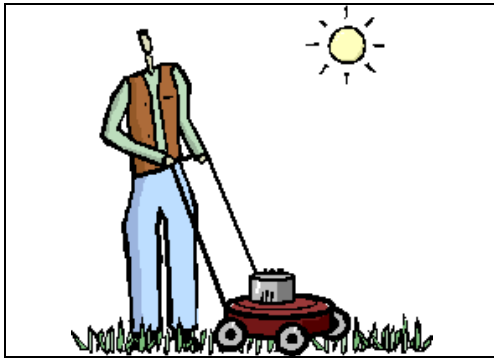


A Little Information About Lawn Care...



Having a beautiful lush green lawn is every homeowner's dream. By knowing what treatments should be applied to your lawn and at what time of year, you can achieve a beautiful lawn with very little effort. Use the following calendar as a guide for **GENERAL LAWN CARE**.

Info below courtesy of Pike Nursery

When to Apply	Bermuda
January 15-February 15	Apply post-emergent for winter weeds/grasses
February 15-March 15	Apply pre-emergent for crabgrass control
March 15-April 1	Lime if necessary.
April	Scalp your Bermuda lawn. Apply Atlanta Turf Special Fertilizer
May	Apply post-emergent weed killer. Aerate soil.
June	Apply fungicide as a protective measure
July	Apply second application of Atlanta Turf Special
August	Apply insecticide for flea/grub control
September 1-October 1	Last application of Atlanta Turf Special before September 15
October 15-November 15	Apply a winterizer fertilizer.

Lawn care terminology:

Aerate: To expose to air; cause air to circulate through. Aeration relieves soil compaction and increases air and water movement in the soil. It also stimulates decomposition of thatch (see below). Aeration will provide lodging places for seeds when overseeding thin turf.

Lime: Lime is used to reduce the acidity of the soil. A pH of 6.0 to 6.5 is desirable for most turf grasses. A soil test is the only way to determine whether or not you need to apply lime. Tests can be performed by the Cooperative Extension Service in Cobb County (<http://www.CobbExtension.com>) (770) 528-4070. The cost is usually less than \$5.00.

Post-Emergent: A herbicide that is applied to the foliage of weeds after they have come up from the soil. Always read the label and/or check with a Certified Plant Professional to make sure that a particular post-emergent chemical is safe to use on your Bermuda lawn.

Pre-Emergent: An herbicide that is applied before the weeds or unwanted grasses emerge above the ground. Pre-emergent kill the weeds in the seed germination of seedling stage. Never apply a pre-emergent in the same season that you overseed your lawn.

Scalping: A method of removing dead grass from Bermuda lawns by cutting the grass using a very low setting on the mower blades.

Thatch: Thatch is a tightly intermingled layer of living and dead stems, leaves and roots of grass. This layer develops between the green vegetation and the surface of the soil; a buildup of thatch can prevent water from penetrating the soil. It also harbors insects and disease organisms. Thatch causes shallow –rooted grass, making it susceptible to heat, cold and drought damage.

Lawn Care and the ARC

Who said it was easy? As most of us know, lawn care, weeds and crab grass are just another responsibility of owning a home. Looking around the neighborhood, it's obviously a responsibility that some homeowners take more serious than others. This newsletter has quite a bit of information that will educate you on how to take care of your lawn and make it look as good as possible. Maintaining a nice looking lawn can be as easy or as hard as you want to make it. A few hours here and there over the course of a year can really make a difference in how your lawn looks to you, your neighbors and the rest of the community. If you don't have the time to spend on your lawn, hire a Lawn Care service to do the work for you. Services are relatively inexpensive and they can and will do whatever it takes to improve your lawn including cutting, edging, fertilizing and aerating. Lawn care services are easy to find in the yellow pages as well as soliciting business over the phone and in those packets of coupons that you get every week through the mail. Chemlawn, Lawn Doctor, Lawn South and TurfPride are just a few of the names that I found in the 2 minutes it took me to open the phone book to the Lawn Maintenance section. See how easy it is?

During this time of year, it is definitely easy to tell which yards have been treated for all the springtime weeds. When your grass has clumps of green when everyone else's is brown, that means you have WEEDS! The ARC has pretty reasonable expectations on how to maintain your yard and landscaped areas. If your yard doesn't follow these parameters, expect a friendly violation letter from the ARC to be in your mailbox soon.

- Lawn free of weeds and crabgrass
- Grass needs to be maintained to an acceptable height. Bermuda should be between 1"-2". If it is up to your knees, it's too long.
- Landscaped areas need to be free of weeds and grass
- Pinestraw (or other landscaping materials such as pine bark or ornamental stones) need to cover your landscaped areas around your trees, bushes and along the sides of your home.
- When the pinestraw begins to turn gray and faded, it's time to replace it.
- Trim the weeds around your mailbox and utility boxes.
- Edge the lawn next to sidewalks and driveways.

Garbage Cans

Please remember that garbage cans cannot be stored or left in the driveway or on the sides of the home.

Maiboxes

If you have a mailbox or post that needs replaced, here is the information you need:

Strickland Metalcraft
6222 James Road
Austell, GA
Phone: 770-732-9391

Current Prices (subject to change):

Post only: \$85.00 (cash and carry from their shop in Austell)
Box only: \$10.00 (includes assembly and re-installing address plate)

Installation: \$50.00 (this includes cost of install post and/or box)
Removal: \$50.00 (this includes the cost of removing the old post and hauling)

They custom make the address plates and can replace one (cost based on number of characters).
Total cost for replacing an existing in-place post/box is \$195.00

Exterior lights

Many homeowners have chosen to add exterior lighting to illuminate their homes and walkways. When installed correctly, these lights can add that extra sparkle to your home and also provide additional lighting for security during the night. When installing and maintaining your exterior lighting, be sure to follow these simple tips:

- Make sure the lighting is properly installed and maintained.
- All lights need to be in working condition. If you are going to incur the expense of adding lights, you need to make sure you fix them when they are not working.

All lights need to be in an upright and stable position. If they are crooked, they don't look very appealing so take a few minutes and straighten them up.

Home Maintenance

Did you know that the first settled homes in Cambridge Grove are 5 years old this year? As Cambridge Grove ages, homes will require routine maintenance and repairs in order to keep them looking fresh. It is amazing what a coat of paint will do for the appearance of a home. As a property owner, you are aware that in time, structures need painting, fences need straightening and repairing and other periodic maintenance will need to be done.. In order to maintain Cambridge Grove as an attractive community, inspections are done periodically to determine if any of these conditions exist. Maintenance items such as peeling paint, leaning fences, unkempt lawns and landscaped areas are noted. Sometimes, a reminder to a homeowner helps them realize there are some areas on their home that need attention. These general maintenance items, if ignored or unrecognized, can become more serious and usually more costly to repair. Please remember that if your repairs will involve making a style or color change to your home, you must submit a Request for Improvement Form along with plans and/or a sample of the proposed color prior to making the change. Your Association requires this. We are responsible for establishing community architectural guidelines and ensuring they are followed.