

Landscape Committee **March 2018**

Hello neighbors of Quail Estates. Now that we are officially in the spring season, (March 20th is officially Spring), we can provide some landscaping tips for your home & garden so you can get a head start in getting that curb appeal that your neighbors will envy and want to know how you did it.

For starters, let's talk about what to provide for your grass now that it is coming out of its dormant state and turning from that brown, dead looking grass, to the deep green grass you want your lawn to have.

In my experience, I've used a professional landscaper/lawn care business to do my lawn (look for recommended lawn care businesses below; they have been used in the neighborhood and have had positive reviews), but for those of you that want to save on funds and like to work with your hands here's a few money saving tips.

Feed your Lawn

Suggested Tips. One of the cheapest but most efficient ways to feed your lawn if you're on a budget is to try using Milorganite fertilizer. This type of product is cheaper (less than \$13 a bag at Home Depot) than Scotts or Lesco and doesn't burn your grass or stain your sidewalk/concrete walkway if you happen to have some spread there accidentally. Although, Milorganite doesn't burn your grass, it will kill it if you put a mound of it anywhere on your lawn without spreading it out evenly. Always follow what the recommended manufacturer suggests on the bag.

Milorganite has nutrients that the grass/lawn needs to feed. It has nitrogen and iron that your lawn feeds on. The best part is that it slowly releases those nutrients into the grass and will green your lawn up in no time. Doesn't need to be watered frequently for it to work and activate. But it's not a miracle worker; you will need to have a healthy lawn with weeds dealt with to get your curb appeal that you want. Check this link out for more information.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLTFJMPrlkc>

Unwanted weeds

Use pre-emergent application to get ahead of those unwanted weeds that will eventually pop up early spring and summer. A suggested pre-emergent is Scotts Crabgrass & Grassy Weed preventer. Add it in the early spring to get control of those pesky crabgrass and unwanted weeds before they start to take over your lawn. Once those stems start showing with seeds at the end, then it is already too late. Pulling them out may be the only way to get rid of them during the year.

Water your lawn consistently

Your lawn needs at least 1 to 1 1/2 inches of water a week to stay healthy and green. You can get a rain gauge that are sold at the local garden center or do a DIY with an empty tuna can. The rain gauge has its markings to make the determination of how much water has been applied when your sprinklers are on or if you use a tuna can, mark the inside with a marker on where the 1" and 1 1/2 inch is marked. The amount of time it takes to fill that level will determine how long to water your lawn to reach that level from the gauge. Check the link below for more information.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u03uZt8UaWw>

Changes to your landscape may require an ACC Request form. When in doubt, fill the form out, better safe than sorry.

As a reminder, if you plan to make any major changes to your lawn such as adding brick or masonry to your rose garden or rose bed, check the link below first. It's the Quail Estates Architectural Guidelines found on our website. Click or copy and paste the link to view.

<http://www.quailestateshh.com/files/design-guidelines.pdf>