

Landscape Done Right

September 8, 2012

Now that the hot, humid weather is winding down, the fall season is soon upon us. The warm days and cool nights become the ideal time to repair the dead, brown spots you may be seeing throughout your lawn. There are a few basic and relatively simple steps to lay the groundwork for improving the health and look of your lawn.

First, roughly rake and remove the dead, brown areas using either a metal rake or heavy-duty plastic rake. Next purchase some good screened-loam and using a method we call top dressing {spreading about 1" – 2" of the loam evenly over the areas}. After hand raking the loam it is time to add and spread some grass seed over the loam (by hand or spreader is fine, just making sure you cover the entire area well).

Rake the seed into the loam so the seed is in the soil, not just lying on top. Then spread a starter fertilizer (be sure to follow the directions on the bag). If you have access to a roller or compactor, press the seed and fertilizer into the soil (you can also take a plastic rake and flip it over to the flat side and pat it into the soil. Water the loam twice daily, trying to keep soil damp for about two weeks. The earlier in season you can get seed down, the better for germination to take place. You may also have the opportunity and time to apply late fall fertilizer to help protect and feed for the winter months.

Get out and enjoy the great autumn season, and fix those trouble areas. You'll be glad you did in the spring.

Phil Cornetta

Landscape Operations Manager

D&D Mulch and Landscape, Inc.