

Timely Turf Tips

January 2017

Happy New Year and welcome to Minnesota winter cold. Brr, now is the time to gather up the seed catalogs, any notes from last growing season, and a warm blanket to start planning for the next growing season. Note which plants may need to be split or moved to produce vigorous new growth. Go to the library to look at horticultural magazines and books. Ideas can come from many sources. Use this quiet time to prepare; spring is coming.

Cold Weather Tips for Bird Feeding

- When trying to attract birds, fresh water can be as important as food for winter bird feeding. Consider adding a heated birdbath to give birds an open source of water during the coldest of months.
- Be sure to keep birdfeeders full of high calorie and high fat foods to provide the needed energy for winter survival. Use the coupon below for a *Wildlife Science Suet Plus* cake.
- Stamp or shovel snow around the feeders to provide easier access to spilled seed for ground feeding birds.
- Winter survival can cause birds to gather together in larger flocks and can lead to the spread of disease. It's important to keep feeders clean by regularly replacing old seed and washing feeders that have become too soiled by birds. Clean by removing all seed, wash to remove any residue on the feeder, and disinfect it with an application of bleach solution (nine parts water, one part chloride bleach.) Remove any remaining solution by rinsing in clean water and allow the feeder to completely dry before refilling.



Cold Weather Tips for Pets

- Outdoor pets require additional food and a fresh, unfrozen water source during these colder months. Check to see if the water is not frozen too quickly to allow the pet access to enough water. Consider adding a heater to the water bowl if necessary. Rubber or plastic bowls are preferred, not metal.
- After walking your pet outside on winter streets, it is a good idea to wipe off the pads of their paws when they enter the house to remove any salt or chemical residue that may irritate the skin or stomach lining if licked off.
- Trim any excess hair between their pads if ice chunks develop on their feet during winter walks to lessen the irritation caused by the ice.

We have calcium chloride and magnesium chloride for cold weather ice melting. Also, poultry grit is great for providing traction. Keep some in your car and by the front door to reduce slipping. Save some cash by using the coupon below.

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

FREE

Wildlife Science Suet Plus cake

(\$1.69 value)

1 coupon per customer. Expires 1/31/17

Hugo Feed Mill & Hardware

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

\$2.00 Off

Any bag of ice melting product 20# or larger

(Limit 1 bag per customer)

1 coupon per customer. Expires 1/31/17

Hugo Feed Mill & Hardware

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