

Summer's mild climate benefits turf, utility bills

Irrigation systems idled by unusual summer weather

Has your irrigation system been operating this year? Usually we would say, "If it hasn't you need to call us so your turf doesn't burn." This year we would say, "If it has, it is time to install a rain sensor or a weather station." Some of our clients have not used their irrigation system to date, saving thousands of gallons of water per household.

It is simple to connect a water conservation device to your irrigation system. We have various options to fit various water conservation efforts and various budgets. You can utilize rain sensors, wind sensors, solar radiation sensors and temperature sensors to monitor weather conditions. These sensors communicate directly with your irrigation system's controller and automatically adjust the run times of the zones.

Some of these features can pay for themselves within one year. Call the office at 738-1718 and ask for Chuck if you would like to discuss these water conservation features.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Solar Sync Sensor

The Rain Gauge



For a normal month of August, your turf should receive approximately 2.0-2.25 inches of precipitation per week. Precipitation per week is the combined amount of Mother Nature's rain plus anything you add to it. Excessive watering will only waste water and promote unhealthy growing conditions in a variety of ways.



Reminders

1. Schedule fall renovations or aerations and overseeding.
2. Schedule irrigation system review.
3. Schedule tree pruning.

Cool season grasses thrive Outstanding growing conditions continue

We continue to experience abnormally cool temperatures for this time of year; and, as one might expect, this is a plus for cool season grasses. We are just now hearing from customers about being able to mow less frequently, a full month after we would expect to see some slow down. While we are seeing some outbreaks of fungus, they are fewer and less severe than we might expect. Anything that happens now will typically have a short run before even cooler temperatures set in. Those of you who have resisted the urge to provide supplemental irrigation have also helped yourself out in the area of disease control and saved money, too. If there is a drastic change in the weather, monitor your turf for signs of weakness.

With the start of our fourth round of applications, we will take yet another look for opportunities to improve the quality of your turf. While we always believe that aeration and overseeding are good practices, some of you may have more needs. We will let you know if we find something that will interest you.



We continue to experiment with different chemistries for weed control. The newer products are always more expensive, but they come in handy for specific weed issues throughout the year. We never tire of saying that the best defense against weeds is a healthy, properly mowed lawn.

We frequently receive questions about trees, shrubs, and plants; and while those of us who apply fertilizer are primarily grass people, we enjoy expanding our own horizons to get answers for you. Our designers, the Extension Office, and the Internet are big helps to us and you.

Just a reminder about Perimeter Pest Prevention: we apply our products with the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th round of applications. If you do not already take this service, it goes a long way to keeping insects in their place-outside of your home, especially in the fall when they are looking for a place to spend the winter.

And the winners are.....

Greg Schneider, Jim and Shelly Otto and Janet Pulte have each won a tree valued at \$400-\$500. Their names were drawn from the list of eligible survey respondents.

We want to thank everyone who completed our first survey. We especially appreciate those individuals who offered specific feedback in response to our questions concerning referrals and ease of doing business.

We are compiling and analyzing the results and will share our findings in the next few months.

Veterans' Memorial Project

The Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home in Bellevue, Nebraska, is the site of the Veterans' Memorial Project. CM's Custom Lawn & Landscape is proud to be a part of this effort memorializing those who have chosen to protect our freedom. Landscape Designer Rick Dostal has been an integral part of the planning process, creating a functional and aesthetically-pleasing space for residents and the public alike.

Plans call for the project to be completed this year, and we will be providing our readers with updates and information over the next few months. Leadership Sarpy is leading this collaborative effort between the Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce and the American Legion. Contributions are being sought pay for the completion of the construction.

Please consider this incredible opportunity. Please see [our website](#) or go to the [Papillion Fire Department](#) website for information on how to donate.



All donations are tax deductible.



Don't forget to become a Concrete Countertop Innovations fan, too!

Are you a CM's fan?

CM's Custom Lawn & Landscape has joined the legions of companies who have joined Facebook. [Our site](#) helps facilitate mass communication with our fans and allows us to share photos and information in a quick and easy format.

Simply go to Facebook, search for and select CM's Custom Lawn & Landscape and click on "Become a Fan." That's all there is to it!

Our goal is to secure a minimum of 100 fans for each site so we hope you'll help us by forwarding the information to all of your friends and relatives. There will be drawings for CM's and Concrete Countertop Innovations gear once both sites register 100 fans.

What are you waiting for? Be a fan today!

If you're not already on Facebook, you will need to sign up to access our page.



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