

### Hi friends,

Well it's taken forever but it looks like spring might finally be on its way. I don't know about you but I'll be fine never hearing the word "bombogenesis" again. Record cold in January, a warm February, and weekly nor'easters in March. Winter definitely kept us on our toes this year.

Despite all that, we kept busy here at Urban. Between winter tree work, storm cleanups and snow removal, our staff had plenty to do. But now the busy season starts and we're ready to get going. In fact, we're looking for some great people to join us this year. We have openings in several areas, so whether you're an experienced crew leader or someone willing to work hard and love what you do, we want to talk to you. Many of our employees have told us that this started out as a job for them and ended up as a career.

I was fortunate enough to take a break from winter and attend the TCIA Conference, our industry trade association. There we were honored to receive a Professional Communications Award for our newsletters. As you probably know, we've been doing these for a while and they've become an important way for us to pass along some knowledge and fun facts, while giving our customers a way to get to know us beyond being "those guys with the chain saws". It was great to get industry recognition, but for us the most important feedback is when someone tells us how much they enjoy reading them. I hope you enjoy reading this one as well.

Many thanks,

Ed Hopkins, President



### in New Hampshire

Too green the springing April grass,
Too blue the silver-speckled sky,
For me to linger here, alas,
While happy winds go laughing by,
Wasting the golden hours indoors,
Washing windows and scrubbing floors.

Too wonderful the April night,
Too faintly sweet the first May flowers,
The stars too gloriously bright,
For me to spend the evening hours,
When fields are fresh and streams are leaping,
Wearied, exhausted, dully sleeping.





# Keep Those Bird Feeders Stocked

While we all love having the birds return in the spring, it can be a very stressful time for our new residents. They're tired from the long trek and need to build a nest and find a mate. Plus, with all the snow this year, finding food can be even more difficult. So give them a break by making sure your bird feeder is full so that's one less thing they have to worry about. If you live in an area with a large black bear population however, you might want to remove your bird feeders in the spring to avoid attracting them to your yard.

# SPRING AROUND THE WORLD

- 1. On the equinox, a person at the North or South Pole would see the sun skim across the horizon, signaling the start of six months of sunlight or darkness.
- 2. The early Egyptians built the Great Sphinx so that it points directly toward the rising sun on the spring equinox.
- **3.** On the first day of spring, people in Poland gather to burn an effigy and throw it in the river to bid winter farewell.
- **4.** March is named after Mars, the Roman god of war. In ancient Rome, this month signaled the beginning of warfare season.
- **5.** The opening of the cherry blossom in March or April, signals the start of spring in Japan.
- 6. At Chichen Itza, Mexico, the Maya celebrate the first day of spring with "The Return of the Sun Serpent." On the spring equinox, the setting sun creates a triangular shadow on the El Castillo pyramid that looks like a descending snake, or the feather serpent god Kukulkan.
- 7. The first day of spring marks the beginning of Nowruz, the Persian New Year. The celebration lasts 13 days and is rooted in the 3,000-year-old tradition of Zoroastrianism.
- 8. The colorful Hindu festival of Holi is celebrated as the spring equinox approaches. Observed in India and Nepal, it is famous for participants throwing color over each other. The festival signifies the victory of good over evil with the onset of spring and the end of winter.



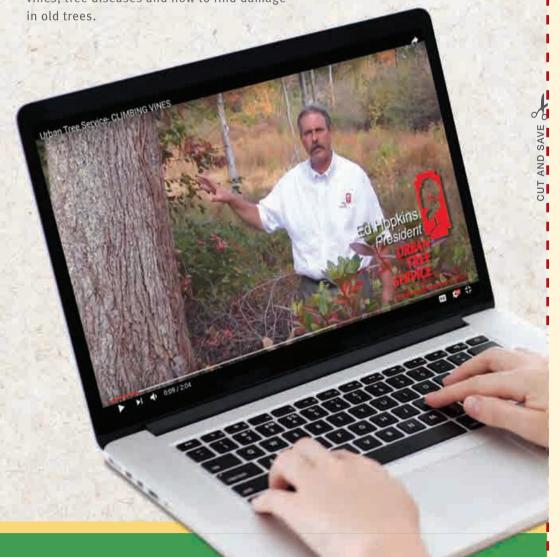
## Sign Up For Lawn Maintenance!

We know, we know. Talking about lawn care while there's still so much snow seems weird, but it's never too early to sign up for a lawn maintenance plan. Spots fill up quickly, so signing up now means that you can spend the summer relaxing on your beautiful lawn.

**Urbantreeservice.com** 

### **EDUCATIONAL YIDEOS**

We just added several new informational videos to our YouTube page. So visit **goo.gl/JedSn2** and let The Eds teach you about climbing vines, tree diseases and how to find damage



## SPRING/ SUMMER CHECKLIST

#### APRIL

- ☐ Make sure your Plant Health Care Program is in place before the growing season starts
- Plan for aesthetic pruning of smaller ornamental trees
- ☐ Schedule your spring fertilization
- Plant hearty vegetables and bare root stock as soon as soil is workable
- Complete fruit tree pruning and tree maintenance
- Perform rejuvenation pruning on summer flowering shrubs
- Inspect hemlocks, pines, spruces and firs for cool season mites
- Consult with your Urban Tree team about a lawn health plan

#### MAY

- Inspect trees for diseases and treat as needed
- ☐ Conduct deep root feeding for low vitality trees, striving for increased quality
- General pruning
- Protect your family from disease with an integrated tick and mosquito program
- ☐ Plant new perennials and summer bulbs
- Divide mums and other late bloomers
- Plant annuals after last frost

#### JUNE

- Inspect and treat for defoliating caterpillars
- ☐ Have general pruning work done
- Deter rodents and insects bridging to your home by side trimming trees away from buildings, lamp posts, walkways and driveways
- ☐ Treat elm trees for Dutch Elm Disease
- Cover ripening berries with netting to protect from birds
- ☐ Divide spring bulbs that are crowding
- ☐ Replant herb garden with new seedlings
- Keep a close watch for pests and disease

If you would like assistance with the above assessments and services, please call 603-332-1246.



A Tree Health Company, Inc.



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We are always happy to hear from you. Please call with any questions or comments you may have. You will find our staff friendly and helpful!

#### **URBAN TREE SERVICE**

A Tree Health Company, Inc. 119A Walnut Street Rochester, NH 03866-1631

P: 603-332-1246

F: 603-335-0522

E: info@urbantreeservice.com

www.urbantreeservice.com

#### ABOUT URBAN TREE SERVICE / A TREE HEALTH COMPANY, INC:

Since 1990, Urban Tree Service has offered premier tree and plant health care services year round. We have on-staff certified arborists and Certified Commercial Pesticide Applicators in NH, ME and MA. Our range of services includes the following:

- Tree & Shrub Pruning
- · Tree Planting
- Plant Health Care
- Fertilization
- Lawn Health Services
- Cabling
- Tree Removal
- · Mosquito & Tick Control
- Stump Grinding
- · Vegetation Control
- Free Property Evaluation
- Residential &

Commercial Services

Check out our library of helpful videos online and on YouTube! www.urbantreeservice.com or www.youtube.com/urbantreeservice

# **ASK THE ARBORIST**



**Ed Roy** 

#### Q. Is spring a good time of year to plant trees?

A. Yes, spring is a very good time of year to plant trees and shrubs. Planting before dormancy breaks affords the best chance for survival.

#### Q. Is spring lawn aeration helpful?

A. Absolutely! A heavy, extended snow pack can create several problems for your lawn. Grey snow mold, a type of fungus, can become a problem in the early spring where snow sits on top of unfrozen ground. Aeration helps break up the matting effect of the disease and will help the water and nutrients reach the root zone of the grass plants, further improving their health.

#### Q. Is it OK to leave limbs that cracked over the winter in my trees?

A. It's always a good idea to remove cracked and broken limbs. Cracked and broken limbs are a safety concern and they can negatively affect the health of the tree. Spring Checklist (April, May and June)

### Do you have questions for Ed?

Feel free to contact him at Urban Tree Service at 603-332-1246.

Ed Roy is Plant Health Care Manager and an ISA certified Arborist at Urban Tree Service/A Tree Health Company Incorporated.

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