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**Natural/Organic Lawn Care
Landscape Maintenance**

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Visit our website at: www.dellsadler.com

**Tick Repellent Program
Natural Deer Repellent Service**

Monthly Newsletter

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December Garden Tips

* Filled your bird feeders yet? How about sunflowers seeds or even peanuts as a Holiday treat?

* Finish cutting back your perennials so they won't appear shabby next year. However, I confess that we like to keep anything that harbors an interesting look for a winter garden. The birds seem to enjoy perching on sedum and even old cone-flowers. So, we keep them.

TOP TIP OF THE MONTH!

* We've said it before, but this one bears repeating. Keep your Christmas tree watered. It needs to be hydrated as much as possible. Cut a few inches off the base before you place it in the stand. This helps the tree drink water while it's indoors.

* There's still plenty of time to apply that protective layer of mulch to your plant material. Remember, mulch helps to retain moisture during drying winter winds. A steady temperature (which the mulch will provide) keeps the plant dormant. It won't start developing new growth in case there's a warm spell.

* Since most of your gardening will be indoors this year, follow the old maxim: "When in doubt, don't water." Better too dry than too wet.

A Personal Message

I'm back in the saddle again. The words to that old song keep ringing in my head. As you can probably guess by now, my health is improving since our last newsletter.

Thanks to everyone for their nice cards and emails. I received dozens of wonderful cards and almost a hundred email messages with get well wishes. I am very grateful and somewhat embarrassed by all the attention.

For those of you who don't know, I am suffering from Ehrlichiosis. It's a tick-borne illness that generally causes flu-like symptoms. That's how it began with me.

Although I sought treatment after three days, something went terribly wrong with me. I was in the hospital twice. I ended up in critical care for almost a week. Apparently, there was a lot of concern about my condition. I was too sick to realize most of what was happening.

Happily, that's in the past. I'm back at home, trying to resume work. I'm not quite up to capacity, but I'm toddling around the office trying to look busy. A big THANK YOU to my staff and crews for covering for me during the past month.

I'll be in recovery mode for quite some time to come. My immune system is somewhat compromised. Joint pain can be excruciating. I still have a sensitivity to sunlight because of all the antibiotics.

However, this is all minimal and the worst is over. I'll be on a renewed mission to prevent tick bites in others next year. You'll see even more information about this subject in future newsletters.

One other piece of news directly related to this subject. We won't be decorating our property for Christmas this year. I'm a little too shaky to be outside on a ladder, stringing 15,000+ lights on our house and offices. We'll light up, even bigger and better next year.

I'd be remiss not to touch on events for the early part of next year. You may want to consider taking advantage of our Winter Work Discount. You will receive 10% off all labor charges for landscaping work if you schedule it during the months of January and February. We only offer this discount for landscaping projects. If you're thinking about a new landscape bed for next season, this may help cement the deal. Need your ornamental grasses trimmed? We'll knock 10% off all the man-hours. Hope this helps you get more from your landscaping dollars!

No newsletter in January, but we'll return in February.

Hope your Christmas is wonderful. Thank you for a great year.

Our List of Programs and Services

From time to time, we try to let you know about the different services we offer. We are a full service landscaping company offering all of the usual maintenance programs.

Additionally, we have several specialized programs such as natural/organic lawn care that is 80% non-toxic.

We also offer deer and tick repellent programs.

PROGRAMS

Natural/Organic Lawn Program: *We use only natural/organic fertilizers and top quality grass seed. Our program is 80% non-toxic and includes disease, weed and pest deterrents. Please contact us for a free lawn evaluation.*

Monthly Property Maintenance: *Weeding is available as needed or on a regular monthly schedule. There is no minimum charge for the monthly program and no contract is required.*

Natural/Organic Deer Repellent Program: *The deer repellent program is applied on a periodic basis throughout the year. There is absolutely no possibility of harm to the deer because only natural/organic, non-toxic products are used.*

Tick Repellent Service: *Our integrated approach to tick control begins with a barrier tick repellent service. We may also suggest brush removal, Damminix tube placement and deer repellent spray as part of a total package of tick management.*

SERVICES

Mulching: *We apply a wide variety of locally available mulches for top dressing and plant protection purposes. Also, we stock pine straw mulch for a truly unique look.*

Weeding: *Weeding crews are available on an as needed basis or you may choose a regular monthly schedule. There are no minimum charges for the monthly maintenance program.*

Edging: *We create and maintain edges for landscaped beds and driveways. We offer both temporary and permanent edging solutions that help define landscape beds from your lawn.*

Care of Landscape Ornamentals: *A complete maintenance program of trimming and shaping your ornamentals is available as needed or as part of our regular monthly program. Please contact us about the fertilization needs of your valuable shrubs and ornamentals.*

Soil Amendments: *We use a variety of composted products to amend the topsoil in your landscaped gardens and beds. You may want to consider mushroom-based, pelletized compost which adds organic matter to your plant material and is odor-free.*

Plant Health Care: *We use a compost tea blend to prevent plant diseases. Our best selling point here is that our clients call us back year after year to schedule their sprays. It really works!*

Installation of Flower & Landscaped Beds: *Whether you work with a landscape architect or design the project yourself, we are available to provide the labor and materials necessary to complete your job.*

Landscape Design: *Our landscape designer has worked on some of the most beautiful properties on the Eastern Shore. He loves to use indigenous plant material. As an extra added benefit, you'll actually have the designer on staff at the time of installation.*

Woods Restoration: *We can turn your woods into a park-like setting. Programs to remove poison ivy and other unwanted vegetation from your woods are available.*

Leaf Removal: *Complete leaf removal service is available for your entire property. However, our large leaf vacuum can also assist you in removing piles of leaf debris you have prepared.*

Grass Cutting: *Our state of the art mowers make short work of tall grass. And, the job's not done until we weedeat the edges of your landscape beds and blow off walkways and the driveway.*

Please contact us if you need a service that is not listed above. We specialize in providing unique outdoor services that will meet your individual needs. We are willing to perform the entire job or assist you with any portion of your project.

Call us or visit our website at dellsadler.com to sign up for your free newsletter which provides seasonal information relevant to the Eastern Shore. And while you're there, take a look at our Photo Gallery. We try hard to keep it updated with new and interesting projects as we complete them.