

Early Summer Issue

THE SHADE TREE GAZETTE

King GREENSM



About This Service...

Today we applied the early summer (Round 3) application to your lawn. Cool-season (Fescue) lawns received iron and weed control. Iron is the primary element used to help your lawn stay green during the hot summer months.

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

Proper watering is essential during our hot, dry summers. Please water thoroughly with each watering ($\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1"). The best time to water is in the early morning while the lawn is still wet with dew.

Disease pressure is very high during the summer 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 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.

Thank you for using King GREEN.

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"

TURF TALK FROM CHARLIE

Dear Customers and Friends,

I want to talk to you today and issue a challenge to help students at West Hall High School and Flowery Branch High School attend college. Two very special friends of mine, Butch and Josie Melton, tragically lost their daughter, Jenny Marie, in a single-car accident on March 19, 2002. Jenny was a great friend of **King GREEN** and was an employee after school and on weekends. During her time here, she was a joy to work with, and all of us miss her each and every day.



Rather than languish in self-pity, the Meltons organized **"The Jenny Melton Foundation."** This foundation, in concert with "Partners in Education," has given out over 40 scholarships in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Hall County students. **King GREEN** has participated in the annual fund-raising, annual Father's Day run and annual golf tournament each and every year. The run will be held at Gainesville College the Saturday before Father's Day (June 16, 2007) at 8:00 a.m. The golf tournament will be held at Stone Mountain Golf Course on September 24, 2007. If you would like to participate or volunteer, call or e-mail me here at **King GREEN** (charlie@kinggreen.com) and I will get you the information and sign-up sheets.

For the 2007 year, **King GREEN** would like to step up to the plate even more. We'd also like to challenge our customers to step up to the plate with us. If you would like to participate, add \$1.00 (or more) to your remittance to **King GREEN**. **King GREEN will match your donation dollar for dollar (up to \$5,000.00) and send it to The Jenny Melton Foundation as a gift to area students.** Please show your community spirit and commitment to education by adding \$1.00 (or more) to your payment. I assure you that this money goes to a good cause and is wisely spent.

Thank you in advance for your donation. We appreciate your business each and every day and look forward to presenting **The Jenny Melton Foundation** with a large check.

Thanks for Caring,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Charlie King'.

Grubs Rubbing You the Wrong Way?

White grubs are the larval stage of several types of beetles. The adult beetles don't do any harm to lawns, but the grubs can completely destroy turf if they're not controlled.

Life Cycle

These insects go through four life stages: egg, grub (larva), pupa and adult. The adults lay their eggs in lawns in mid to late summer, and the eggs hatch two to three weeks later into grubs. The grubs live in the soil under the thatch layer, feeding on grass roots through late fall. They then overwinter in the soil and feed again in the spring before pupating and emerging as adult beetles.



A Hidden Threat

Since they're hidden below the thatch layer, grubs can go unnoticed while they eat the roots out from under your lawn. That's why it's important to perform a periodic grub check. You can do this by pulling up a small patch of turf with your hands. If the turf pulls up easily, and you see white grubs in the soil, control will be needed.

Control

A variety of control options can be used to stop grubs from damaging your lawn. They should be treated before damage begins to appear, or as soon as they're discovered. Either way, remember that they won't disappear on their own! Give **King GREEN** a call today for more information or to schedule grub control for your lawn.

DROUGHT AND/OR HEAT STRESS

Drought and heat stress are caused by high heat and lack of rainfall. This can particularly be a problem in the Atlanta area because of hot, dry summers. Watering consistently is one of the most important maintenance practices in taking care of your lawn. After all, 80% of a grass plant is comprised of water. Without adequate water, grass soon turns brown and becomes dormant. An early clue to dryness is when grassy areas show a dark bluish-green cast. Begin applying water when the soil starts to dry out and before the grass wilts and has a chance to become brown. Water 1" to 1 1/2" per week (1" of water should re-wet the soil about 6" deep). To determine how much water has been applied, set a straight-sided can under the sprinkler.

A word of caution about watering: A single watering during a drought period is likely to do more harm than good. If the grass cannot be kept actively growing with sufficient water, it's best to let the grass go dormant. Inconsistent or "light" watering during extended dry periods will slow the rate of recovery when adequate rainfall does occur. Some things you can do when water is short or expensive are:

1. Water only that part of the lawn where improvement is most important.
2. Water only in the early morning.
3. Aerify the lawn to increase water penetration.
4. Mow regularly until growth slows, but at a higher, rather than lower, cutting height.
5. Make each watering consistent and one that wets the soil to a depth of 6".



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Mowing: A Hot Summer Topic

No matter how you cut it, mowing has a lot to do with keeping your lawn in good shape. Here are some tried-and-true mowing tips for the summer season:

Height to Set Your Mower:

Grass needs its leaves to produce food and to shade and cool the soil. The ideal height for most grasses is 2 1/2" to 3" in hot weather (1/2" to 1" shorter when it gets cool).

How Often to Mow:

Mow often enough so that no more than 1/3 is removed from the lawn's height. To cut more than 1/3 at a time causes a shock from which it takes weeks to recover.

When to Sharpen Blades:

For a well-manicured look, sharpen the mower blades once a month (or at least two to three times per season). Dull mower blades shred grass tips, leaving them jagged looking with straw-colored tips.

Oil is Cheaper Than Engines:

Proper lubrication will add years to a mower's life. Change the oil several times per season. Also, be sure to check the oil level and "top it up" each time you mow. If you mix gas with oil, be sure to use 2-cycle oil only.

Clean Under the Mower Deck:

Clippings build up and interfere with smooth operation. Build-up will prevent clippings from blowing out properly, leading to clumping and all kinds of frustrations.



King GREEN SM IPM
Termite & Pest Control

"The Finest Lawn Service Available"

How our service works: On your initial service, we'll treat both the exterior and interior of your home. With today's advanced pest control materials, we need to service the inside of your home only where there's an active pest problem. On our quarterly follow-up visits, we'll service the exterior of your home with a barrier that will keep pests from re-entering from the outside. If there's ever a concern that requires additional interior treatments, these will be provided whenever needed at no additional cost.

What our service covers: Our service covers most common crawling insects and rodent pests. There's no extra charge for ants, spiders, roaches or other common pests.

What our service doesn't include: Our service doesn't include wild animals, squirrels in the attic, lawn insects and woodpeckers.

Our Guarantee: Because of our confidence in our programs and service, we guarantee your satisfaction with each and every **King GREEN** service. If you're not completely satisfied with the results of any application, we'll gladly reservice your home or refund the cost of the application in question.

Call Us Today!
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What's for Dinner?

Chicken Breasts with Tomato Relish

Marinate 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts in your favorite vinegar-based salad dressing for about an hour before grilling.

For relish, chop several fresh, ripe tomatoes; 1 large, red onion; and 10 to 12 fresh basil leaves. Combine chopped ingredients with 3 tablespoons of olive oil.

Grill chicken breasts over a hot grill for 5 to 6 minutes per side.

Serve chicken breasts and tomato relish over whole wheat pasta for a healthy and delicious meal. **Enjoy!**

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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"The Finest Lawn Service Available"

We Provide Expert:

- Lawn Care
- Tree and Shrub Care
- Aeration
- Aeration Seeding
- Fungicide
- Fire Ant Control
- Kudzu Control
- Commercial Services
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Call (770) 536-7611

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