



all things outdoor

FALL 2009

Time for a **STAY-CATION**

Part of the pleasure of owning a beautiful home is being able to really enjoy it!

Homeowners today are seeing the value in making their homes a refuge from the bustle and stress of the work-day. It can be like having a mini vacation right at home.

A Wingren Landscape maintenance client contacted account manager Jeff Zielinski to do just that. He envisioned an outdoor "room" complete with fireplace, but meetings with Jeff inspired a wealth of enticing ideas. Often, however, creative ideas are also accompanied by challenges. No problem for Jeff who tackled them head on!

Jeff suggested using the current patio as a foundation for the design. Irregular terrain created an issue, so the homeowner agreed to create a "sunken" patio, with a Unilock modular fireplace as focal point, complete with wood storage boxes. The new patio repeated the circular design of the existing one and

was finished with a surrounding seating wall that helped to create an "outdoor room" feeling. An assortment of pavers and bricks were custom selected to complement the brick design and color of the fireplace.

As work progressed, the homeowner assessed his gas grill and the excitement continued. He and Jeff decided to install a custom free-standing grill base, again repeating the color and pattern of the bricks and pavers in the fireplace. A custom cut granite counter top provides the perfect working surface.

Finishing touches included strategically placed pillars at the seating wall with custom low-voltage lights that coordinate with the exterior light fixtures of the home.

"We spend so much time out here now", exclaimed the homeowner. "We grill up a nice dinner, and finish off relaxing at the fireplace!"



WINGREN LANDSCAPE

TEL 815 293 1900 FAX 815 293 1901 PLEASE VISIT US AT WWW.WINGRENLANDSCAPE.COM



Fall Checklist

Fall is perhaps the most important time in the growing season. The work done now determines in large part just how wonderful spring will be! This checklist will help you:

Turf Renovation

- Core aeration relieves compaction and opens the soil for our specially balanced fall fertilizers. The perfect jumpstart to green up the lawn in the spring.
- Slit seeding and over-seeding introduce the newest disease resistant grasses into your lawns
- Re-sod necessary areas. Fall is the best time for sod installation.

Clean Gutters

- Avoid those winter freezes in cluttered gutters with a thorough cleaning.

Plant Bulbs

- Account Managers have some great ideas for a truly spectacular spring display!

Perennial and Plant Care

- Bee Balm looking a little tired? It might just be too many in cramped quarters! Fall division of many perennials improves flower production, vigor and also provides more plants that can be extended to other areas in your garden.
- A layer of rich compost added to perennial gardens now will improve soil quality and the overall health and productivity of flowers next summer.
- Anti-desiccant applied to evergreens will help prevent winter burn.

Irrigation

- Fall brings cooler temperatures, shorter daytime hours, so an adjustment in the timing of your irrigation system might be needed! Michael Zimmerman can help, just give the office a call!

Schedule Changes in October and November

- The maintenance schedule responds to season changes in the fall.
- Visits to sites are less frequent but usually last longer.
- Maintenance might occur on different days of the week.



ECHOS & SHADOWS IN YOUR GARDEN

After a long day cooped up indoors, my Echo, my Shadow and I head out to the garden.

My feline friends slip into that secretive world that exists under the canopy of garden plants. It is a special place for small furry animals, frogs, bugs and perhaps a missing gnome in garish red shorts.

After they have sniffed, explored, and hunted down a drowsy dragonfly, I have found that they too enjoy relaxing on a lounge chair in the dappled shade. It is a pleasure to see whiskered faces tilting up to accept the warm breeze, eyes closed and body purring. It is after all their world too.

Thousands of people in America have pets as a part of the family, and it seems many of them enjoy the garden as office manager Deborah Iwema describes.

2009 WINGREN LANDSCAPE COMPANY PICNIC

On August 17 afternoon, Wingren Landscape employees enjoyed a fabulous summer picnic at Veterans Woods Forest Preserve in Romeoville. A stormy morning threatened to force a change of location, but low and behold! the sun appeared to promise a beautiful day, warm and breezy! Plenty of food included Mexican and Italian dishes, as well as lots of pop & water to keep everyone cool.

Some serious soccer followed lunch, pitting the construction department against the maintenance department. Winners: Maintenance, 4 to 3. Construction demands a rematch next year! Jae Jump, construction administrator, played cheerleader for both sides. Meanwhile Jeff Wingren and several managers enjoyed some slow pitch softball. All in all it was a great day for a picnic!!



Receptionist Genny Mandujano and Maintenance Administrator Marcia Allen prepare some tasty taco fillings.



Chow time for hungry Wingren Landscape employees! Vamos a comer!



Landscape crews prove to be great soccer players too!



Everyone must take time to sit and watch the leaves turn.

Elizabeth Lawrence

Fanciful Fillers *for Holiday decor*

When the leaves start falling, and the promise of winter is just around the corner, It's time to rejuvenate those planters that once overflowed with summer flowering annuals. Outdoor pots and containers add to the overall curb appeal of your home and there is no better way to capture the spirit of the fall harvest and winter seasons.

After the basic elements are planted, fill in all the remaining holes with the unique plant and ornamental fillers. Don't want to throw away those old and not so perfect decorations? Think about recycling them into your out holiday décor this year. With all of these options, the combinations are endless!

Fillers for fall: Lamium, Heuchera, Sage, Sedum, Jerusalem Cherry, Peppers, Strawflowers, pansies, violas, cabbages, grasses, millet, pumpkins, gourds, squashes, Indian corn, ornaments, scarecrows

Fillers for Winter: dogwood and willow twigs, winterberry, eucalyptus, magnolia, artificial flowers, pine cones, ornaments, fruit, nuts



LIGHT UP THE HOLIDAYS!

We DO want to light up your life, with Holiday Lighting provided by our new Lighting Department, managed by Larry Jones. Over the years a growing number of commercial and residential clients call on Wingren Landscape to turn the outsides of businesses and homes into true "winter wonderlands"!

The holidays should be a stress free time to enjoy family and friends, and holiday outdoor lighting displays should be a part of that pleasure. But installation and care of those lights can be challenging, exasperating, and down right aggravating! Our lighting department is equipped to handle all lighting needs, taking aggravation away and replacing it with holiday happiness. Larry explains, "We actually custom design lights for rooflines, and offer commercial grade lights for trees, shrubs, garlands, and wreaths. Plus, we take down lights at the end of the season, and store them for you!"

It is obvious that the holiday lighting industry is moving into a new dimension with the advent of LED, or light emitting diode technology. These lights last longer than conventional incandescent mini-lights, and use far less electricity. The LED colors are really "electrically brilliant" if you pardon the pun. They are available in all sizes, mini, C7 and C9. We prefer them and love them for that "Wow" factor in Holiday decorations.

2009 World Technology Summit Award Nomination Goes To Environment Friendly Waipuna System Weed Control



Waipuna Weed Control Systems was recently nominated for a 2009 World Technology Summit Award, recognizing Waipuna as an outstanding science and technology innovator in the environment category. Noted as making "the greatest likely long-term significance in their fields" the World Technology Award nomination recognized the innovation and environmental advances for which Waipuna Systems was founded. Waipuna was also nominated in 2004.

Waipuna eco-friendly weed control is offered exclusively in the U.S. by Wingren Landscape. Thus, as a partner with Waipuna Systems, Jeff Wingren was "proud to be acknowledged" by the 2009 World Technology Summit themed How To Save The Future, at the gala ceremony awards banquet held in New York city on July 16th. Accompanied by Dennis Tindall, Waipuna Systems founder, Dennis describes Waipuna as "A unique company with its main objective to provide viable technologies to eliminate the need to use toxic pesticides."

The exclusive Waipuna system uses a non toxic, biodegradable Organic Hot Foam method that is applied to unwanted weeds, killing them instantly. No toxic or harmful pesticides or chemicals are used. The organic foam solution is 100% natural and cost competitive to toxic herbicide applications. Each Waipuna machine put into service eliminates the use of approximately 3000 liters of pesticides. Thus, millions of liters of pesticide use have been replaced with the use of the Waipuna method.

A number of our customers have requested environmentally sensitive products and are using Waipuna. To request this service or learn more, ask your project manager or email or give us a call. You can also visit our web site, www.waipuna.com

How does your garden grow?

Now is the time to take a good look at your garden. Get yourself a journal and make notes on what you liked, what bloomed the longest, what month looked the best and worst. Keep this journal for future reference and before you know it, you'll have an ever changing palette of perennials!

Some late summer & fall showstoppers:

Anemone, Aster, Chrysanthemum, Cimicifuga, Coreopsis, Echinacea, grasses, Helenium, Rudbeckia, Russian Sage, Sedum, Turtlehead, Toad Lily

Think Spring:

Columbine, Bergenia, Bleeding Heart, Brunnera, Lenten Rose, Primula, Pulmonaria, Virginia Blue Bells



WORDS FROM WINGREN

This past Spring and Summer has been abnormal in the way of rainfall, which typically is fairly evenly distributed throughout the months. We had record rainfall in June and below normal late July and into August.

Thus, monitoring your watering system has become more critical and Wingren Landscape has made checking and updating your systems a priority for our customers. Know that over-watering can be as damaging as under-watering, causing plants and turf to struggle.

Wingren staff has been checking and monitoring all sites, making adjustments to all watering systems as needed, so that your

irrigation is set and timed properly. Irrigation systems and settings will vary depending on the number of zones and the amount of coverage. How clocks are set must account for these variables, as well as the amount and/or lack of rainfall. Our staff will time your sprinkling system so that it runs at the optimal intervals and cycles.



If you are in need of an updated or new irrigation system please contact your account rep so that your existing system can be added to our maintenance schedule or an estimate can be provided for replacing existing irrigation and new watering system installation.

Let me know how we at Wingren Landscape can continue to help you grow and maintain all things outdoor.

Warmest regards,

Jeff Wingren
President

Wingren Landscape is a proud supporter of Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana.

Help us support RMHC-CNI with a \$50 donation. With each donation, you'll receive a "Love in the House" 100% natural coconut fiber 18" x 30" welcome doormat. Your donation will help welcome families to their Houses so they have a home away from home while their ill children are treated at nearby hospitals.

Simply call 630-623-5300 or order online at welcomemats@rmhccni.org.

Be sure to mention order code "Wingren".



all things outdoor....

RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL
INSTALLATION
MAINTENANCE

715 N INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD
ROMEOVILLE, ILLINOIS 60446
PHONE 815 293 1900
FAX 815 293 1901
www.wingrenlandscape.com



PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Palatine P&DC, IL
Permit #2490