

Jackson Landscaping Team Provides Full Line Of Services

BY KAREN BERGER
MIRROR REPORTER

Whether it's a load of mulch, a greener lawn or a complete landscape design, Jackson Landscaping's professionals have been enhancing Northwest Ohio homes for nearly 50 years.

On spring and summer days, owner Dewey Jackson will make several trips to the mulch piles to help do-it-yourselfers load up the popular dark brown, red and light brown mulch. The fully-stocked retail center also includes accessories such as decorative stones, rocks, bricks, borders and railroad ties. Jackson's also sells pots, ponds, pond equipment and statuary to create a one-of-a-kind garden oasis.

Creating a landscape catered to each homeowner's unique tastes and preferences starts with a one-on-one ses-

sion with Jackson's professionals.

Using the latest computer technology, Pam Shiffert uses color photos of the house and surrounding property and inserts photos of desired plants and trees into place, so homeowners can visualize the finished product.

"It's better than the old way of drawing Xs and Os," Jackson said of the computer-aided design. "We can make additions or changes before we have even picked up a shovel."

The design service is only \$85.00 – an amount that is deducted if Jackson Landscaping services are used.

Jackson's handiwork can be seen in communities such as Stillwater, Wrenwood, The Ridge and The Quarry.

Even established homes need to refresh the landscap-



Jackson Landscaping provides computer-aided design so clients can better visualize the finished project before the shovel even hits the dirt.

DRAWING COURTESY OF JACKSON LANDSCAPING

ing, Jackson said.

"After 30 to 40 years, the old stuff should be taken out and redone," Jackson said.

Most clients spend from \$3,500 to \$5,000 on landscaping, he said. Whether it's the front yard, back yard, a flower garden or walkways, Jackson incorporates personal preferences with plants that meet homeowners' time constraints.

Boxwood, rhododendrons, azaleas and yews are popular because they're native to the area and low maintenance. Even a simple landscape needs attention, with fertilizing and pruning.

Jackson tailors its services to a homeowner's needs, including setting up a regular maintenance schedule. For many clients, Jackson will do fertilizing and mulching each spring. Other services include small tree and shrub trimming.

Establishing a lush, green lawn or bringing a lawn back to life is another Jackson specialty. Hydroseeding is an alternative method with a high success rate, he said.

Mowing lawns is how

Jackson got his start in 1958, with manual reel mowers that he stored in his barn on Walbridge Avenue. His business expanded to include landscaping and moved to Reynolds and Angola, Airport Highway in Swanton and, in 1996, to 3446 Eber Rd., next to the 180th Fighter Wing of the Ohio Air National Guard.

For more information, call (419) 868-3551 or go to www.jackson-landscaping.com. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Dewey Jackson, owner of Jackson Landscaping at 3446 Eber Rd., stocks a variety of plants, shrubs, trees and accessories for lawns and gardens.

MIRROR PHOTO BY KAREN BERGER

Homeowners Reminded To Fertilize Sparingly

The Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments and the Stormwater Coalition are reminding area residents that fertilizer should be applied to lawns sparingly and carefully – and it should stay on your lawn and not get into the storm sewer system where it affects our streams and lakes.

A little care will save you money and will also protect streams and lakes, officials say.

The organizations offered the following tips when using fertilizer:

- First, use only as much fertilizer as you need. A simple soil test will tell you if you need to add nutrients. If you do want to fertilize, use a no- or low-phosphorus fertilizer, and select a slow-release fertilizer in which at least half of the nitrogen is water-insoluble.
- Don't let your fertilizer wash away into the storm sewers, where it will end up in streams and lakes. If it rains right after you fertilize, your investment will flow right into storm sewers and the water supply.
- Use a broom to sweep excess or spilled fertilizer off the sidewalks and back onto your lawn. Don't use a hose that will wash fertilizer into the street and then into sewers.

Excess amounts of nitrogen and phosphorus can cause blooms of algae in lakes and streams. Some algae is natural and is part of the food chain,

but overgrowth of algae forms mats that clog water inlets and block sunlight to the water. As algae decay, they use up oxygen in the water that fish, frogs and other wildlife need.

There are ecologically sound ways to keep a lawn green and healthy, according to TMACOG and the Stormwater Coalition:

- When you mow, leave the grass at least three inches tall,

and leave the clippings on the lawn. Grass clippings will quickly break down and enrich the soil.

- Make your own organic fertilizer in a home compost bin. Kitchen waste such as vegetable peels and eggshells, combined with leaves and grass clippings, will create a rich compost that will keep a lawn or garden healthy and growing.

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