

## RAISE YOUR MOWING HEIGHT...

Your mower should be at the highest setting on push mowers, and 3.5 inches on riding mowers.



No, it's not a lifestyle choice! Frankly, I'd rather laze in the sun than spend my life digging for grubs and earthworms...

### MAKING HAY

In May of every season, grass goes to seed the same as any other plant which develops seeds. For this short period of time, the grass appears to be kind of gray in color on top, with a general off color appearance. Many homeowners have mistaken the seed head for something other than it is, because of the hay like appearance. This generally takes a few mowings for the hay like appearance to disappear.



Congratulations to our Round 1, 2017 Word Jumble Winner! **Ray Rindy of Sharon, PA** won a gift certificate to Dona Vito's Italian Grille.

WORD	
JUMBLE	
FLOWERS	
Hidden Message	
Everyone has these flowers on the	heir face
ime: Ph	one: Address:

Please submit your Word Jumble entry form to The Lawn Ranger for a chance to win a gift certificate to Dona Vito's Italian Grille. The winner will be drawn at the end of our Round 2 service.



#### START YOUR ENGINES! LET THE RACE BEGIN

Now that the growing season has started, it is hard to keep up with your mowing unless you have a mowing company. I know how easy it is to let the grass get away from you, either from the weather or just not enough time. You cannot catch up in one mowing; you have to do it gradually. The rule of thumb is to never take off more than 1/3 of the blade per cutting. If you take too much off, the grass not only loses color but you also have to deal with windrows of grass that need to be raked or they will damage the lawn. Short cuttings also expose diseased turf. Right now that disease is Red Thread.

Red Thread can occur in all cool season grasses but Rye Grass is very susceptible to this disease. Red Thread mainly discolors the grass and rarely does any permanent damage. If you do have Red Thread problems and would like a fungicide treatment please call our office.

Leaf Spot is another disease that is around the corner. This disease can also occur in all cool season grasses but Blue Grass is very susceptible. Leaf Spot leaves what appears to be a cigarette burn on the grass blade. This disease also rarely causes permanent damage and only discolors grass. Most of the lawns in our area are made up of a variety of grasses, so once a disease enters, the lawn can still maintain somewhat of a healthy appearance because the disease does not affect all the grasses. One thing that does affect all grasses is shade. Most people ask me why they do not have grass under their tree when they once did. As the tree ages it requires more nutrients from the soil. It becomes a competition for nutrients and moisture. The tree wins every time. Also as the tree ages it provides more shade which is bad for the grass. Grass needs four hours of direct sunlight per day to stay healthy. As the tree ages, the grass from the brim line will slowly decline to the point where it is dirt. You can re-seed and the grass will germinate but it usually does not survive. A lot of times I recommend a bed under the tree once the area declines.

Finally, I want to cover watering. If you wait until we are in a drought to start watering you are too late. Grass requires an inch of water per week to stay healthy. I recommend, if you water, to start the first week we do not get rain. This normally is the first few weeks of June. If you start then the lawn should maintain decent color.

As always, should you have any questions, please feel free to give our office a call. Thank you for letting us service your lawn. We appreciate your business.



The Lawn Ranger Is Here To Protect And Service Your Lawn www.TheLawnRangerOnline.com 330-536-6630 • 1-877-536-6630 • 330-758-8676



Japanese beetles have done a lot of damage on ornamentals in the past. Control of these critters can be accomplished with little effort. First, do NOT use beetle traps! They bring more beetles to your yard than you would have without them.

Second, if the beetles are eating your plants, they can be controlled with an insecticide called Sevin. Be sure to read the label. You can buy this product in concentrate form. Put the concentrate in a hose end spraver. Set the mixture rate on top of the spraver, and spraver your plants approximately every three days, beginning about the Fourth of July. This is the most economical method of control. Another method is to buy Sevin in a premixed container, and spray as needed. This method is actually easier, but also more costly.

The third, and least expensive method, is to put some kerosene in a vegetable can. Hold the can under the plants, and knock the beetles into the mixture. Of course, you are limited to plants within reach. This method works for some, although you might decide to spray this year, since plants would need to be checked about twice each day.

In addition, the good news is that the Lawn Ranger is now able to treat and virtually eradicate beetles on your trees and shrubs. Be sure to protect the valued ornamentals in your yard with our new Tree and Shrub Treatment. Please note that you often need two of our treatments to effectively protect your trees and shrubs from these destructive insects. Call now to learn the best time period to treat them, and to schedule your treatments.



Price:

7 to 10 shrubs and 1 tree	\$49.00
11 to 15 shrubs and 2 trees	\$69.00
15 to 20 shrubs and 3 trees	\$89.00



#### **GREAT NEWS!**

Red Thread Disease and Dollar Spot Disease were prevalent in many of our lawns throughout much of last summer. Fortunately, we are able to apply a fungicide treatment throughout May which is best as a preventative treatment, but it is used as a control as well. This application has proven to help alleviate Red Thread Disease, Dollar Spot Disease, Leaf Spot Disease, and Rust. Even though the use of this fungicide is not guaranteed, its use has a very high success rate when applied before the disease season begins. Be sure to call our office as soon as possible to schedule this much needed application. It is costly, but well worth it!

# **GRUBS in 2017**

Over the past 17 years, our industry has done a tremendous job of introducing grub preventer products to help lawns stay healthy when these pests are active. Although these products are not 100% effective, they are in the 93–97% range and do a wonderful job. The amount of grub damage in lawns has been drastically reduced and this could only be attributed to these products. In The Lawn Ranger's experience, the only customers who had any type of damage are the customers who did not purchase this product. Most customers who choose not to receive this product are only deterred by the cost. When you spend money to have a beautiful lawn, then lose it to grub damage, the cost of this product is minute compared to the cost of repair. Your lawn will never look the same, from color to overall terrain. Predicting what this year will bring is impossible, but it is certainly better to be safe than sorry.



Grubs are the most destructive insect homeowners and lawn care applicators encounter. By the time actual damage appears on the surface, grubs have already consumed 90% of the root system. Grubs are attracted to any lawn with a thatch layer. One of the most successful methods of prevention is to apply a grub preventer called "MERIT".

Merit is one of the most widely used products, with nearly a 100% control rate. In fact, in the thousands of applications we have made, there have only been a few failures, and the grub activity was so minimal, damage would not have occurred.

**FLEAS & TICKS** 



Most health professionals agree that smothering ticks with petroleum jelly, fingernail polish, or other such substances, do little to reduce the chances of infection or contracting disease. A tick which is coated, or smothered, still has enough oxygen to live long enough to continue feeding. It is during this feeding period that transmission of organisms occurs. More drastic measures, such as burning, or killing the organisms with sharp objects, can actually increase chances of even more fluids being released into the tick's host.

Attached ticks can be removed using small tipped tweezers. Grasping the tick, as close to the skin as possible, will give you a better chance of removing the tick in its entirety. Ticks can excrete substances which help the pest adhere to its host, and they also have mouthparts which assist them to hang onto their host as they feed.

Holding the tick with your tweezers, slowly, but firmly, pull the tick away from the skin. If you have health concerns of any kind, you can release the tick into a container of alcohol. The container should be labeled with pertinent information which could be helpful to medical professionals. This information should include date, location, or other related facts, including the victim's name, age, etc.

Once you have removed the tick from the skin, and the tick has been disposed of, or placed in a container, wash your hands, as well as the tweezers, or any other object that the tick, or fluids from the tick, may have contacted. Objects used to remove or dispose of ticks, as well as the sight of the tick bite, should be thoroughly disinfected.

The purpose of this article is to help advise how to remove a tick, which has attached itself to the skin of a person or pet. Certainly, medical inquiries should be directed to a medical professional. If a person or pet develops any suspicious symptoms, or behavior, be sure to contact a medical professional. Pest management professionals are trained in the prevention or control of pests, not in matters of the health of people or pets.



## **GRUB** PREVENTER "Merit"

Without a doubt, fleas and ticks continue to be a problem in lawns, on pets, and around children. We have already pulled a few off of our office cats.

Call To Schedule Your Flea And Tick Treatment 330-536-6630 or 1-877-536-6630