

THE LADYBUG

We're Taking Appointments for Spring Aeration

After winter frosts, our dense clay soil becomes extra hard and compacted. This deprives your lawn's root system of adequate air, water, and nutrients, leaving warm-season turf struggling to thrive. Aeration changes all that.

By loosening up the soil, aeration promotes the healthy turf and beautiful lawn you want.

- Our treatments are more effective.
- The root system can get what it needs to grow stronger and deeper.
- The lawn becomes more resistant to drought, heat, and other stresses.
- Grass grows thicker and naturally deters weeds

We do aerations for warm-season grass in April and May. **Call 770.777.0764 soon for a FREE estimate and to schedule your service.**

Protect Your Yard Against Unpredictable Weather

It should come as no surprise that harsh winter weather can be tough on turf and ornamental trees and shrubs. But many people don't realize that a mild winter with just a few bad cold snaps can be even more damaging. That's because plants do not tolerate fluctuating temperatures very well.

The good news is that the healthier your lawn, trees, and shrubs are, the better they will weather whatever Mother Nature dishes out over the next few months. Plus there are things you can do to protect them.



Keeping your lawn healthy and resilient

The organic fertilizers we apply throughout the year are formulated to meet the seasonal needs of turf, which includes the soil, the root system, and the grass itself. But keeping a lawn healthy doesn't stop there. Here's how you can give it a helping hand.

- Fill in any depressions to prevent water from pooling and freezing in those areas.
- If you mow in the winter, let grass grow about a half-inch longer. This allows it to store up more nutrients.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn so that they recycle back into the soil.
- Prevent heavy leaf buildup, which can promote disease and smother lawns. It also makes our treatments less effective.

Keeping your ornamental trees & shrubs healthy and resilient

If you're on our Simply Plus program, your ornamental trees and shrubs are benefiting from the organic fertilizers and pest controls we apply. And just as with your lawn, there are things you can do to take their care up a notch.

- Provide a 2- to 3-inch layer of mulch to insulate roots and retain moisture in the soil. Be sure to leave at least a 3-inch gap between the mulch and the trunks of trees and shrubs. In other words, you want the mulch on the ground, not on the plant.
- Wrap the trunks of young trees from ground level up to just below the lowest branches, making sure you don't wrap too tightly. You can find trunk wrap at any good garden center. Cover less hardy plants, like azaleas and hollies, with burlap or plant protection bags (also at garden centers) when temperatures drop below freezing.

Following these few simple tips will go a long way toward helping your turf and ornamental trees and shrubs brave the sometimes wild weather of winter and early spring.



Jan/Feb Lawn Care Application #1

Lawn Care

Fertilization

Lawns received one of our proprietary blends of organic fertilizer. The blend applied depends on whether you have cool-season grass, like Fescue, or warm-season grass, like Bermuda or Zoysia.

Weed Control (hybrid option)

We applied two synthetic (non-organic) weed controls: one to prevent crabgrass and other grassy weeds from germinating, and another to take care of existing broadleaf weeds, which will die off over the next two weeks.

Ornamental Tree & Shrub Care (Simply Plus Program)

Pest Control

Our application of a bee-safe dormant oil prevents damage from insects that overwinter in trees and shrubs. The dormant oil does not contain neonicotinoids, so it is not harmful to bees and other pollinators. This application, together with the one done in December, protects your plants through the winter.

March/April Lawn Care Application #2

Lawn Care

Fertilization

Lawns will receive an application of poultry litter, a natural high-quality source of nitrogen, which promotes healthy growth, as well as many other nutrients.

Weed Control (hybrid option)

Weed treatments will include a synthetic pre-emergent that targets grassy weeds and a synthetic post-emergent that kills off existing broadleaf weeds.

Ornamental Tree & Shrub Care (Simply Plus Program)

Pest & Disease Control

Treatments include an insecticide to control aphids, lace bugs, and leafhoppers, and a dormant oil to prevent leaf spot, powdery mildew, and other fungal disease. Both treatments are free of neonicotinoids ("neonics") and are safe for bees and other pollinators.

What You Need To Do To Support Our Treatments & Your Yard

Mow at the Right Height

In the winter, raise the mower deck about a half-inch for warm-season grass. This allows the grass to store up more nutrients. Whatever the season or grass type, remove no more than one-third of the grass blade in a single mowing, and leave the clippings behind to recycle back into the soil.

Water Wisely

Winter can be pretty rainy, so be sure not to over-water, which can lead to lawn diseases and other problems. As we move into warmer, sunnier spring, aim to irrigate in the morning, ideally before 10 am. It's a great way to conserve water by minimizing evaporation; it also lowers the risk of moisture-related fungal diseases.

Questions about our service or your yard? **Call Customer Service at 770.777.0764**, Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. After hours, leave a message and we'll get back to you the next business day. You can also email our branch manager, Michael Holzmeister, at Mike@SimplyOrganicTurfCare.com.



Your Word's Worth Something

The next time a friend or neighbor compliments your lawn, tell them about Simply Organic and how we nurture turf naturally. If they decide to use us, **you'll get a \$50 credit on your account.** Just be sure to **tell them to mention your name** when they sign on.

So much of our new business comes from customers putting in a good word for us. The \$50 credit is our way of saying, "Thanks -- we appreciate it!"



Need to get in touch?

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