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# DELL J. SADLER III, INC.

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## Landscaping Newsletter and Garden Tips

March, 2013 Volume 107

**Seems like the 1st of March is the unofficial start of spring. So, in my mind, spring is just about here.**

**We operated on a smaller basis during the winter months and are slowly bringing our staff back to work, full-time.**

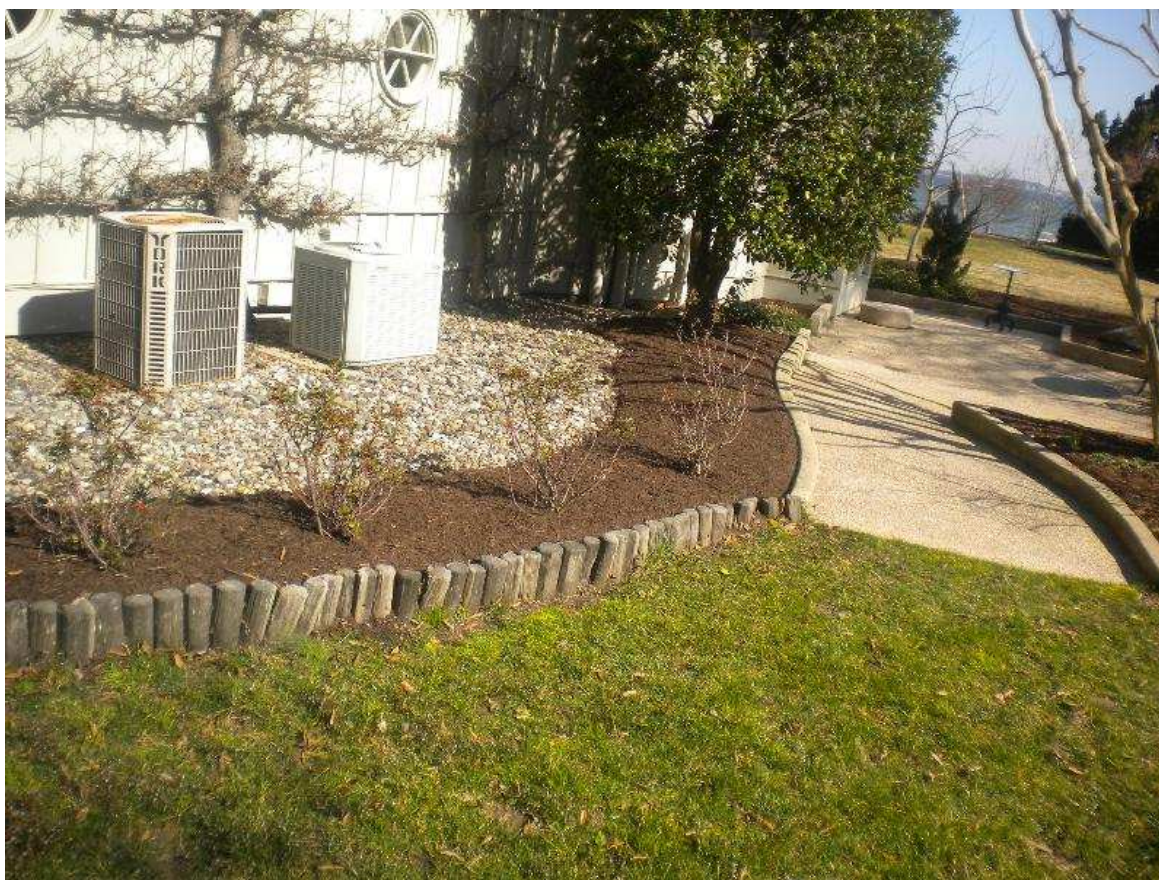
**Here's a project we completed this past winter. Be sure to check out both the "before" and "after" pictures.**



*Cleaning the winter debris from a landscape bed.*



**See how we've trimmed back the shrubbery? Next, we rake out the debris that's accumulated in the garden all winter.**



*Doesn't this garden look better? It's on the same property.*

**Early spring is a great time for a clean-up.**

### **A Personal Message**

I predict we'll see daffodils during the first week of March. Don't know why I like to offer up these projections, but I do.

I'll usually see the first daffodil of the season on the sunny side of Goldsborough Street in Easton. There's also a beautiful home near Memorial Hospital that boasts some early bloomers.

To get daffodils, you have to plan ahead. Bulbs need to go into the ground in the fall.

We've had some bad luck with daffodils here at the office. They'll bloom like crazy for a year, then we never see them again. The idea is that they're perennials and return to show off every year. Apparently, they're not willing to cooperate.

Melissa tried her hand at crocus bulbs last fall. We probably planted several hundred. We don't do things half-heartedly here at the Sadlers. No sir.

However, as I write this newsletter, we haven't seen a single bloom. Call Melissa in the office for updates...410.770.5882.

Anybody need seed catalogs? We must have several dozen.

Occasionally, we'll still start a few plants from seeds. Melissa lines up rows of small trays of seedlings. They look like tiny soldiers marching off to distant lands.

She positions them directly under the skylight in our big conference room, then moves them outdoors gradually. When they're ready to go outside, we move the trays for about an hour the first day. We might leave them for two hours on their second day and so forth.

This process of "hardening off" assures that the plants won't go into shock while they're still so tiny and tender. It's a good idea, but we sure spend a lot of time shuttling those trays back and forth.

In other news, we're trying to shake off the sluggishness of the winter and get back to our usual hectic schedule. I'm also trying to shake off those extra winter pounds that crept up unexpectedly. I love the slower pace of winter, but why does that seem to automatically mean packing on the pounds? At least it does for me.

If we can assist you with anything this spring, please don't hesitate to give me a call. We'll look forward to the possibility of working for you.

## ***Landscape Design***

***How did your yard look last year? Did you buy plants that looked beautiful at the nursery, then not so great at home?***

***All too often, many of us are guilty of buyer's remorse when it comes to plant material. You're outside on a beautiful spring day and you drive by a great display of flowers, shrubs and trees. So, you stop by for a look and suddenly, the backseat of your car is in full bloom.***

***But, your vision of an oasis in the backyard can quickly be derailed if the plants aren't the right size. They may be too large or too small. They might have special watering needs. And, sometimes, it's difficult to install plant material properly.***

***Many properties have that look of flowers and shrubs placed in the ground willy-nilly. It's frustrating and it's expensive. A plan, based on your preferences and your yard can save you both time and money.***





*Here's an example of good intentions gone wrong. Look at the big bare areas. The color palette doesn't match. Plants look as if they were thrown together without any thought or proper planning.*

***Whether simple or more elaborate, a landscaping plan should reflect your personality. Do you have time to care for traditional roses? Or are maintenance-free Knockout Roses more your style?***

***Do you prefer flowers or a clean, green line of shrubbery? How about a stone pathway for frequently traveled areas?***

***No matter how small or large, you should always have a plan before you plant. And, we can help, probably for a lot less money than you might think.***

***Our landscape designer is Dave Lee. He's also my hardworking general manager.***

***Dave majored in Landscape Design at George Washington University. He's prepared several hundred designs for Eastern Shore homes over the years. Best of all, he loves to use indigenous plant material, native to this area.***

***He'll work with you on one garden or plan the entire property. Whether you do the work yourself or we install the design, Dave will be on site to help lay out plant material and supervise the installation.***



*A beautiful entrance bed has been created beside an old concrete planter filled with blooming Bearded Iris. As the shrubbery matures, they will help to hide a transformer box.*

***Many designers don't always offer this hands-on service during your installation. We take pride in following through with our designs. Estimates are always at no cost. And, if you choose to use help with planning your gardens, please use the coupon at the bottom of this page. It's good for \$100.00 off any of Dave's designs. Contact him at 410.770.5882.***

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**\$100.00 Off Your Landscape Design Work**

This coupon entitles you to \$100.00 off any landscape design work that we complete for you this spring. Save money and enjoy a beautiful new yard! Call us for a free estimate.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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**(Unfortunately, we cannot extend this offer to landscaping products, including plant material.)**

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