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Early Spring Essentials: Get a jump on the season ahead!

Inside this issue:

<i>Rock vs Mulch—How to Choose</i>	2
<i>Season Information</i>	2
<i>The Great Outdoors</i>	3
<i>Walkways</i>	3
<i>Sustainable Landscapes</i>	3
<i>Find us on Facebook</i>	4

Spring like weather will be here any minute! Now is a great time to think about lawn and landscape care for your property. Our professional team is ready to provide the early spring landscape care and lawn maintenance you need, especially the tasks listed below. Give us a call now to get on our schedule.

EARLY SPRING TASKS:

Pruning – Many structural problems in ornamentals can be corrected right now, before plants leaf out, with corrective pruning.

Clean-Up – Leaves and debris should be raked and removed from lawn areas, as well as shrub and flower beds.

Mulching – A spring application will help to prevent weeds, conserve moisture in the soil and keep soil temperatures cooler as the weather heats up.

Spring Cleanups are Important...

We all give plenty of thought to the importance of spring cleaning the inside of our home but what about the outside? Our spring landscape cleanups are a vital part of taking care of the look of the outside of your house but there is more to it than that. Most homeowners do not realize the importance of taking care of this yard cleanup aside from just the overall improved look. The main benefit you gain from a professional yard cleanup is that it can help prevent the buildup of debris and organic matter which can form a blanket. This blanket acts as a barrier between your grass and the sunlight. It can also end up blocking out water, oxygen and other crucial nutrients. When that matter is left untouched it can cause harm to your lawn.

Once spring comes around your grass and spring time blooms may not be able to grow or recover from the intense freeze/thaw cycles we experienced this winter. You should not assume this material will break down on its own. When chopped up into a type of organic mulch this can sometimes be beneficial to plant life, left on top to cover, it may smother your grass, flowers and other desirable plants.

Blue & White Landscapes know what goes into creating a stunning and healthy yard. Scheduling a thorough spring cleanup right now is critical to getting your landscaping ready for the upcoming season. Contact us today so we can take care of all your landscape related services.

Schedule your Spring Clean up or Free Consultation for This Year's Landscaping Projects!

Ask Us About These Services:

- Hardscaping
- Landscape Design
- Lawn Renovation
- Paver Patios
- Retaining Walls
- Landscape Lighting
- Lawn Mowing
- Fertilization Programs

Check out our website to learn more about what we can do for your property. We are a full service landscape company !

Rock vs Mulch—How to Choose



ARBOR DAY
is April 26th...

Plant a tree
to celebrate
this day !

Adding rock or mulch to your landscape is a wonderful way to beautify your property. However, it can be confusing to determine which is your best option. Both rock and mulch have many different variations in their use that will affect your decision. Let's look at the benefits and drawbacks of rock vs. mulch to get a better idea of what will work best in your landscape.

Benefits of Rock

For the low maintenance homeowner, rock is an excellent choice. Rock is inherently durable, making it a fantastic option for high-traffic areas, where it can't be trampled and displaced easily.

Rock can be economical, as it does not require frequent replacement. Aesthetically, rock can also be purchased in many different colors, tones, and textures, allowing you to achieve a truly custom and personal feeling to your landscaping.

Rocks are often used as a contemporary, crisp landscaping

design element. It's also available in many different sizes, and its excellent at facilitating water drainage. Some of the most common rocks used in landscaping are pea gravel, marble rocks, river rocks, beach pebbles and lava rocks.

Drawbacks of Rock

In terms of upfront supply and installation cost, rock can be more expensive than mulch. It also may not be the best option in an area with significant plant and leaf debris, which will accumulate and stick on top of the rock. Weeds popping up between the rocks can be unsightly, so rock will require installation of a barrier below. You'll also need to consider a form of edge retainer to prevent the rock from spilling out.

Benefits of Mulch

Flowers thrive in landscaping beds with mulch, rather than rock. Organic mulch will slowly decay over time, potentially providing a fantastic source of nutrients for your plants. Mulch is significantly cheaper to purchase and install than rock. Additionally, mulch

is available in different tones that will complement the colors and design of your landscape. Typical colors of mulch are red, brown, neutral and black. The most common type of mulch is wood mulch

Drawbacks of Mulch

Typically, mulch needs to be replaced every six to twelve months, as it naturally breaks down. It may also not be the best option for every type of plant. Russian sage and Lamb's ear, for example, may prefer a bed of rocks that can more easily provide less water and drought-like conditions. While mulch does not require a different edging material, it can move easily and look messy if not properly maintained.

Give us a call to help choose the best course of action in deciding whether to use rock or mulch. Neither choice is permanent and can always be changed.

Season Information

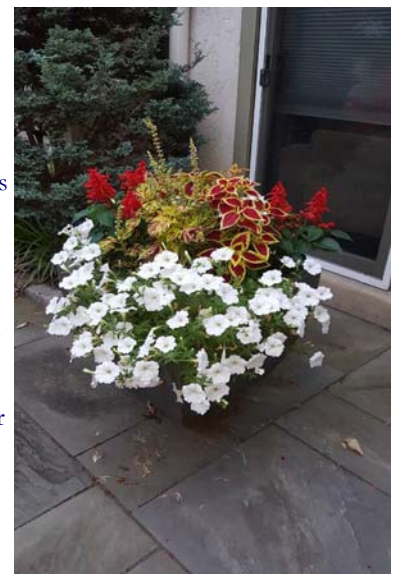
For your convenience, existing customers will have service programs automatically renewed each year. Contact us if you would like to make a change.

We are anticipating starting our mowing season, weather permitting, in early April. As always, mowing includes trimming edges of sidewalks & driveways and blowing clipping from hard surfaces.

Additionally, invoices will be emailed this year as much as possible. If you would rather receive a mailed version, please let us know.

We are very excited to get started again this year, and thank you for making 2018 a success.

Feel free to give us a call or send us an email to discuss any of the ideas in this newsletter.



The Great Outdoors

Whether you prefer the campfire feel of a fire pit, the comfort of an outdoor living room or the convenience of an outdoor kitchen, your home exterior presents excellent opportunities for developing spaces that enhance, reward, and rejuvenate.

Outdoor cooking has expanded beyond the mere grill. It's common now to find multiple stone topped workstations complete with grill, sink, refrigerator, and cabinets. Many homeowners are choosing conveniences such as wood ovens and microwaves. When designing an outdoor kitchen, consideration should be given

to how the space will be used. Many people like to entertain large groups whereas others would prefer smaller more intimate gatherings. Whatever the preference, however, with so many options from which to choose, the possibilities are endless.

Water features aren't just fountains anymore.. Koi ponds and reflective pools are the choice of many homeowners. Many are integrated into the landscape so they are natural extensions of the overall landscape design.

The cornerstone of any outdoor space is the patio. A place to entertain and reflect,

the patio is the focal point of outdoor activity. But the patio has evolved to include fire pits, often round in design, a configuration which invites interaction among those gathered. And the evolution has not stopped there. The fire pit has given way to the fireplace, which has the ability to funnel smoke away

from homes and guests. Factor in recent developments in weatherproof fabrics and electronics, and it should come as no surprise that a growing trend is the development of outdoor living rooms, complete with sofas, recliners and televisions.

Let us help you design your perfect outdoor space.



Sustainable Landscaping

Sustainable landscaping is the practice of using strategic methods to work with the environment to find solutions to landscaping problems.

Choosing native plants, using rain water harvesting systems, choosing drought tolerant or water loving plants, installing trees or shrubs to prevent erosion, using natural composting methods to bring more nutrients to the soil are just some of the ways we use to be more sustainable.

Talk to us about any issues that you are having and we will help you find an answer for your specific needs.



Walkways

A walkway can turn a muddy mess into orderliness. Pets, children, and everyday traffic can wear down the lawn in spots and create channels for rainwater to turn to mud. A walkway provides a clean and immovable boundary that stepping stones cant. But the walkway doesn't have to hang around the house.

It can be your pathway into parts of you yard that you seldom use. It can connect your living area into o a natural park like space with new color, texture, and light in the new landscape.

The walkway itself can widen the range of the sensory enjoyment of your landscape. Walking on varied textures and having a choice of following the path or not will make strolling to the mailbox a pastime instead of necessity.

Let us help you design the new path in your landscape.



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Blue & White Landscapes, was started by two graduates of Penn State University, with degrees in landscape contracting, eager to build a reputation and become one of the elite landscaping companies in the greater Philadelphia area. We want to provide our customers with quality work and build good relationships, so you know you have found a landscaping company that you can trust. We know the hard work that goes into each landscaping project through our past experience and want to offer our expertise to residential homeowners and commercial businesses. Having a professional and friendly relationship with all of our clients is something that we pride ourselves on. We treat each property as if it were our own and only provide the finest work, with meticulous care and proper safety regulations.

Beautifying your world, one landscape at a time!

Find us on Facebook

Search for Blue & White Landscapes and become a fan.



We are on the Web!!

www.bluewhitelandscapes.com

Pictures throughout this newsletter are from some of our recent landscaping / hardscaping projects. Check out the photo gallery on our website for more.

Picture to the right is before and after of a new patio.

Picture below shows before and after of a new backyard space.

