

Jamie pushes one of our hand aerators. It's used for tight spaces when a tractor isn't needed.

We're giving away a free lawn aeration! The value of this lawn care package is up to \$500.00.

Aeration is one of the best cultural practices you can do to ensure the health of your lawn. It helps relieve compacted soil which can prevent nutrients and air from reaching the root system of your lawn.

A \$500.00 aeration will cover a significant area up to 32,000 square feet.

So, GOOD LUCK with your entry. The drawing for our free aeration will be held on Friday, September 27th here at our offices.

September Garden Tips

* Local nurseries are full of beautiful fall plants. If you purchase chrysanthemums, don't water the flowering part of the plant. Water the soil instead. Mums need a lot of water to produce big, flowering blooms. However, if you water the bloom, it tends to turn brown. Pinch off faded and dead flowers to encourage another round of growth.



Melissa shined up this pumpkin for the photograph. She's a little distressed over the carbuncle at the bottom, but it's her "child" and she loves it.

Melissa grew a pumpkin! And, she couldn't be prouder. After the pumpkin vines overtook one of the entire gardens this summer, we finally harvested one pumpkin. There's lots more out there, so we're planning on a pie or two. I'll probably even carve her a jack-o-lantern for Halloween. She worked hard to get them to grow, but next year, I'm planting something else. NO MORE PUMPKINS!

By the way, we're replanting parts of our garden for the fall. We've got lettuce, collards and a second crop of green beans planted for a second harvesting. * It's time to get more plant material for your garden...FREE! Fall is a great time to divide your perennials.

A wonderful website from Clemson University in South Carolina tells us that the three main reasons for dividing perennials are to control the size of the plants, to help rejuvenate them and to increase the number of available plants.

When you separate rapidly spreading perennials, they stay under control. No more willy-nilly growth into unwanted areas.

Also, dividing will rejuvenate old plants, keeping them vigorous and blooming freely. Dividing perennials is an easy and free or inexpensive way to gain additional plants for your garden or to share. Here's the link for more information: <u>Clemson University Extension Agency Information</u>.

* If you want to enjoy spring flowering bulbs, they need to be planted this fall. Remember how beautiful those spring daffodils look?



The photographer was laying on the ground, looking up, when she took this picture.

Daffodils, hyacinths and tulips are good choices for planting this fall.

Tick Activity in the Fall You won't believe what we found...

When we googled this subject, we confirmed what we already knew. Ticks are just as active in the fall as they are during the spring.

According to the tick hotline website from the University of Rhode Island, tick activity is on the rise. Here's what they said:

August Update:

Deer tick larva are back and taking their bloodmeals throughout the month the August. This means their bites will be especially harmful in the fall.



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This is one of the best, most interactive websites I've ever seen. It provides up to the minute information about ticks by region. I've never seen any other site with this much detail about this subject.

You'll read about how to identify a tick. How to remove a tick if one attaches itself. How to prevent a tick from coming in contact with you. I liked their tip of the day:

TickSmart[™] Tip for Tick-Safe Living!

DRY CLOTHES FIRST - THEN WASH. Most ticks are VERY sensitive to dryness. The very first action to take after

working in the yard is to strip clothing off and throw it in the dryer.

Here's the link to their site: tickencounter.org.

And, I can help too. My tick repellent program is one of the most effective you'll find available. I treat properties once in the spring and once in the fall.

I guarantee my results too. If you find a tick attached to you, just give me a call. I'll return and retreat the area where you picked up the tick.

I'm proud to say that I only returned to six properties this spring to retreat selected areas. My program really works!

Just a reminder...

If we provide your lawn care services, we'll be in touch with you over the next month or so to review your lawn.

Each year, your lawn faces challenges, due to weather, water issues and more. We like to see each lawn IN PERSON to see how I can better assist your grass with my natural/organic lawn care program.

So, we'll be contacting you soon. My manager, Dave Lee or I will personally visit your property to see what's happening with your lawn.

On another note, we'll also be contacting all of our tick repellent clients again this fall. We'll need to complete your fall spray so that we can keep your family safe from ticks all year.

You need to be sprayed in the fall to kill adult ticks. You don't want them to lay eggs before the end of their life cycle. You'll have the same tick problems next spring, if we don't take steps this autumn.



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