

# THE Arbor-Nomics® BUGGETTE



## Protecting Your Plants from Winter Weather

January and February are the coldest months in our region. The temperatures are nothing like those in the North, but some of our days are more than cold enough to damage plants that are not properly protected. Here are some tips to get your plants warmed up for the cold.



- **Plan ahead.** Step one is moving more vulnerable plants to spots sheltered by walls or fences.
- **Make a cold-weather kit.** Gather some empty water jugs and old bed sheets, newspapers, or burlap, and put them where you can easily access them.
- **Prepare your mulch.** A new layer of mulch will help retain some heat in the soil.
- **Move your plants.** Bring sensitive potted plants inside on especially cold nights.
- **Use water.** It seems counterintuitive, but moist soil retains more heat, keeping roots warmer.
- **Wrap fruit trees.** Use cloth or thick paper to protect their trunks.
- **Cover up.** Specialty plant cover is easy to find, but burlap or old bed sheets will suffice.
- **Don't be fooled by spring.** Atlanta may see frost until late March.

## Keeping It Positive in 2021

2020 has been a tough year for our entire nation and much of the world. But hard times often bring out the best in people and encourage us to work together. We've relied a lot on our friends, neighbors, and families to help us get through this pandemic. The new year looks like it will challenge us as well. So this is a good time to reflect on all of the positive parts of our lives that we can still enjoy and think of more ways that we can help the many others who will face serious challenges this year. We're all in this together.



## Bare in Mind

by Josh Bare



So my dad's cousin from Florida is downsizing and planning on spending more time with her husband driving around America on their Goldwing motorcycle. They are both retired, and they posted some great pictures on social media last year from their travels out west. Kathy said that what is so neat about traveling on a motorcycle is the connections they make. She said they can't pull into a gas station to fuel up without someone walking up

and sharing their motorcycle stories. The bike is bright yellow - maybe it's the inviting color that draws folks in.

Anyways, part of the downsizing plan was to pass on some of the family's treasures. Kathy knew I have an interest in genealogy and the Bare clan's history, so she reached out to me. Her mother, Martha Bare Sedlock

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# Jan - Feb Lawn Care

## Application #1 for all programs.

**Please note:** Weather conditions may compel us to modify the contents or timing of our treatments.

### LAWN TREATMENTS

#### Weed Control

**All Programs.** We applied a pre-emergent that prevents grassy weeds like crabgrass from appearing in your lawn when spring arrives. You should see the results of our post-emergent within two weeks as broadleaf weeds die off.

#### Fertilization

**All Programs.** Fescue lawns received our Arbor-Organics fertilizer. Its primary purpose is nutrition for this cool-season grass, but Arbor-Organics also minimizes growth surges during warm weather that encourage fungal diseases. The potassium that Bermuda and Zoysia lawns received will provide nutrients to these warm-season grasses as they emerge from winter dormancy, in addition to supporting their root systems. Potassium will also be included in our upcoming Application #2.

#### Fungus Control

**Silver Plus, Gold Plus & Platinum.** Zoysia lawns were treated to control Zoysia patch, a fungal disease common to that grass type.

### ORNAMENTAL TREE AND SHRUB TREATMENTS

#### Pest Control

**Gold, Gold Plus & Platinum.** Many harmful insects would like to spend the colder months in their winter vacation homes, your ornamental trees and shrubs. To stop them before they can do much damage, we apply dormant oil twice each year, in December and again in this treatment.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO DO UNTIL OUR NEXT VISIT

#### Keep Lawns Free of Leaves

As leaves pile up on your lawn, they increase the chances that a disease will appear, because neither air nor our treatments are reaching the grass. While a rake is typically preferred for this job, we recommend using a leaf blower, which can quickly remove a large number of leaves without harming your lawn.

#### Watering Your Lawn

Typically we get enough rain in Georgia during January and February so that dormant grass will remain healthy. It can be easy to overwater grass at this time, so be sure to adjust your sprinkler system and watch out for signs of excess moisture.

#### Mow to Keep Your Grass Healthy

If you have warm-season grass, give it a little extra support this winter by raising your mower blade about half an inch. The extra length will allow the blades to store more nutrients. Of course, you'll be mowing less frequently, but when you do, provide even more support by **leaving the grass clippings**. This is how that extra nutrition cycles back into the soil. And remember that it's completely fine to mow after our treatments. Just let any wet applications dry before you start.

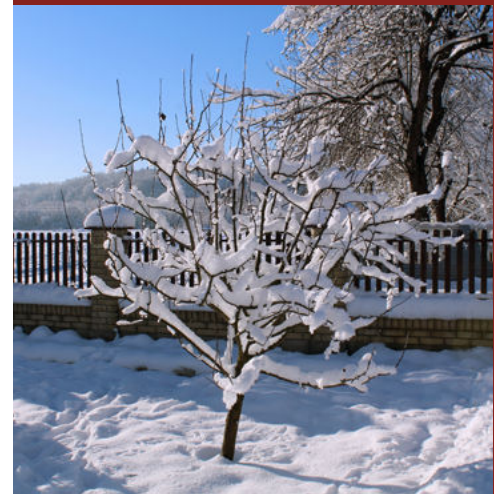
### QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR SERVICE OR YOUR YARD?

Contact Customer Service at 770.447.6037, Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 5 pm. If you call after hours, please leave a message and we'll return your call the next business day.

## Healthy Trees Start with Healthy Roots

Trees can absorb between 10 and an amazing 50 times more nutrients through the development of a stronger root system. Science has provided us with a powerful support for tree roots in the form of, as is so often the case these days, a word you can neither spell nor pronounce. By improving soil chemistry and biology, mycorrhizae-based bio-stimulants help to protect the roots of both young and mature trees from pathogens and toxins. Homeowners can then reduce their reliance on chemical fertilizers and still see better results.

**If you're concerned about any of your trees, call Arbor-Nomics Tree at 770.368.0072.** Their highly skilled arborists know how to safely and effectively get your trees ready to stand up to winter.



As we begin the year, please make sure that we have **your correct phone number and email address**. At times we may need to get in touch to give you important information about your yard or our service. We also use e-mail to share special offers and tips on lawn, tree and shrub care.

There are three simple ways to verify your information:

- 1) Call our office at **770.447.6037**
- 2) Email us at **info@arbor-nomics.com**.
- 3) Visit **arbor-nomics.com** and click on the Pay Your Bill tab. This will bring you to our customer portal, where you can set up or edit your profile.





## Unusual New Year's Resolutions for 2021

2021 is here and it's not too late to make New Year's resolutions. Locked down, working from home, and wrangling kids learning remotely, many of us haven't had time to even think about self-improvement, much less actually improve. Others with more free time are pursuing new interests, picking up an instrument or studying a language. Here are some ideas to help you shake off those pandemic-induced feelings and start 2021 with energy and purpose.

**Meditation and Yoga** – These practices can help calm and center us in times of stress.

**Plant a Tree** – Get the family together and moving outdoors. As the tree grows, it can remind us of the growth we can experience during tough times

**Prioritize Family** – Many of us have experienced a lot of togetherness during the pandemic. But this is time we once would have longed for – not an interruption of life but life itself. Think about ways to make the most of these months, and soon they will feel more like an opportunity than a time we all have to get through.

**Read More** – Another activity many of us are always wishing we had more time for. Now you (probably) do!

**Ditch Your Phone** – This item is closely related to all of the others. Longer breaks between checking the news and social media will free up time while reducing your stress level.

**Learn to Cook** – With restaurants limited or closed, many people have been exploring this great opportunity for family time.

**Raise Your Voice** – There are plenty of ways to get involved in volunteer work even if you're limited to your home. Learn about your options with a little online research.

Source: <https://fleepbleep.com/new-year-resolutions-ideas/>

## Helpful Contact Information

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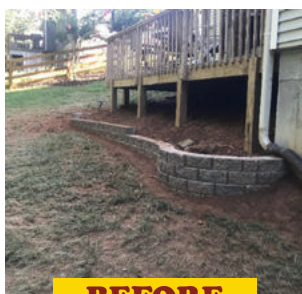
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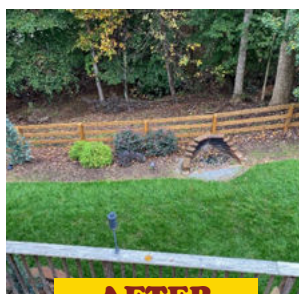


## See Our Work

Our Certified Landscape Specialists are always working to maintain and improve your yard. Treatment after treatment, they're monitoring every lawn to keep them all as green and healthy as possible. We asked our techs to capture before-and-after photos of some of our recent success stories so we could share them with you.



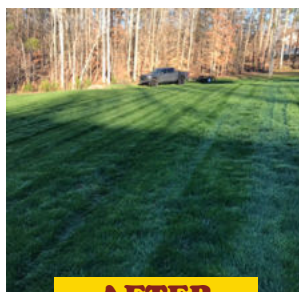
**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

## Schedule Your Warm-Season Aeration Today!

The combination of hard winter frosts and dense Georgia clay can leave your warm-season grasses struggling to breathe. If you want your Bermuda or Zoysia grass to thrive come spring, call Arbor-Nomics to schedule aeration. Aeration loosens up the soil so that:

- Air, water, and nutrients can travel down to the roots where they're needed.
- Grass grows thicker as roots grow stronger and deeper.
- Turf becomes more resistant to heat, drought, and other stresses.

Call us at 770.447.6037 to schedule your aeration today.



*Josh and Kathy*

was the last of her generation and passed away in early 2020. Kathy and her husband Ken were traveling up to Canfield Ohio, for an interment ceremony, and they stopped in Atlanta to drop off a couple of Martha's things with me. We had dinner together and talked about her childhood recollections and what Kathy felt were the qualities that defined her mother's character. She said that no matter what life threw her mother's way, she kept a positive attitude and made it through the storm. Her unconditional love and acceptance of her family, including her extended family, was a true inspiration as well.



*Kathy and Ken Larson*

As I looked through all the items that were dropped off to my home, I was floored by two rocking chairs. One had belonged to my great-great-grandmother Mary Shank Bare and the other to my great-grandmother Hattie Sauerwein Bare. Mary's chair had been refinished by my grandfather John Bare, who went by Jack. He's the one whose WWII experiences and journal I wrote about in a "Bare in Mind" you might remember from last year. Kathy also brought a couple of significant family

Bibles and a bin filled with photos, letters, and other important papers.

The bin's contents included a couple of letters that my great-grandparents had written. The first, by my great-grandpa Elmer Francis Bare, was typed. It is dated June 21, 1943 and addressed to his 10 then-living children and their spouses.



*Great-Great Grandmother Mary  
Shank Bare with her son  
(Great-Grandfather) Francis Bare*

At that point his oldest was 35, and the youngest were 14-year-old twin girls. Four of his sons served in World War II; my grandfather Jack was in the thick of things at the time, stationed in Oran, Algeria. Great-grandpa Elmer writes about being a father, recalling some of the adventures they had had together as a family – the various animals the kids had adopted and activities and sports they had engaged in. He and Hattie had lost two children – one daughter at seven months old and another at five months. The balance of the flock had faced various other health concerns, but he mentions they had made it through. Overall, he's reminiscing about good times together and expressing his thankfulness for his kids. He wraps up the letter with well wishes for all of them, their spouses, and their future families. All of his sons made it safely back from the war, and they were partly responsible for the boomer generation that got off to a great start in 1947 and 1948!



*Family Rocking Chairs*

The second letter was written by Great-grandma Hattie on July 22, 1947, to her youngest, the twins Martha and Millie, when they were 18. Apparently she never sent it, as it was discovered among her things when she passed away in 1966. She must have been feeling a bit down or under the weather because she seemed to want to pass on some words of wisdom for successful living. She asked the girls not to disappoint their father and to take their time in finding husbands. She wrote about helping those who are less fortunate and following the golden rule.



*Great-Grandparents Hattie  
and Francis Bare (1943)*

It has been such a treat to learn more about my ancestors and also to connect with Dad's cousin Kathy. I wonder what those women were thinking as they sat in these rocking chairs, what they said in conversation with their children and spouses. I never met either my great-great-grandma Mary or my great-grandmother Hattie, but the decisions they made certainly affected their children's lives and trickled down to me and my family. As I read through more of the letters and documents in this bin, I hope there are more windows into what got them through some rough patches in history and kept them strong as a family.

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***Please let me know any thoughts you might have on this article. I can be reached at 678.313.4568 or Josh@Arbor-Nomics.com.***