

Timely Turf Tips

May 2017

Spring may seem like it is never is coming with May 1 flurries, but orioles are back in Minnesota. A look at the Journey North website, www.learner.org/jnorth/maps (scroll down and click on Oriole map), shows some sightings here. The hummingbird migration map even shows a few hardy first arrivers have been observed. This is the perfect time to provide a feeder or two for these travelers. Stop by the mill to see the assortment of feeders and nectar. Save by using the attached coupon below.

Lawn, Tree & Shrub Care

- If your yard had problems with crabgrass or other annual weeds, apply a pre-emergent herbicide when the soil temperature reaches 50 degrees. Be sure to watch your email for a notice from Steve when it is the right time to apply. The mill has 50# bags of Crabgrass Preventer available. Try a corn gluten meal product if you prefer an organic option of control. A 50# bag with 9-10% nitrogen will cover 2500 sq. ft. Both products need to be watered with ¼ - ½" of water shortly after applying for best effectiveness.
- Fertilize your lawn with an application of 25-0-15 fertilizer, made with 50% slow-release nitrogen, SOP, and 2% iron. This is best applied between the end of May and mid-June. Save by using the coupon below.
- When mowing this month, remember that the University of Minnesota Extension states in their *Early May Lawn Care Tips* that the best root growth occurs in the spring. Keeping the mower height at 2 ½ inches will allow healthier roots to develop compared to shorter mowing. Healthier roots will provide the grass a better capacity to withstand summer heat and drought.
- May is Arbor month in Minnesota and a great time to think about fertilizing trees and shrubs. The plants will benefit the most if fertilizer is incorporated into the soil in early May before the main growth spurt occurs. If the soil is sandy, consider splitting the amount between two applications - one now and another one sometime during May 15 - May 31.



Garden Care

- Add any soil amendments (compost and aged manure is best added 2-3 weeks before planting) and/or fertilizer recommended by your soil test results to your garden. Remember the crumble test - if the garden soil doesn't break apart with slight pressure after forming a ball, then wait to begin tilling in order to prevent soil compaction.
- Remember tomatoes and peppers need to be planted late May or early June. They like warm soils for a good start.

Greenhouse up for Mother's Day!

The greenhouse is up and will be operating starting Thursday, May 4. Check out the assortment of flowers and hanging baskets for Mom or get a jump on decorating your own garden. The pepper and tomato plants will arrive mid-month. Steve will be sending out an email when they arrive. He expects 550+ varieties of peppers and tomatoes. Do you remember your favorites from last fall's pepper and tomato tasting events?

Previous issues of Timely Turf Tips newsletters are available at our website: www.hugofeedmill.com

\$1.00 off

40# Bag of 25-0-15 Fertilizer

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