

Inside Out

Landscaping & Renovations

LANDSCAPING NEWSLETTER: April 2017

Hello, and Happy Spring!

We'll try this again...It looks like we are finally done with the snow for the year and Spring is on it's way! We put together this newsletter to get you prepared for your up coming Spring Cleaning. Please take a look at the following articles and let us know if you would like to add anything to your Spring Clean-Up Services. It won't be much longer until the ground dries and we are able to start landscaping.

See you in the garden.

Sincerely,

Christine

NOTE: -We are starting our Pond & Water Garden Clean-Outs this week, and we will start Lawn and Garden Clean-Ups as soon as the ground dries out well and the snow is gone.

SPRING BULBS!

Are you excited to see your Spring Bulbs come up this year? It's something we look forward to each season. The varying displays of colour popping up out of the ground, even when the grass is still brown and the buds on the trees have yet to emerge. It's really a treat for the senses after the long dreary, cold winter! If you didn't have us install your bulbs last fall, send us a message to book them this season. Come Spring, you will not regret it!



GARDEN CLEAN-UP

Your garden clean-up is essential for getting your garden ready for the season. Here are the important items that we will get done for you:

1. Cut back perennials, grasses and herbaceous plants that were not done in the fall.
2. Pick up leaves and dead plant material.
3. Weed. Weeds can start popping up early spring and we will ensure they are removed.
4. Prune. Most flowering shrubs flower from old wood, meaning if you prune them in Spring they will not flower that season. We carefully prune non-flowering shrubs so they are ready for the season.
5. Testing and Amending your soil. Spring is a great time to test soil for acidity. Some plants like Azaleas need really acidic soil, while others need more alkaline soil. We can test your soil and amend it for your specific plant needs.
6. Fertilizing. This is a great time of the year to fertilize your perennials and add some more organic material to your soil. We highly recommend amending your soil at this time of the year because it will give your plants the nutrients they need throughout the season.

7. Dividing and Transplanting your plants. If plants are too crowded and overgrown, or you just want to move them to a new location, this is a great time of the year to do so. The weather is cool enough so that they won't get too stressed, and if they are divided early enough they will come back and look good for the season. We can recommend transplant options during your clean-up.
8. Edging. We like to start the season off right by edging your gardens. It gives them a fresh clean look and it clearly separates them from the surrounding landscape.
9. Mulching. We highly recommend mulching. This makes a huge improvement to the health of your plants over the course of the summer. First, it minimizes weeds by about 80%, which is a lot less maintenance over the course of the summer, it also protects against drought and will prevent your plants from drying out through the hot summer days, and it insulates your plants through the heat and the cold weather. Overall, adding mulch to your garden will increase your plant sizes 30-40% and that means more beautiful and lush gardens all summer long!

POND & WATER FEATURE CLEAN-UP

Your pond or water feature requires a thorough cleaning every Spring. It is very important that it is done right correctly to ensure the health and safety of your plants, fish and structure of your pond. Ponds must be emptied and pressure washed to remove any toxic debris that has built up over the winter, plants should be cut back, fish examined, and pumps and filters require reinstallation. Here are the important steps that need to be done to Spring Clean your pond:

- transfer fish into covered, salt water holding tanks
- inspect fish for stress, damage, disease
- drain water feature
- remove leaves and dead plant material
- pressure wash and flush
- fertilize and divide aquatic plants if necessary
- fix low edges and hide exposed liner
- change underwater light bulbs and hide electrical cords
- install longen, pumps and filters
- refill water
- add water treatments
- acclimatize and return fish back to pond



For a more extensive description please check out the following article:

<http://insideoutlandreno.com/data/SpringPondCleanUp.pdf>

SPRING LAWN CARE TIPS

There is so much information out there on maintaining your lawn for the season. Here are the most important things you need to know to get your lawn set up to have a great summer. Here are the basics on what you need to do:

Dethatching It's a good idea to dethatch and rake to clean up dead grass, leaves and other material. It leaves room for to new grass to grow in and flourish

Aerating You don't need to aerate every season however it should be done every couple years to help

stimulate root growth and get oxygen to the plant roots

Corn Gluten It is your best defence against crab grass. This is a pre-emergent herbicide that creates a barrier over your lawn to prevent the crab grass seeds from growing. If you've dealt with crabgrass before, the actual plant will die over the winter, however the seeds will still survive. If you prevent them from germinating you will have a lawn free of these pesky weeds.

Fertilizing It is a good idea to fertilize your lawn with a slow release fertilizer just before the heat of the summer begins. That way you feed the grass with nitrogen to refuel it just before the major stresses of summer hit.

Overseeding Overseeding is really important to help thicken up your lawn, and to protect against impending weeds over the course of the summer. If the lawn is thick, there will be no room for weeds to root themselves in the lawn. If you are using Corn Gluten it is important to wait a few weeks after application to seed. The seed must also be put down before the heat of the summer as it will not germinate.



JUST A REMINDER...LANDSCAPING SERVICES WE PROVIDE!

- Pond, Garden & Lawn: Clean-Ups, Maintenance & Shutdowns
- Lawn Care Packages -Maintenance, Weed Control & Fertilizing, -Hedge Trimming
- Installation of Decks & Fences
- Installation of Interlock & Natural Stone
- Installation of Ponds & Water Features
- Landscape Design
- Staging & Preparing Homes for Sale

Check Us out at: <http://insideoutlandreno.com/>

Or on FACEBOOK! <https://www.facebook.com/InsideOutLandReno/>

For urrent Information, Upcoming Deals and Events.

CONTACT US at 613-292-3100 or chris@insideoutlandreno.com

UP COMING EVENTS:

36 Annual Orchid Show – Saturday & Sunday April 22 & 23, 2017 -Ottawa Orchid Society: RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr. Ottawa. See Poster for details:

http://www.ottawaorchidsociety.com/show_2010.html

GOWGHS Pond Tour -Saturday, June 24th, 2017 -A self guided tour to various ponds throughout the city.

All proceeds go to community projects in Ottawa. For more information check out:

<https://www.ottawawatergardens.com/>