

Let's uncover your best lawn

THE LAWN GUY

708-474-1996

P.O. Box 601 Lansing, IL 60438

SPRING 2020

"With the
coming of
Spring,
I am calm
again."

-Gustav Mahler

Not looking forward
to mowing this year.
Maybe we can help.

Call for an estimate.

708-474-1996

Service available in limited areas.



Spring, A Great Time for all of us to Get Growing!

Every homeowner knows that each year, each season, brings unexpected opportunities and challenges in the lawn and landscape. Is this spring going to be cool and wet like last year or hot and dry. Will we have snow for Easter, after all Christmas was warm.

Not knowing exactly what's going to happen is part of what makes our job more interesting, and, dare I say, fun. After all new challenges help us to grow and to appreciate past triumphs. Our life of working in lawns and landscapes is anything but predictable – and there is no reason that this year should be any different.



You can be sure that all year long, when surprises do crop up, we will be there to help you sort them out.

Please know we like hearing from you, and you should feel free to call or contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

We hope you have a great season, and now its time to "get growing."

Refer a Friend Program

Refer us to family, friends
and neighbors and **get \$20
off** your next application,
when they sign up for a full
program.

You
can now
pay invoices
using:

 **PayPal**

 **zelle**

Focus Weeds: the dandelion

We know spring has arrived when we drive through our neighborhoods, and they are dotted with yellow. It seems like dandelions just showed up in mass droves overnight. As kids, we loved picking bouquets of them for our moms or blow the puffs of seeds all over the yard. As adults, they drive us nuts and we just wish they would die.

Whether you love them or hate them, dandelions are among the most familiar plants in the world. They're one species that just about anyone can identify. Dandelions are, quite possibly, the most successful plants that exist, masters of survival worldwide. Nowadays, they're also the most unpopular plant in the neighborhood.

Why is this plant so hard to kill? Dandelions are fast growers, the sunny yellow flowers going from bud to seed in days. But they are also long-lived – an individual plant can live for years, so the dandelion lurking in a corner of the playground might be older than the children running past it. The root sinks deeper over the years and can go down 15 feet. They can take root in places that seem little short of miraculous, and then are impossible to get rid of. Like the Hydra who sprouted two new heads for every one that was cut off, the root clones when divided; a one-inch bit of dandelion root can grow a whole new dandelion.

Dandelions have long been prized for their medicinal uses and edibility. Their leaves are good sources of calcium, iron and potassium, as well as vitamins A & C. Dandelions are more nutritious than most of the vegetables in your garden. They have more vitamin A than spinach, more vitamin C than tomatoes. Its flow-



ers have been known to make dandelion wine and was historically an ingredient in root beer. Medicinally, it has been used all over the world as an herbal remedy to treat liver problems and infections.

In our lawns, the dandelion is just a nuisance. Their roots can grow up to 2 feet long and are brittle, so they easily break off if you try to pull them. If you don't remove the whole root, they will grow up again. These roots are usually deep enough that even though the surface dandelions disappear in the fall, they will survive the winter and re-grow in the spring.

When the flower matures and turns into a puff ball, the wind can carry the thousands of seeds to germinate in any spot it can find. That's why your yard could be weed free one year and a field of dandelions the next.

The best control is to keep your lawn healthy and choke them out. Make sure your grass is well irrigated, leave the grass blades high when you mow (no less than 3"), leaving the grass clippings to provide nutrients, fertilize and overseed any bare

spots you may have.

If you are craving some time in the yard you can get out your gloves and start pulling the dandelions. Just be sure to get the whole root or they will be right back.

The easiest most effective way to kill the whole plant the first time is using a selective herbicide.

Ultimately, you will probably have dandelions grow in your yard every year, but you can keep it to a minimum by ending the season with a healthy lawn. Having a lawn care professional maintain your yard is the best and least time-consuming way to keep your lawn green and strong, minus the yellow dandelion polka dots.





Let's uncover your best lawn

THE LAWN GUY

708-474-1996
ericlawnGuy@comcast.net

P.O. Box 601
Lansing, IL 60438

WINTER 2020



*"Hope smiles
from the
threshold of
the year to
come,
whispering,
'It will be
happier.'"*

-Tennyson

May this new year bring many opportunities your way, to explore every joy of life and may your resolutions for the days ahead stay firm, turning all your dreams into reality and all your efforts into great achievements.

I don't know about you, but we are excited about the start of not just a new year but a new decade. 2020 is going to be an exciting and busy year for us. Along with our continued business expansion, we are looking forward to two weddings this year. The new decade starts with a new chapter in our life.

Last season was rollercoaster of weather. It looked like we were never going to have two days in a row without rain in the spring. The mild temperatures and water had lawns greening up nicely. Then came the heat of July and August. Fortunately, we didn't have many days in the hundreds, but growth did slow way down. Just when it looked like a nice fall was in store, BAM, snow for Halloween. All the weather challenges made scheduling difficult, but in the end the lawns had a healthy year.

We want to take this opportunity to say thank you for trusting us with your lawn. We are looking forward to a great season, and we appreciate the opportunity to help you make your lawn beautiful.

SERVICES AVAILABLE:

- Customized Fertilization programs
- Weed Control
- Grub Control
- Lawn Aeration
- Bush trimming
- Weekly Mowing
- Spring/Fall clean-ups
- Landscaping

Need to add something
to your program, call:

708-474-1996

It's Renewal Time!

Renewal cards are enclosed. Please fill out and return your card with your prepay check. If you don't wish to prepay and are not changing your program there is no need to send the card back we will auto renew your service.

The Lawn Care Trinity

There is no easy way to get and keep a beautiful lawn ... but there is a sure way. Proper lawn maintenance is supported by three equally important factors: the homeowner, God, and the lawn care professional. Each works with the others to support a lawn that is both attractive and functional.

First, the homeowner needs to be engaged in making sure that the lawn is properly watered and mown. Grass, like all plants needs adequate water to thrive. Unfortunately, we cannot always rely on nature. Sometimes you must supplement what nature provides. While it may not seem very important to the health of your lawn, proper and consistent mowing can have a big impact.

Second, God must provide the needed growing conditions. No matter how hard we try we can only do so much. Problems will arise whenever temperature, precipitation and/or humidity are not in the optimal range for healthy and growing turf. Some-

times we must just deal with conditions the best we can. As the song goes, *"I fight authority, authority always wins"*.

Finally, the lawn care professional needs to monitor the lawn in order to ensure the proper application of fertilizers. They will



also provide identification and control of weeds, as well as the early diagnoses of problems caused by insect pests and disease.

Your lawn is unique and one-of-a-kind. It has its own set of needs and requirements. That is why you need to have an integrated lawn care plan formulated for your lawn. This integrated plan will consider all the things

that affect the health of your lawn. It won't just treat symptoms but will look at the larger picture and will handle the source of problems as they arise.

The Lawnguy is committed to providing top quality service with customized care plans.

There are problems that are unique to a neighborhood. It is important that applications are timely and fit your weather patterns. We understand because we live and work in your area and know what is important to you. We do whatever we can to make sure you have the best lawn you can, including advice on

proper mowing and irrigation of your lawn. If you have concerns or questions, call us first.

No one part can be successful alone, (OK maybe God if He really wanted to) all three members of the trinity must work together. When they do, a well-established, healthy lawn is a near certainty.

2020 Referral Program

Refer us to family, friends and neighbors **get \$20 off** your next service, when they sign up for a full service program.

They get \$20 off too!



Let's uncover your best lawn

THE LAWN GUY

708-474-1996
ericlawnGuy@comcast.net

P.O. Box 601
Lansing, IL 60438

WINTER 2021

*"Drop the last
year into the
silent limbo
of the past.
Let it go, for it
was imperfect,
and thank
God that
it can go."*

– Brooks Atkinson

hello 2021 

Whew, we made it through 2020! Here's hoping the new year is better. I think we can all agree that we don't ever need to see 2020 again.

Fortunately, as far as the lawns were concerned, we had a pretty typical season: a rainy spring with mild temperatures followed by a not too hot summer. The overall precipitation was below average, so we did see some drought stress going into fall but mostly the lawns fared well.

This newsletter we thought that we would answer some of the questions that we get most frequently through out the season. If you have a question about your lawn, or lawn care in general, please email us, and we will do our best to answer it.

Thank you for trusting us with your lawn. We are looking forward to a great season, and we appreciate the opportunity to help you make your lawn beautiful.

SERVICES AVAILABLE:

- Customized Fertilization programs
- Weed Control
- Grub Control
- Lawn Aeration
- Bush trimming
- Weekly Mowing
- Spring/Fall clean-ups
- Landscaping

Need to add something
to your program, call:
708-474-1996

It's Renewal Time!

Renewal cards are enclosed. Please fill out and return your card with your prepay check. If you don't wish to prepay and are not changing your program there is no need to send the card back. We will auto renew your service.

FAQs

Does this application need to be watered in?

In order for fertilizer to be effective, at some point it must be watered in. That being said, if we have ample rainfall, like in April and May, you shouldn't need to water. After mid-June, any treatment applied to your lawn will be far more effective once it is watered in.

If you have a sprinkler system that is on a regular timer, there is no need to change your schedule. A two to three day lag time will not negatively affect the application.

Can my pets go outside after a treatment?

It is best to wait an hour or so after a weed control treatment so that it has a chance to dry. I would caution you to make sure to wipe their paws before coming back in the house so they don't track it in.

Will the fertilizer burn my lawn?

During summer, when lawns stress from heat and lack of rain, we use products that are coated so they will not react with the lawn until it rains or you water. If your lawn is showing signs of stress after a treatment, it is far more likely that it is suffering from lack of water than from the fertilizer. However, anytime you are concerned about something in your lawn, it is best to contact us so we can diagnose the problem and take appropriate action.

Why isn't my lawn greener?

Many things can affect the overall color of your lawn. The most common culprit is improper mowing. The optimal mowing height for bluegrass is three inches. Too often people cut the lawn shorter so they don't have to cut as frequently. This removes too much moisture from the plant and lightens the color. Another common mowing problem is dull mower blades. Dull blades tear instead of cut cleanly resulting in a frayed brown grass blade.

Insufficient water will affect the color of the grass. Lawns need one inch of water per week to remain healthy and green.

If all of these factors are ruled out, we can adjust the rate of fertilizer being applied. Or we will reapply between scheduled treatments at no charge. Beware; this could result in the need to mow your lawn twice a week.

I have patches of ugly grass that I think is crabgrass?

First off, if you have this concern and it is before mid July, it is not crabgrass. Most times, what you have is tall fescue. This is just a grass type that unfortunately grows in clumps and grows faster than your bluegrass and ryegrass lawn. The only effective way to control it is to remove it manually. Because it is just another type of grass, anything that will kill it will also kill the grass you want.

My neighbor or mowing service says I have grubs.

99% of the time they are wrong! Ask them to show you the actual grub worms; even if you do find one or two it takes a lot to cause visible damage. Grubs aren't really even actively feeding until September. In July and August most likely you are dealing with mower stress or a fungus. Proper diagnosis is required for a proper solution. Check with the expert.

Can I use Zelle to pay you?

We do accept payments via Zelle. Send your payment to 708-474-1996. Please note your customer number or invoice number on the payment.

