

Late Summer Issue

THE SHADE TREE GAZETTE

King GREENSM



About This Service...

Today we applied our summer (Round 4) application to your lawn. Cool-season (Fescue) lawns received pelletized lime. Lime works by raising the pH of your soil. Soil acidity is critical to the way plants absorb nutrients. Lime reduces the acidity of your Georgia clay and allows our fertilizers to work much more effectively. This material will NOT require water in order to be effective.

Warm-season grasses (Bermuda and Zoysia) received both fast-release and controlled-release fertilizers. These fertilizers are designed to provide rapid green-up and to provide lawns with the proper nutrients until our next application.

Proper watering is essential during our hot, dry summers. Please water thoroughly during each watering. It is best to water in the morning while the lawn is still wet from dew.

Disease pressure is extremely high during these months. High temperatures combined with high humidity provide an ideal environment for disease development. **King GREEN** offers both preventative and curative fungicide programs at an extra charge. If you have any questions, please call our office at (770) 536-7611.

Did you receive a tree and shrub application today?

The tree and shrub application today consisted of insecticide to control any young insects that might be hatching and a miticide to control red spider mites on junipers and other shrubs. A fungicide was applied that should keep your shrubs looking their best for the next six to eight weeks. You may have noticed that we don't always spray every plant each time. **King GREEN** uses only the most environmentally responsible products available. It is our policy to minimize all pesticide use. For this reason, we'll evaluate the landscape during each visit and spray only that plant material which needs spraying.

TURF TALK FROM CHARLIE

If you haven't done so already, please visit our wonderful Web site at www.kinggreen.com. We have a customer request page, a bill paying feature and other great services that set us apart from the competition. We're always available by phone for you (with a real person to talk to) to address your concerns. Or you can try the contact page on our Web site.



Have you looked at **King GREEN's** add-on services? We can top dress and aerate warm-season lawns, and we have an active pest and termite control service. Plus, we have many other additional services through our Web site. Be sure to look for specials as you never know what might show up! Now is definitely the time to schedule your aerating and overseeding if you have a fescue lawn. For those of you who had this service last year, we'll automatically reschedule it. If you're a new customer and would like a quote for this fully guaranteed service, please give us a call for pricing and information.

Keep your watering and mowing program going, since turf care is as important right now as any other time of year for whatever grass type you have. For those fescue customers, the dreaded brown patch disease is up and going by now. We're doing everything possible to minimize the fungus, but most lawns will get some anyway. If it really gets to your lawn, we can apply fungicides.

As always, thank you for your business. We appreciate you and wish you a safe vacation season.

King GREENSM

www.kinggreen.com

Atlanta and Gainesville: 770-536-7611
Athens and Watkinsville: 706-310-1120
Charlotte: 704-532-6262

"The Finest Lawn Service Available"



Taming Thatch with Top Dressing

If you take a very close look at your lawn, you may discover a part of it that you never knew existed. Right above the soil is a layer of living and dead grass stems, roots and crowns that's called thatch.

A small amount of thatch is normal and even desirable to help retain moisture in the soil and keep soil temperatures more even. But if the thatch layer is more than ½" thick, it works as a serious barrier against the passage of air, water and fertilizer into the root zone. Thick thatch can also serve as a breeding ground for lawn diseases and turf-eating insects.

Even the best-cared-for lawns can develop excessive thatch. But with the **King GREEN** top dressing process, we can help to keep the thatch in your lawn under control.

What does top dressing do?

Top dressing promotes the development of soil microflora and microfauna which help to break down thatch and any grass clippings that are left behind after mowing. It also improves soil drainage, increases nutrient absorption, reduces soil compaction and increases the exchange of gases between the soil and the atmosphere.

What's in it?

Our top dressing consists of PGA-grade sand at a rate of one ton per 1,000 square feet, and it works perfectly with the clay soils in our region. In addition to the top dressing, the **King GREEN** process includes core aeration, fertilization, dragging, spot leveling and clean-up.

The top dressing will filter into the holes created by core aeration to help speed up the process of thatch decomposition. As a result, air, water and fertilizer will have an easier time reaching the root zone, and you'll have a thicker, greener, more beautiful lawn.

To schedule our top dressing process for your lawn, give **King GREEN** a call today!



AVOIDING LAWN STRESS

The summer season can be very stressful for your lawn. Heat, lack of moisture, humidity, insects, and disease are all byproducts of the summer season that can take a serious toll on your turf.

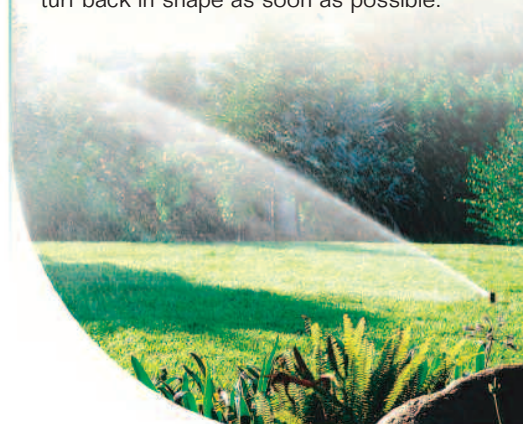
If your lawn has a blueish-green hue, or if your footprints remain visible in the turf after you've walked on it, your lawn may be suffering from stress due to insufficient irrigation or drought. In addition, brown patches of turf or lesions on grass blades are signs that insects or fungus diseases may be preying on your lawn.

A healthy lawn that is well-cared-for will have a better chance of surviving summer stresses. The first step is to make sure your turf is getting enough water. Your lawn needs from 1" to 1½" of water per week, and you should water to a depth of 6" to make sure enough moisture is reaching the root zone.

Proper mowing is important during the summer as well. No more than ⅓ of the grass blade should be removed each time you mow.

Fertilization from **King GREEN** will also help to keep your lawn healthy. With regular applications, your turf will be stronger and better able to fight off insects, disease and other summer stresses.

If you suspect that your lawn is having problems this summer, give us a call right away. Prompt treatment will enable us to get your turf back in shape as soon as possible.



20/20 Referral Program

King GREEN appreciates your business and is giving you the opportunity to receive a \$20 credit. Plus, your friend can receive \$20 off their first service! Refer a new customer to **King GREEN** for any tree, shrub or lawn care service, and when they sign up for service, you'll receive a \$20 credit and your friend will receive \$20 off their first service. It's that easy!

Call us today for details!

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