

Timely Turf Tips



April 2015

Grand Opening
Saturday, April 11

Spring is here, and it's time for a party. Come and celebrate our grand opening of the new store this month. We will email the flyers for details. Want to try straw bale gardening? Joel Karsten, the author of *Straw Bale Gardening*, will be on hand. Have questions about your pets? Katie from Katie K9 will be available to answer them. Food, live music, and more, so remember to check out the flyers or our website for specific times for all the events and come join us.

Spring Yard and Garden Tips

Remember that early April soil is cold and wet, so resist the temptation to get out on the lawn or garden until the ground is dry and firm. Heavy traffic too early can increase soil compaction, which affects a plant's ability to uptake moisture and nutrients from the soil.

Start this month off by picking up any sticks, litter, and pet waste that has accumulated over the winter on the lawn and sweep any sand, rocks, and other debris off of any hard surfaces to prevent it from reaching the storm sewer.

Trim back any perennials that were left for winter interest or to provide food for birds before the new growth begins. Popular summer blooming shrubs, like Annabelle hydrangea and Anthony Waterer spirea, can be pruned back level with the ground because these plants bloom on new wood. The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum recommends this be done the first week in April.

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. Save now on your purchase with the coupon below.

Consider having a soil test of your yard or garden to help know the correct type and amount of product to use and when to apply it. See the coupon below for savings. Use the University of Minnesota Soil Testing Laboratory link, <http://soiltest.cfans.umn.edu/how-to-submit-samples/lawn-garden/>, to learn how and where to collect your sample. Call Steve at the mill (651-429-3361) if you have any questions about the process.

Do not rush to remove mulch from plant beds. With fluctuating spring temperatures, that mulch could still provide some frost protection and early spring gardens are too wet for any foot traffic anyway. Use the crumble test to see if the garden is ready for any work. This is done by taking a handful of dirt, shaping it into a ball, and poking the ball to see if it crumbles into smaller pieces. If it doesn't break apart, then wait to begin to prevent soil compaction.

Start to plant cold season crops, like lettuce, beets, carrots, peas, spinach, and radish, around April 15.

Grand Opening appearance by.....

World Renowned
Childrens Musician
DAVEY DOODLE!!
12:30-2:00 P.M.



Orioles will be arriving in May. Males come first to set up their areas for courtship. When the females arrive, the males serenade them with song. Be ready for them by setting out feeders to attract them. See the assortment of feeders at the mill and ask questions about feeding these colorful creatures.

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

\$1.00 off

50# Bag of Crabgrass Preventer

(Limit 4)

1 coupon per customer. Expires 4/30/15

Hugo Feed Mill & Hardware

5582 146th St. N. Hugo, MN 55038 651-429-3361

\$5 off

U of M Lawn & Garden Soil Test

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