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## Tips for Helping Budgeting and Designing Your Landscaping Project

How much can you spend? When considering your budget, time is just as important as money. If you do not have time to tend to your landscape, having our full service Company handle your complete outdoor land care needs is a great way to achieve the outdoor living space you have always wanted, and not spending all your free time caring for your property. Here are a few tips to consider when looking at rebuilding, creating, or enhancing your landscaping.

1. Establish a budget. How much are you willing to spend for the entire project? We can help design a landscape that can be built in phases that will achieve what you are looking to have created and build it out over a season, or longer to help with a potentially large out

lay of money at once. This is a great option that many of clients rely on.

2. Cost of maintenance: figure out what maintenance there will be on an annual basis. There is no such thing as a maintenance free landscape regardless of how many native plants you use in your landscape.
3. Do you entertain a lot? If so nite lighting and water features are a great way to add ambiance and elegance to any outdoor living area.
4. What is the intended function of the landscape? Is it for tranquility, entertaining, or even privacy? Having a firm vision of what you are looking for will help our designers create exactly what you are looking to achieve.



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Rob Garpiel



**Does Garpiel Landscaping meet your expectations?**

There is no question that our company has experienced significant growth in the last two years. With that growth

have come some challenges. We continue to offer our clients the best service, products, and professionals possible to create and maintain beautiful landscapes thought our region and beyond. We handle every facet of our business with our core values of Quality, Trustworthy, and Integrity in mind. These are not just our core values, but our guiding principles that we hold our selves accountable to every day with how we operate our company. We try our very best to do the best job possible with your property and if you see that we are not meeting your expectations, please call or email and I promise that I will personally resolve any issue that may arise. Quite honestly I take great pride in making something wrong, correct and having it made whole as quickly as possible. Please help me help you. If you notice anything on your property that needs attention or extra care please let me know and we will make whatever changes needed to exceed your expectations! Thank you for all of your loyalty and business!

Best Regards,

## Overseeding Keeps Lawn Thick and Weed-Free

Overseeding is one of the most important lawn care tasks, yet few homeowners ever do it. So, you ask, if I fertilize my lawn properly, why do I need to add new seed, especially if my grass looks pretty good right now? The answer is grass is not immortal. After five or six years, grass plants will slow down their reproduction rates; they get tired just like we do as we age. Thin grass invites weeds.

Overseeding compensates for that natural slow down of the turf's reproduction. There are two major benefits to overseeding every three or four years. First, you insure your lawn stays thick and dense, or if it has thinned, you will make it thick again. Thick grass has few if any weeds if it is mowed over 2 inches tall.

The second benefit is disease resistance. The new varieties of seed you sow this year will have better disease resistance than those varieties already in your lawn. Early September is the best time to overseed

### Aeration: Getting nutrients to the roots

Lawn aeration is the secret weapon in making your lawn healthy. Aeration involves making holes in the lawn either by pushing a rod into it or by "coring", extracting a plug of soil. By aerating your lawn you provide the following benefits to your lawn and its root system:

- Improved air exchange between the soil and atmosphere.
- Enhanced soil water uptake.
- Improved fertilizer uptake and use.
- Reduced water runoff and puddling.
- Improved turf grass rooting.
- Reduced soil compaction.
- Enhanced heat and drought stress tolerance.
- Improved resiliency and cushioning.
- Enhanced thatch breakdown.

Both spring and fall are ideal times to aerate cool season turfgrass such as Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass. In most cases, spring aeration is performed between March and May, depending on the locations, turfgrass species and intensity of use. Fall aeration is done late summer and early fall, usually between August and November.

**Call and Schedule your fall aeration or overseeding today!**

## Garpiel Plant Health Care

Garpiel Landscaping is proud to provide its clients a professional, knowledgeable staff. GLC staff has experience dealing with two major tree care issue in the great lakes bay region first is emerald ash bore, and the second is Rhizosphara needle cast.

Emerald ash bore is an Asian beetle that effects ash trees. The adult beetle lays its eggs just below the bark of the tree once the eggs hatch the larva feeds on the active sap wood of the tree damaging the sapwood and stopping the flow of water and nutrients to the top of the tree.

Garpiel Landscaping's treatment of choice is through trunk injections with the chemical tree-age. Tree-age has the ability to control and protect your ash trees from emerald ash bore with two years of control. Call GLC today for a free estimate to treat your ash trees with a money back guaranty for two full years.

The second common tree care problem we are seeing a lot of in the great lakes bay region is the infestation of Rhizosphara needle cast on Blue Spruce. Rhizosphara needle cast is a fungus that affects Blue spruce trees of all size and age. Do you have needles falling off of your spruce trees? Does it look like your tree is dying from the ground up? Are the needles discolored yellow to reddish brown? These are all signs of needle cast. Blue spruce hold 3 to 5 years worth of growth the fungus affects the old growth on the tree first causing the needles to cast off leaving the tree branches thin and sometime bare, if left untreated the disease can eventually kill the tree.

Our treatment of choice for needle cast in the first year is deep root feeding with evergreen special fertilizer, followed by two fungicide sprays one spray in early may one spray in late may to early June depending on temperatures and how far along the new growth is. You cannot treat for needle cast in the summer or fall, it has to be a spring spray to control the fungus. Other treatments that do help control and prevent the spread of this fungus are. Promote good air circulation around the tree by open spacing, selective pruning, and cleaning up infested needles that have fallen from the tree.

If you think you have Emerald ash bore affecting your trees or needle cast affecting your blue spruce please feel free to contact our office. We will stop out and look at you trees free of charge.

Thank you, Joe Garpiel Plant health care manager



*This Ash tree with Emerald Ash Borer can still be saved.*

## RAISE That Mower



Raising the height of your mower may not be the most popular practice amongst many home owners, but the overall health benefits to your turf are outstanding. Increasing the height of your mower to 3.5 to 4 inches will help promote a healthier lawn by thicken up your turf and creating a much better root system. Having thicker turf will help crowd out weeds which means putting less pesticide on your lawn and into the environment. Currently researchers at Michigan State have discovered a third benefit is stopping grub damage. Watering during dry periods and raising the height of the mower increases the depth and mass of the roots under the surface of your lawn. Researchers have found if your turf root systems are dense enough, it's unlikely that grubs will consume more then 60 percent of the root mass. This will leave enough roots for your lawn to survive without seeing dead patches. Garpiel Landscaping is encouraging homeowners that don't use our lawn care service to "Cut it high and let it lie."

