

T.I. Property Service **Update**

News for T.I. Property Service Customers Vol. 8 No. 2 / Spring 2005

Monthly Features

Fuel Cost

Slight increases in materials may be evident due to higher fuel prices. Our suppliers have all increased their minimum delivery charges resulting in higher prices of fertilizer, seed, mulch, trees, etc. At present these increases are minimal, and we will make every effort to keep under it control.

Tree Planting

Your landscape is a huge investment and one that adds tremendous value to your home. As your plants mature, their value increases from a functional standpoint (shade, windbreak, sound barrier, wildlife benefit, etc.), as well as an aesthetic value. It makes little sense to have this investment lost by having your trees/shrubs improperly installed.

Countless times we are asked to examine dead or dying trees only to find the reason for mortality is improper planting techniques. This is a crime. Almost all cases reveal that the tree has been planted too deeply without the wire basket/burlap removed at the proper location or it has been improperly mulched. A common quote "it is better to plant a \$100 tree in a \$200 hole, than to put a \$200 tree in a \$100 hole."

TIPS follows the guidelines published by the Tree Care Industry Assoc. (formerly the National Arborist Assoc.), Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the NYS Nurseryman's Assoc. Strict rules exist regarding the planting process that include soil condition and amendments,

depth of planting, watering, mulching, and staking. High quality plant material coupled with the proper planting guarantee a success rate unsurpassed by our competition.

Lawn Care

TIPS has been asked to expand our lawn mowing service, and as a result, we have added many new properties to our client list. To insure a healthy lawn we recommend a fertilization schedule, and we follow a few very basic rules. We prefer to mow a little higher, never removing over one third of the existing growth. This allows your grass to better compete with weeds, resulting in greater root development thus creating a grass that is more drought resistant. We prefer to leave clippings (although there are times when it is necessary to bag and remove). This reduces the amount of fertilizers needed, and by adding this additional organic material back into the soil, it increases earthworm activity which will continually aerate your lawn. We also keep our mowers sharp. Dull blades tear grass instead of "cutting" it. Lawns mowed with dull blades require more watering and create wounds that allow disease to enter the individual blades of grass. Please call for a consultation.

Work Orders

I have included a work order for those of you who may not have access to the Internet. For those of you who do have access to the Internet, please send directly from our web site.

Looking forward to a great summer season. Thanks for your support.

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Member:
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