

## ASK ADVANTAGE

# DREAMING OF YOUR IDEAL OUTDOOR LIVING SPACE?

Get a free estimate on building your dream outdoor space. Advantage can design, install and maintain your outdoor living space and we'd love to sit down with you and talk about a plan!. An outdoor kitchen, a place to relax, a place to entertain - we'll take it from dream to reality!

#### FREE LANDSCAPE DESIGN? YOU BET!

Landscape designs are fast and easy with Advantage's 3D computer drawings. You'll see just how the finished product will look before any work is started.

#### Post your questions to Facebook or Twitter!

Q: I have a lot of landscaping with mulch, do I have to replenish my mulch beds every year and when is the best time to do that? Also are there any other benefits besides the fresh look? *Debbie Greene, Bloomington* 

A: I always suggest mulching every spring after an initial spring cleanup, hopefully before the perennials pop up. Mulching yearly doesn't require as thick of dressing and allows you to clean up the landscape edge and bed. Mulch has many benefits besides dressing up your landscaping. Your plants will thanks you as it conserves soil moisture, protects from drying roots, and prevents shock form cold and hot days. Mulch also is a natural weed blanket, stopping weeds from germinating. For a healthy, beautiful landscape you'll want to continue mulching.

Q: I love spring, especially the first signs of flowers blooming, where and when can I plant those and what are they called? *Jean Kolb, Bloomington* 

A: You must be talking about bulbs. Bulbs are great for filling in between shrubs or perennials. You want to plant bulbs that are going to bloom at different times than your shrubs and perennials. Unfortunately, spring flowering bulbs need to be planted in the fall. I would make a list this spring of the bulbs you like and plant them this fall, some of my favorites are daffodils, hyacinth, and tulips.

Q: I wanted to get my lawn aerated but I didn't know when was the best time and I didn't know if I should over seed after? Wes Becker, Shirley

A: Aerating can be done in the spring or fall, but fall is usually the best because temperature and rain are more ideal for the seed. If you want aerate this spring - and I have a lot of customers that do both - do it as early as you can and always over-seed. Remember, if you apply a pre-emergent weed control, don't apply over seeded areas as the seed will not germinate. I always put straw over any real bad areas to hold in moisture and remind everyone to stay off.

We're much more than a lawn service! Let us quote your outdoor project! Irrigation : Accent lighting : Fencing : Hardscape Design & Installation





## Advantage LAWN & LANDSCAPE SPRING NEWSLETTER



## SPRING SERVICES 💈

### THE MOST THOROUGH CLEAN-UP IN TOWN : GUARANTEED!

Services include a complete turf raking, cleaning out of all landscape beds, tree & shrub pruning, edging of all concrete surfaces, repairing any winter damage, etc. Other services include aerating, seeding, and gutter cleaning.

### MULCH THAT KEEPS ITS COLOR ALL SEASON!

Advantage now uses Premium Brown Hardwood Mulch - dyed with natural products, our mulch will keep its color all season long - and at no additional cost to regular mulch. We provide delivery and installation or, if you prefer, pick-up and loading to your vehicle.

## Spending too much time working on the lawn? NEED HELP? 👔

Let Advantage take care of your lawn & landscape maintenance on a monthly basis and you'll receive the satisfaction of your lawn looking it's best all year round. Services include weekly mowing, monthly lawn applications, monthly visits to prune trees, shrubs and flowers, general landcape clean-up, weeding and planting seasonal annuals.

## CHRIS' THOUGHTS

The snow filled winter has surely produced a longing for green grass, leaves, plants and spring blooms. I have always found it interesting how those who enjoy living in a four seasons climate always look forward to the next season. That holds true for me as well, as I am really excited for spring! My biggest desire this year is to serve each and every customer to the very best of our ability and to ensure you are happy with the service we are providing for you. We look forward to seeing you (and springtime) soon!