

Timely Turf Tips



December 2016

Gift Certificates are available

Mother Nature is slow to bring winter cold this year. Did you finish preparing the yard for the snow and cold yet? How about protecting your young trees and shrubs from damage. There is still time to wrap young trees that may be damaged by sunscald. Use these dates as a reminder- on at Thanksgiving and off at Easter. Evergreens that have shown browning caused by winter moisture loss can benefit by screening them with burlap on the south/west facing side. Also, water them thoroughly before the ground freezes. Finally, remember that rabbits and mice will also cause damage in the winter. Protect young trees and shrubs by wrapping them with wire mesh (1/4-inch mesh hardware cloth for mice/ poultry netting for rabbits.) Just remember to allow enough height for snow (one to two feet above expected levels) or you may be adjusting later this winter. See the friendly folks at the mill for these supplies.

Nutritious winter foods have a high fat or oil content that will provide abundant energy for winter survival. Consider using:

Black oil sunflower seeds- a favorite of many birds, including cardinals, chickadees, finches, nuthatches, titmice, and woodpeckers.

Safflower seeds- a good choice for cardinals, chickadees, grosbeaks, and titmice. Ask about golden safflower, which has a higher oil content, fat content, and protein level than white safflower along with a thinner outer shell for easier cracking.

Suet- Birds love suet. A rendered animal fat, suet provides concentrated energy to help birds make it through freezing winter days and nights. Woodpeckers, chickadees, and nuthatches will devour suet.

Peanuts- a nutritious food for birds, high in fat and protein. They are well-liked by cardinals, chickadees, woodpeckers, and titmice.

Nyjer seed- a small, black seed containing a high calorie and oil content that is desired by goldfinches, redpolls, and pine siskins.

More Winter Bird Feeding Tips

- Clean off feeders, platforms and perches after each storm so seed is easily accessible.
- Add a heated birdbath to the backyard or place a safe heating element in a regular birdbath to provide birds with liquid water.
- Stamp or shovel snow around the feeders to provide easier access to spilled seed for ground feeding birds.

Holiday Gift Ideas at the Mill

- For the family: Bird feeders, birdbath heaters and decorative outdoor thermometers.
- ★ **Check out this great gift idea- Get a Paul's Perch w/Seed Bell (made right here in Hugo) for a Christmas Special price of \$4.95.** ★
- For the kids that are starting to drive: emergency tow strap, jumper cables, windshield scraper, and hand warmers.
- For the older kids in dorms, first apartment or house: tool box filled with hand tools. Tape measure stocking stuffer.
- For the family pets: rawhide chews, biscuits, and toys for dogs and cats.



Happy Holidays from all of us here at Hugo Feed Mill. We thank you for your business and look forward to continuing to serve you with your lawn, garden, feed and hardware needs throughout the new year.

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

\$3.00 Off

40# bag of Hugo Cardinal Mix

(Limit 2 bags)

1 coupon per customer. Expires 12/31/16

Hugo Feed Mill & Hardware

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

20% Off

All Bird Feeders

(\$10 maximum coupon value)

1 coupon per customer. Expires 12/31/16

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