

Now that the confusing winter of 2011-2012 continues to set new records in so many strange ways (winter doesn't officially end until the late night hours of Monday March 19th) we can look back at the fact that Alaska got over 60' of snow and the mountains of Vermont did not receive 60" of snow. Temperatures also varied in an extreme way, giving us an above average winter season temperature. With that being said, we now eagerly look to an early spring.

So I begin our new landscape segment with a few tips and a few areas of possible concern. First some easy tips:

1. With the warm air and not so frozen ground it is a great time to plant and fertilize bulbs for spring, late spring and summer.
2. Get a head start on cleanup of the yard and beds, thatching will be a breeze this year not being matted down for months.
3. Applying a pre-emergent weed control in your landscape beds early (of course you can purchase your mulch from D&D as well as hire us to install it too!)
4. Feed your shrubs and trees.

Now some things to be aware of:

1. Usually I would say pruning ornamental/flowering trees in early March would be ok, not so fast. Buds are no longer dormant and energy is streaming through limbs and branches so it may cause stress and smaller blooms. So be cautious.
2. Frost heaves (frozen trapped water) throughout your yard may have caused walkways, patios, stairs etc. to buckle or sink.
3. The lack of precipitation may be a concern going forward so watering may begin earlier than usual.

Enjoy the great weather, get outside and look for projects for your property. Go to the Flower Show in Boston, get more ideas. Invest in your yard and of as always contact us for all your landscape services and landscape material needs.

Phil Cornetta

Landscape Operations Manager

D&D Mulch and Landscape, Inc.