

# SPRING LAWN 2010

## Today's Treatment

If no rain occurs within two or three days, please irrigate 1/2". If nighttime temperatures fall below freezing, temporary darkening of the grass may occur. Normal mowing will bring the color back to normal.

We treated your lawn with a complex liquid bio-fertilizer, with a high rate of iron to discourage moss. The nitrogen in the fertilizer was treated to minimize volatilization (movement into the atmosphere) and leaching (movement through soil). All Greenskeeper Plus lawns received **SoilSeeds**<sup>®\*</sup> (organic microbes to aid in nutrient release and reduce thatch) and **SuperTrace**<sup>®\*</sup> (thirteen essential trace minerals in organic acids).



Our bio-fertilizer makes the difference.

## Future Water Needs

We know it may a bit early to be talking about watering now, but a little mental preparation now will help when the time comes. About 1" of water each week, from rain or irrigation, should be enough for healthy turf. Watering should begin when the top 1" of soil is dry. Don't wait till your lawn turns brown because it will take more water to bring color and vigor back.

## Mow Short in the Spring!

Winter damage and false crowning can be mowed off now. Mow your lawn very short, even if it means removing most of the green blades. It may take several trips across the lawn to get the desired effect. Then, before you mow again, raise your mower up one notch (about 1/2"). Continue to raise the setting one notch each month throughout the growing season, until summer. A good summertime grass height is 2"- 2 1/2". That's about right for most grass types. We recommend mulch mowing when it's not too wet, leaving the clippings on the lawn (otherwise known as Grass-cycling). Mulched clippings return a portion of the nutrients to the soil, encourage soil organisms, and conserve moisture. Make sure no clumps are left on the surface, since they block sunlight and hinder transpiration and photosynthesis.

## Winter Fungus Damage

If you didn't have Wolbert's treat for winter fungus, and have brown or bare spots showing now, you may want to consider adding fungus prevention treatments to your program. They are very effective if applied before infection, in October and again in December. Because of product cost, the treatments are more expensive than a fertilizer treatment, but compared to the cost of top dressing and over-seeding, fungus prevention treatments are a smart investment. The results are remarkable.



Residual  
Fusarium Damage

## Good Time For Seeding

April and May are fine for reseeding, but March is usually too cold. If you have some bare spots from drought stress or winter fungus damage, spread a little soil over the bare spots, spread the seed, and then sprinkle a little (1/4") of soil over the top, and irrigate. Keep the seed moist until the new blades are about an inch long, then you can return to normal watering. Even though we don't offer re-seeding, we have referrals for companies that can help you out.

Call our office or send us an e-mail for more information.

## Bert Forster, Senior Lawn Technician

"Over the last few years, I have seen problematic lawns dramatically improve with the addition of Water-Max, a soil surfactant. Water-Max breaks surface tension, allowing water and nutrients to move through the soil. For a very reasonable price, we can add Water-Max to your next lawn treatment in preparation for the most difficult watering time of year. We believe you will see superior performance with less water."

Call our office or send us an e-mail for a Water-Max quote today!

\* Manufactured in Olympia by our sister company Plant Essentials, LLC.