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November Site Update

With the shorter days and end of daylight savings time, there's no denying that winter is just around the corner. Moore's crews are preparing your sites for the dormant season, but there is much to look forward to—including Thanksgiving!

This month, you may see crews performing some of these activities on your site:

- Crews are wrapping up leaf removal and installation of late fall tulip bulbs.
- Dormant turf fertilization applications are being performed to provide turf root systems with nutrients for a robust start next spring.
- Dormant oil applications, which are used to control populations of overwintering insects on certain tree species, will be completed this month.
- Crews are erecting protective fencing and placing sod over sensitive planting beds to protect plants from damage or stress caused by snow removal operations or de-icing products.
- Winter snow teams are well prepared and ready to battle Chicago's fiercest winter weather.

And best of all, holiday décor, seasonal displays, and winter tree lighting are being installed this month. At this time of year especially, we are thankful for every relationship and opportunity to be of service.

Warmest wishes for a wonderful
Thanksgiving!



Winter Landscape Services Keep Sites Safe and Healthy

While the winter months may seem like the off-season for your landscape, keeping up with important safety and maintenance tasks during the dormant season helps keep your site safe, healthy, and ready for a beautiful spring. Using the winter months wisely also reduces the workload during the busy spring season when crews need to focus on spring clean-up and flower installations.

Following is a brief description of site issues that can, and often must be, addressed during winter.

- **Trash policing, curb line cleaning and debris removal**
Weekly trash pick-up keeps your site tidy and looking its best. Crews can also remove the piles of debris and gravel left behind when snow piles melt, pick up branches and leaves that dropped late, and make sure storm drains are not blocked.
- **Removal of excess de-icing products**
Excess salt build-up can corrode metal site furnishings and building elements. Dry product can be removed with blowers; when weather permits, elements at risk of corrosion can be pressure-washed.
- **Storm damage clean-up**
Keep your site safe and neat by promptly cleaning up branches and debris left by winter storms.
- **Plant protection**
Winter dehydration is a serious risk, especially for plant material installed within the past few years. Anti-desiccant application, wrapping sensitive plants with burlap fabric, and watering when temperatures are suitable, are all steps to help your landscape survive Chicago's variable and sometimes brutal weather.
- **Safety and corrective pruning**
Broken and split tree branches caused by storm damage or heavy snowfall need to be addressed promptly to preserve the tree and eliminate safety hazards for pedestrians, vehicles or structures.



Winter Landscape Services (continued)

- **Dormant pruning**

Winter is an excellent time to prune dormant trees and shrubs when branch structure is easier to see without foliage. When trees are pruned while dormant, it is less stressful on the tree and leads to optimal wound healing. Diseases such as rust and blight are only active during the growing season, so there is less risk of spreading disease when pruning is performed during the dormant season.



- **Tree removal**

Frozen ground and fewer pedestrians out and about make winter an optimal time to remove dead or declining trees.

- **Invasive weed clearing**

Get ahead of invasive weeds by clearing them during the dormant season.

Because winter weather is more variable than ever, Moore Landscapes is staffed to service your landscape needs year-round. Contact us for prompt service if you have any site concerns or issues to address this winter.

Moore Landscapes Mourns the Loss of Long-Time Leader Bill Parker



Bill Parker

William "Bill" Parker, a 40-year veteran of Moore Landscapes, passed away on September 24, 2020, after a tough fight with cancer. Bill started with Moore as an assistant foreman to Victor Moore in the field. Over the years Bill took on and excelled in just about every role in the business, including account executive, vice president, general manager, and in recent years, leading the Company's safety and technical programs and helping clients with their toughest horticultural problems.

Bill was loved and respected for his endless knowledge and work ethic. Bill was a class act, he loved gardening and cared deeply about landscapes, about Moore's clients, and about our people. There was no task beneath him and none too large. Chicagoland has lost one of its most knowledgeable landscape professionals.

Bill was an avid fisherman who enjoyed annual fishing trips with his buddies. He loved creating beautiful handcrafted woodwork snowmen and ornaments in his work shed with his wife Denise. Bill and Denise fostered dogs through JR's Pups n Stuff Animal Rescue of West Allis, WI.

Bill is survived by Denise, his beloved wife of 41 years, two sons, Ryan and Kevin, daughter Katelyn, as well as his loyal dogs, Kaylei and Paige.

Plant of the Month: Poinsettia



Jan Wemple
Account Executive

Account Executive Jan Wemple selected the poinsettia for this month's featured plant. This festive beauty is one of the longest-lasting blooming plants, and a sure sign that the holiday season has arrived.

Poinsettias "bloom" in response to shorter winter days. The colorful poinsettia flowers are actually modified leaves called bracts, which look like petals. Jan says that traditional red poinsettias are the most popular and durable. Creamy white and pink varieties are also prevalent and provide a beautiful contrast when grouped with red poinsettias, used to accent other interior plants, or when massed for high-impact.



Poinsettias are not poisonous to humans or animals, but their sticky sap may cause a skin rash. They are easy to care for and are sure to brighten anyone's holiday season, which makes them a lovely gift for clients, coworkers, family or friends.

Moore can source excellent poinsettia specimens for your gift-giving needs. Contact Jan at jwemple@moorelandscapes.com.

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