

From your lawn care company

SPECIAL LAWN CARE UPDATE

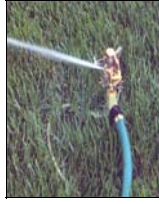
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR LAWN

Inside you will learn about...



Mowing & Watering

Many undervalue the importance. Doing it right can make all the difference.



FUNGUS?

Strange circles, patches and spots could be one of many potentially lawn damaging diseases. These discolored areas can also show up in stressed, dry turf and/or after mowing or any activity.



- Information on Important services to consider now.
- Find out how to get 1/2 off your next application.

AARON'S GREENSCAPE, INC.
THE WAY IT SHOULD BE

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FROM: AARON'S DESK

We feed the lawn, kill the weeds and treat pest problems, you mow and water it. Together we share the job of Greenskeeper on your property. The information on watering and mowing is invaluable in getting the most out of your lawn. Proper mowing and watering (cultural practices) will reduce stress—if a lawn is just trying to survive, it can't thrive. **IT'S AMAZING — Just using a sharp blade at the right height and not cutting off more than 1/3 at a time can make a big impact on how beautiful your lawn will look**, and how well it will resist fungus and other problems. (See info inside on mowing and watering.) Even if we have been getting rain pretty regularly we still need to fill in the gaps and get ready for the more drier time. **Just watering heavy once or twice a week during drier times will make a noticeable difference. Be ready to fill in the gap—if your lawn hasn't received an inch of rain in the past week, it's time to water.** (See info inside on mowing and watering.)

Don't forget to set up for your Preventive Grub Treatment. It's very reasonable—about the price of a standard fertilizer application. We prevent Grubs by applying this product around the time eggs are laid, keeping grub problems away for a year.

The Realtors of America note that a nicely maintained lawn and landscape contribute 15-20% to your property value. Some of you may have trees that are the center piece to your yard, or are irreplaceable, so don't forget about them. Japanese Beetles are coming soon. If you have Linden, Birch, Crabapple, any fruit trees, roses or other plants they love to eat, we have a program to help. These treatments also treat common fungus problems like black spot on roses and apple scab (a disease that causes early leaf drop) on apple and Crabapple trees. We can diagnose tree problems and prescribe treatments and/or injections to keep your investment strong and healthy, big or small.

We appreciate the trust you give us every day by inviting us to work with you servicing your lawn and landscape. We want you to get the most out of your investment, so if you have any questions, please call 28-AARON, or visit aaronsgreenscape.com

Sincerely,

Aaron

IT'S TIME TO KEEP IT GREEN

GRUB / INSECT PREVENTATIVE (Lawn Insurance)

A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE

LESS THAN DO IT YOURSELF PRICES

GRUB / INSECT PREVENTATIVE—Safer Technology



Avoid the cost of Grubs.

Large sections of grass can die quickly due to the roots being eaten, so preventing the damage is key. This treatment is very affordable, and less toxic and costly compared to treating and fixing damage that has already occurred. Grub / Insect preventative can ensure that your lawn won't have problems in the next year, and also give your lawn the edge. **Only one treatment is needed and lasts all season (goes down with your Round 2 or 3 fertilizer treatment), being put down in a combination product we can save cost on the application process. This usually is less than what you would buy in a retail store.** This newer technology is safer—tricking grubs into their next life cycle before they're ready.



Grub

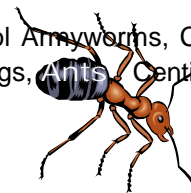
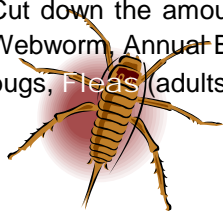
By targeting grubs and insects, earthworms and many beneficial insects are not harmed.

Insects Controlled Include: Grub Larvae, or the grub stage of Japanese Beetle, Asiatic Garden Beetle, Green June Beetle, Black Turfgrass Ataenius, Chafer, Crane Fly Larva, Mole Crickets, Billbugs, Chinch Bugs, Cutworms, and Sod Webworms.

Broadspectrum Surface Insect Control

Control Fleas, Ants, Ticks and many more pesky insects

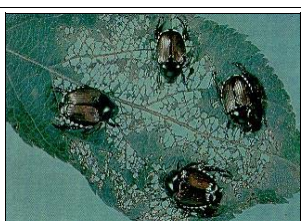
Cut down the amount of pests you have to put up with this summer season. This will control Armyworms, Cutworms, Sod Webworm, Annual Bluegrass Weevil, Billbugs, Black Turfgrass Ataenius, Leafhoppers, Mealy Bugs, Ants, Centipedes, Chinch bugs, Fleas (adults and larva), Fire Ants, Millipedes, Mole Cricket, and Ticks.



Tree / Shrub Insect and Disease Control



Apple Scab (fungus)



Japanese Beetles Feeding

Keep Insects and Disease under control. We apply three to five applications of a foliar spray to control problems all season long. Insects and disease can create severe damage for landscape plantings, especially Crabapple, Hawthorn, Linden, Birch and many others. Treatments are applied from after bud break to mid to late summer. This controls and / or prevents insects such as **Japanese Beetle**, Tent Caterpillar, Saw Fly and Gypsy Moth Larvae. Diseases such as Powdery Mildew, Black Spot, **Apple Scab**, and many rusts.

Do your Crabapples lose their leaves early? Do you have Japanese Beetles feeding on your trees and shrubs?

Can your lawn help pay for itself?

We select 4 lawns a month to display our sign. If selected, you will receive half off an application. Coupons in the info box will identify your account to our office and qualify you to get 15% off your next aeration for each new customer who signs up. You can take up to 100% off.

If you think your lawn has what it takes to be a display lawn let us know.



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FUNGUS—STRANGE SPOTS, PATCHES, AND CIRCLES?

It's that time of year when we see damage from fungus / disease.



Light disease damage—
High heat and traffic contribute to stressful conditions, making fungus more evident.



Moderate damage—Most of the time damage will fill in without long term damage. Organic fertilizer steps help suppress this level of damage and a fungicide may be needed. **Note—**lawn mowing has aggravated and spread fungus damage.



Severe Damage—This needs to be stopped with a fungicide. Organic fertilizer along with soil conditioning services, aeration, and new, more disease tolerant cultivars (grass) will reduce future damage.

Summer Patch, Necrotic Ring Spot and Brown Patch are root born diseases that make circles and frog eye shapes. Almost every lawn has had or does have these problems. These diseases are most evident in times of stress. Conditions are favorable when it's dry and hot intermixed with humidity. **Conditions such as excessive thatch, poor soil, sod installed over poorly prepared site and poor cultural practices (mowing and watering) can give these fungus problems all they will need to do serious damage.** In most cases, light to moderately damaged areas will recover with minimum long term damage. In severe cases, Fungicide treatments may be needed to stop the damage from getting worse and rescue the rest of the lawn from infection. Treating light to moderately damaged lawns with a special organic fertilizer and aeration, suppresses disease by balancing out soil problems naturally, and is a very cost effective and environmentally friendly long term option. **If you have any questions, please call (815) 282-2766 or visit www.aaronsgreenscape.com**

Our Website has lots more information and pictures on fixing this problem. Visit the Expert Center at

<http://www.aaronsgreenscape.com/page/guidefungus>

If you have any other questions, check out the "Lawn Talk" link from the Illinois Extension Office website.

FUNGUS AND DISEASE CONTROL

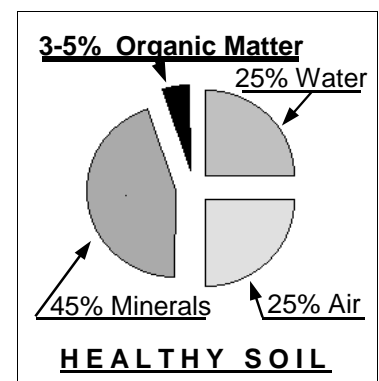
Stop fungus and disease from destroying your lawn

Lawns that have problems with circles and spots caused by fungus can be controlled. The most common signs are partial or complete circles with more healthy looking grass in the center. Lawns that have problems with diseases are treated two to four times, every three to five weeks. With proper cultural practices, your lawn can improve. Diseases controlled Include: Anthracnose, Dollar Spot, Large **Brown Patch**, **Summer Patch**, Fusarium Blight, **Necrotic Ring Spot**, and many more.

ORGANIC FERTILIZER

Healthy Soil = Beautiful Lawn

Soil is more important to the overall health of your lawn than any other variable. It has been proven time and time again that **organics suppress fungus and stimulate healthy micro-organisms.** By accelerating and stimulating microbial life (the life blood of rich soil), you can **reduce thatch maintenance, increase drought tolerance, and insure better long-term health.** Getting your soil closer to the optimum organic state will make a lasting difference. (More information at aaronsgreenscape.com)



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Mowing

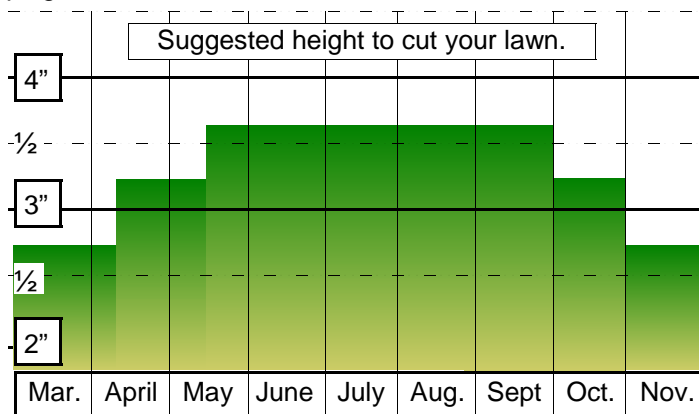


Many people underestimate the importance of mowing. A lawn that is mowed with sharp blades, at the right height, and at the right times, will actually resist weeds and fungus, and keep its color longer. Proper mowing will help keep the lawn looking better in hot conditions. The key is sharpening and adjusting your blades as the season progresses, so you can achieve your goal of a healthy green lawn. **The quote "God is in the details" couldn't be more correct.**

Directions

With a **sharp blade** cut your lawn 3–3½ inches most of the time. In hotter, dryer times (June, July, August), 3 ½" or higher may be needed to prolong health and color. In the early spring and late fall, 2½ - 3" is fine. **Always cut with a sharp blade and don't cut more than 1/3 off at a time.** That means most people will have to sharpen at least 4 times a season and may have to cut more than 2 times a week during wetter times. The first and last cut of the season should be cut low, and bag the clippings.

Why ? Just like a camel stores water in its hump, leaving your grass longer in hot, stressful weather enables it to store water and nutrients. Cutting your lawn longer actually slows the growth. It also shades the crown. Cutting off more than 1/3 of the blade will shock the crown. With no top growth and photosynthesis to balance the roots, fungus and die back will follow. Grass with ragged edges looks dingy, takes up more surface area, loses water quicker, and heals slower than a nice sharp cut. A doctor uses a sharp scalpel so you heal quickly and don't get disease, it's the same for your lawn.



Always use a ruler. Don't trust the marks on your lawnmower deck!



Watering



Watering consistently is the best. Even just watering when needed is O.K. if you pay attention to the weather. **Make sure the saying "too little too late" doesn't apply to you.**

Directions

Water heavily two to three days a week. Water your lawn in the AM HOURS (12A.M. TO 12P.M.), 60 minutes or more per zone. 1 to 1-1/2 inches a week is needed during periods of no rain. **Do not wait until the lawn looks like it needs water. Do not water in the evening (specifically 3-9 p.m.).** This will help promote fungus by extending the time the lawn stays damp. If you don't have time in the morning, then you can pick up a timer that attaches to your garden hose. If you have to, watering after dark is better than not at all.



A.M. – Good To Water



P.M. – Do Not Water

Why ? Watering lightly in shorter intervals weakens the grass because the roots do not search out water, enabling the grass to better deal with extreme periods of weather. Watering after your lawn looks like it needs it will take much more water and effort to get it back to normal, because it has already been damaged. Your lawn, just like all organisms, is doing a balancing act. It has to resist diseases and insects that are attacking constantly. By watering in the evening, you extend the time your lawn sits damp. This gives disease pathogens (fungus) already in your lawn an ideal environment. Also, watering is what activates and circulates the weed control. Without it, you will not get good weed control and the lawn will be stressed.

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