecting the chemistry and biology of the soil. Root growth, nutrient availability and microbial activity are effected by pH. If you are not on our organic fertilizing program, but would like to know what you soil's pH is, give us a call and we can perform an onsite test, free of charge. We will recommend an amendment if needed.

Mowing practices at the beginning of the season—the first cut should be at 2 1/2" and increase the mowing deck 1/2" every other cut until the deck blade is at 3 1/2". Mow at 3 1/2" throughout the season.

ALWAYS return grass clippings to the yard. This acts as a top dressing and nitrogen is returned back into the soil. This is very good for your lawn. Nitrogen = GREEN.

Got dandelions? Dandelions equals a lack of calcium in your soil. This season we will hand pluck those yellow headed friends from your lawn. However, we will also amend with gypsum to balance out the calcium in the soil. This is not an over night fix. It will take at least three years to see a different in your lawn.

Neighbors have dandelions? Give them our name and number so we can help them, which will in turn help control the population in your lawn. Plus a referral will get you a discount on your next service! 610-762-6127

Native Plant Source: Edge of the Woods Nursery 2415 Route 100, Drefield www.edgeofthewoodsnursery.com

Classes and workshops coming up:

Getting started with Native Plants: April 30

Native Plant Garden Tour: May 15

Tree Care for the Modern World: June 11

Nursery and Garden Tours:

Tuesdays at 10:00AM , all season

Third Thursday at 6:30PM, April—June

Featured Plant: Lonicera sempervirens (Coral or Trumpet Honeysuckle)

Habitat: Vine

Duration: Perennial

Height: 15-20'

Bloom Time: March—June

Enjoy the benefits: Attracts birds, butterflies and hummingbirds. Special value to bees!



Featured Friend: Willow Haven Farm, 7686 Herber Road, New Tripoli www.willowhavenfarm.com

Looking for a CSA, but don't want to commit to the cost upfront or the amount of food on a weekly basis? Check out Willow Haven Farm in New Tripoli! Their Saturday market is from 11AM—1PM. Enjoy fresh, homemade pizza straight out of the brick oven, made by Farmer DeMaster himself. Unique and delish ingredients every time! This family owned and run farm is a great place to see where our food comes from. One of their children will be happy to show you the vegetable fields, hogs, chickens or other animals they have on the farm. Tell them The #1 Lawn Guy sent you!