



This photograph is taken outside my home in October, 2008. The 30 lb. squash is a prominent feature of this display.

A Personal Message

You have to admit that November is always lots of fun. You have the longest Holiday of the year to look forward to this month. You also have the biggest meal of the year to savor.

In my family, I claim all the cooking rights for the Thanksgiving feast. Last year, we hosted 21 people for a meal on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year I think we're going to set up tents in the parking lot. My home won't hold anyone else.

The cat got a bit put out with all those people traipsing through his house and pouted for a week. However, it was lots of fun for the rest of us, so we're planning to do it all over again.

My piece de resistance of the table will be a 30 lb. acorn squash. A wonderful client gave me this huge squash back in September. He promises it is absolutely delicious when cooked.

I haven't decided whether to make it savory with wild rice stuffing or sweet with brown sugar and cinnamon. However, you can bet it will appear on our table. Now, if I can just find a platter large enough to serve it on.

I hope you're not having any trouble reading this newsletter on your computer. Last month, we published the final paper issue. We have been printing this newsletter for five and a half years.

At last count, we were mailing over 6,000 copies of each issue. Economically and environmentally, we couldn't justify continuing the paper issues. So, we have discontinued mailing the newsletters, at least for now.

It feels so different not to be in the mass mailing business. Our offices have been littered with long mailing trays for years. There has always been someone, sitting at a table, stuffing newsletters into envelopes.

Over the years, we have drafted family, friends and off-duty employees to stick labels onto envelopes. Now, that's all over and done with.

We thank you for your kind comments as we've written about our joys and sorrows. We've told you about additions to the family and additions to my waistline.

Our newsletter has detailed the loss of a beloved pet and Melissa's health issues. We've celebrated Holidays with you and told you about vacations.

In truth, we feel that this newsletter is our way of communicating about our business as well as the personal side of life.

We hope you'll continue to enjoy it in this new, electronic format. Please feel free to send us any suggestions for improvement.

November Garden Tips

- Roses require special care at this time of year. After a freeze has occurred, mound 10 to 12 inches of soil around the base of tender bush varieties. This is not so much to keep the soil warm, but to prevent it from thawing and heaving during the winter.
- There's still time to plant daffodil and tulip bulbs. We installed over 800 bulbs in our front gardens this fall. Next spring's color palette will feature reds and yellows on our property. However, you have dozens of other color schemes to choose from.
- Don't be tempted to trim azaleas, rhododendrons and other spring flowering shrubbery now. Most bushes that bloom in the spring have already set their buds for next year. If you cut them back now, you'll sacrifice next year's blossoms.
- If you need additional plant material, you can probably get it for a greatly reduced price at any garden center. Just be sure to plant before the next frost.
- You can also probably get more plants for free right out of your own garden. You can still divide peonies and transplant them for lots of lush foliage next year. Do you have any other perennials that might qualify for dividing or transplanting? Black-eyed Susans or verbena are good candidates for plants that will grow quickly next year. They grow well in our clay based soil and will adapt to almost any new environment where you may place them.
- **GET THE LEAVES OFF YOUR LAWN.** We can't emphasize this enough. It's so important for the health of your lawn. Leaves block sunlight which is needed for photosynthesis production. This is what makes grass grow. We can help with quick and efficient leaf removal.



Deer are Near

I was daydreaming out the window a few days ago. Lots of cars and trucks were driving past the house. We live on the main street of St. Michaels, MD. There's only one way in and one way out. No traffic lights to slow you down.

My gaze focused on a herd of deer in the field across the street from me. There were eight of them. They were directly across from the two story sign in my parking lot. The last line of the sign proudly states:

"Dell J. Sadler III, Inc."

"Natural/Organic Deer Repellent."

Apparently, these deer can't read or they just weren't paying attention. I don't know how much clearer my sign can be. I realize this isn't good advertising, but the truth of the matter is that I've never sprayed my own property. Since I live in beautiful downtown St. Michaels, it just never occurred to me.

However, if I had sprayed my landscape beds, those deer wouldn't cross the street to munch on my plant material. Our organic spray is guaranteed to be 100% effective against deer foraging. And the peppermint spray smells wonderful too.

Our spray is applied periodically, usually more heavily during the first 3 months. The initial application of repellent is much heavier and it is very labor intensive to apply.

Then, after those first 3 months, we can reduce the amount of spray somewhat. Although applications must continue for the treatment to stay effective, we can spray less product. In turn, we pass the savings on to you.

So, why not give our natural/organic program a try? We think you'll find it a cost-effective means of control for living in harmony with our beautiful, but potentially damaging four legged friends.



Here, we are beginning to clear vines and underbrush away from a client's home.

The Process of Woods Restoration

When the weather gets colder, we usually begin our woods restoration projects. Cold weather is the perfect time for this type of work. The foliage is off the trees, so we're able to work much more quickly and efficiently.

Let's start with a discussion of woods restoration work. This is the process of taking an overgrown woods, choked with vegetation and littered with fallen, dead trees and turning it into a park-like setting.

If you own an area that fits this description, you may be under-using your property.

Wooded areas are wonderful spots for hiking trails or bike paths.

Kids are inclined to play in the woods and that can lead to problems, if there's lots of underbrush. They can fall and trip on rotten logs.

Also, an overgrown woods can harbor an active tick population. In this state, ticks are a constant source of concern. They thrive in wooded areas, particularly areas where deer may congregate.

Ticks can be found in rodent nests, particularly squirrel and mice nests. An overgrown woods is the perfect place for nesting spots, usually resulting in a large population of ticks.

We can help get rid of a great deal of brush in a short period of time. Our tractors have an attachment that is shaped like a giant claw. It can easily reach in and grab an enormous pile of brush.

Other steps that you may want to consider are pulling vines away from trees. This procedure really helps to clear up the dense look of a woods. It also helps the health of trees. Vines can eventually choke a tree to death.

Vines need to be removed carefully. You don't want the bark of a tree scarred so that it looks ugly. A tree trunk that isn't protected with bark invites disease and insects. The health of the entire tree can be at stake if vines are pulled incorrectly.

There are lots of good reasons for clearing underbrush and cleaning up a heavily wooded area. Woods restoration is quite a process, but the end result is well worth it. A well maintained woods adds value to a beautiful Eastern Shore property.