



Summer/Early Fall 2016

The Picture Perfect Times

A Newsletter from
Picture Perfect Landscape / Christmas Decor

Celebrating 24 years of service

Summertime & the living is easy...

There's still a few weeks left this summer to enjoy your new landscape!!!

September is a perfect time to get projects done now that the kids are back in school & the weather is great. Take advantage of our more flexible scheduling availability. Did you put off that project this spring because everyone was booked for months and some didn't even have the common courtesy to return your calls? Maybe there's a project you need completed before another long winter. Could be something as simple as cleaning up your planting beds after this dry summer and updating the look of your landscape with a few new shrubs. Create your own oasis in the backyard off your deck or patio with either a low maintenance water feature or create a place for a fire pit to enjoy with friends and family during the evenings especially going into the autumn season. Extend *your* living space outdoors this year...

Give us a call or email us today and let us show you how!!!

#657-1054 Glastonbury

87 Main Street, Hebron Office

#228-3915



Pruning & Watering

It is important to make sure you do not ignore your plantings. That means giving them a pruning sometime after the 4th of July since new spring plant growth is pretty much done for the rest of the year. Also keep on eye on the weather especially with dry and hot conditions that have existed this summer. You will have to give your plantings a deep watering 2 or 3 times a week or you risk stressing out your trees and shrubs.



Mulch

Dress-up planting beds with fresh mulch. We sell and deliver dark brown, shredded, pine bark mulch for your landscaping needs. We can either install it for you or just deliver it so you can do it yourself.

Visit our website for more info. Call us today for a quote on our pruning & mulching service. It's not to late to spruce up your landscaping for summer!



Special: Late Summer Plantings & Early Fall Lawn Over Seeding

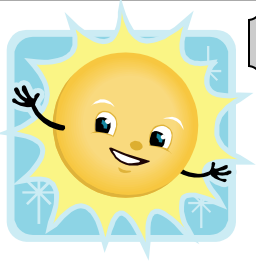
Free Initial Estimate/Consultations

Available starting mid-August thru the month of September. Maybe you're tired of that evergreen look that happens once the flowers of spring have bloomed. Or did old man winter really do a number on your shrubs the last couple of seasons. We can help you get back that curb appeal you're looking for by updating your landscape today with some new color & textures. Take advantage of the cooler months ahead which helps with watering. See inside for more info...



Making the Most of Mulch Mulch can do wonders for improving the overall health & appearance of your landscape. Mulch conserves moisture by protecting the soil from drying out & has been shown to reduce moisture loss by as much as 20% during the heat of summer. Mulch also helps control erosion and reduces competition between landscape plantings and grass for water and nutrients.

By keeping the soil around your plantings cool, moist, and shaded, mulch also helps control the growth of weeds & undesirable grasses which grow better in hot dry weather conditions. Mulch can also keep roots cool helping to prevent root growth from slowing down as temperatures get higher. **Call us for more information on pricing, delivery, and scheduling or visit our website www.perfectscapes.com for a useful tip on how to determine the amount of mulch needed for your yard or project this summer.**



Some Tips to Help Your Landscape Survive Summer's Sizzle

The long, hot, dry conditions of summer can tax the endurance of many plants. For plant success this summer season, follow these tips:

***Adjust Watering Schedules**-Water needs will increase as the temperature rises. Water in the early morning or late afternoon for best results and you won't burn the leaves of your plants or lawn.

***Check Irrigation Systems**-Replace clogged drip emitters and repair leaks. Increase emitter numbers and adjust emitter placement on trees. For sprinklers, place cups or cans out into your lawn, turn your system on and check for uneven coverage to determine problem areas.

***Mulch Plant Roots**-Replenish organic mulches around your plants each year to improve soil, reduce moisture loss & keep roots cool during the summer months. Keep mulch away from plant trunk or main stem.

***Weed Removal**-Weeds can compete with landscape plants for water.

Remove the weeds by hand or check with your local nursery for safe weed sprays.

Picture Perfect recommends applying both Roundup (for existing weeds) & then Preen (to discourage new weeds) to your beds to dramatically decrease weed growth & cut down on maintenance.)

Proper plant care and watering will keep your landscape healthy and looking beautiful all year long.



New Lawns have better success in late summer...

The hot temperatures of July are past and we enjoy the much cooler evenings of August and September. This makes it easier to keep the seed moist during germination. The young plants have **better growing conditions** without extreme heat.

Most of the **weeds** that compete with grass are dead and **diseases** are under control for the rest of the year. Weed and disease chemicals cannot be sprayed on new grass without injuring or killing it.

The new grass will have the fall and spring **seasons to mature** before facing all the stress of next summer: heat, traffic, competition, mowing, inappropriate watering, diseases, etc.

Planting at this time of year avoids several **springtime problems**: cool soil temperatures delay germination; soil may be too moist to prepare; weeds dominate the early growing months. Higher percentages of seed germination are likely since soil temperature and moisture levels are more favorable or can be controlled more readily.

***The best time to seed lawns is from late summer until early fall (August 15 to September 20) while the soil is still warm. Late summer lawn seeding is best because the soil is still warm (faster germination), watering will not be as much of a problem, there are fewer weed problems, and the**

cool season grasses in the mix will have a better chance of getting established.

The best and most even results are usually achieved using a hand crank operated seed spreader. Sow 1/4 of the seed (at the recommended seeding rate) to the entire lawn area. Repeat three more applications, each in a different direction. Rake the seed into the surface of the soil lightly, using a bamboo or fan rake, barely brush the seed under the soil. Roll the entire lawn surface with an empty lawn roller to set the seed in contact with the soil. Water seeds in thoroughly with a fine mist. Once the seed is planted, make sure that the soil is kept evenly moist until germination. After the seeds germinate, you can water more heavily but less frequently. **DO NOT OVER WATER**, and do not use a strong spray. You don't want to drown the seeds, nor do you want to wash them away.

Water will continue to be a prime concern for your new lawn. About one inch of water per week (rainfall plus irrigation) will be required until your lawn is well established. You may mow a newly seeded turf when the grass is 2 1/2-3 inches tall. Use a SHARP mower so the grass is cut cleanly, and the plants are not pulled out of the ground. Do not cut the grass too short, about 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches is a good height. After the first mowing you may apply a high nitrogen, turf fertilizer (23-4-6) at one-half the application rate recommended on the bag. Water immediately to prevent possible foliar burn.

Associations:

- ◆ CT. Grounds Keeper Association
- ◆ Authorized Unilock, Bolduc paver installer
- ◆ ICPI Certified Paver Installers
- ◆ Christmas Décor franchise owner
- ◆ Home improvement contractor
572122 fully insured

Why the Fall Season Is Usually the Best Time to Plant Grass Seed

Planning an end of summer party? Spruce up your landscape & impress your friends & family by visiting our website for new ideas on updating your yard. A little change can go a long way...



Make the most of the outdoors this year...create useful areas in your backyard that you can enjoy everyday with your family and friends. *You only think you know what is possible...*



Create an outdoor living area...

Outdoor Patios Areas: Many homeowners are putting a lot of thought & planning into their home additions these days. There are many options available...you can include the use of partially enclosed decks with either lattice or pergolas as a roof for shading and adding privacy. Create an outdoor living area with a view of your backyard for the warmer seasons by installing an open gazebo/canopy on a patio with side curtains for privacy and protection from the elements and insects. . You can even create different areas on a paver patio for sitting & relaxing with a good book, grilling, enjoying a fire, children's area with picnic table, entertaining with friends around a bar...the ideas are endless. Let us create an outdoor patio designed for your lifestyle and specific needs...Great for entertaining or just relaxing after a long day and it will give many years of enjoyment for both family and friends. Call us today for a free consultation & quote...explore *your* possibilities!!!

Extend your family's quality time outdoors this fall with a warm & inviting fire...



One of today's hottest trends in outdoor entertaining is incorporating fireplaces, outdoor fire pits, and grills or chimneys in your backyard so you can enjoy a cozy fire during spring, summer, and fall. For decades homeowners out West and down South, have extending their quality time outdoors with family and friends by installing heating elements that are functional as well as enjoyable. Instead of the pool or Jacuzzi that doesn't quite get used as often when

company comes over, they create an area with benches and chairs with an inviting fire to gather around safely. Enjoy a delicious meal outdoors and then have a place to converse or to enjoy romantically with that special someone on a chilly evening.

www.perfectscapes.com



Fire pit area

**Unilock®
Authorized Contractor**

Did you have a new pool installed this spring?



Concrete Paver Patio

Services We Offer... Complete Design Service (1,2, and 5 year plans available)

- ◆ Walkways Patios and Outdoor Areas-Landscape Plantings Plant bed pruning, edging, and mulching; also privacy screening trees and lower maintenance plantings
- ◆ Retaining Walls, Steps , Playscape or Shed Area and Water Features: Waterfalls, Ponds, & Streams
- ◆ Christmas Décor Holiday Decorating & Lighting

We've updated our website!

If you haven't been around our site for awhile, you'll notice a few changes. First our homepage has been revamped with a new slideshow showing our work as well as being more user friendly! We got rid of the larger images on our entire site to allow for you mobile users browsing with iPads, iPhones, Droids, etc. Our second big change is our landscape portfolio. We now have better images, and an easier viewer to see our projects! You can also see the gallery of plants we use in our designs as well as new before and after project photos. New design renderings have been added to our website as well. You will now be able to view our latest newsletter as well as monthly blog on landscape articles and tips for our clients. We hope you like the new look and invite you to let us know what you think!

3D Images

Having problems visualizing your new landscape project?

One of the biggest problems some homeowners face with conventional two-dimensional landscape design is trying to visualize the final project. Most people just keep their fingers crossed and hope it will turn out well. At Picture Perfect Landscape that is not good enough. We now offer our exclusive "Virtual Landscape Designs" program. The highly detailed pictures and walkthrough functions of this program will allow you to get a better feeling of what your new project will look like when finished. We can add details like different furniture, trees, shade structures, etc. with a click of the mouse to help find solutions for your particular situation. We want to make it easy for you to see our unique & creative ideas for your property and to fine tune them & make them your own **BEFORE** we start building. This service is offered during the slower periods of our season to allow us to concentrate on the time and details needed to create these drawn to scale computer 3D renderings. This way our clients are ready to go as soon as the weather is good and the nurseries have the best selection of plants, shrubs, and trees to offer. If this is something you would be interested in, we can take the photos and measurements and work with you over the next few weeks to give your landscape project life. Give us a call or email our office today to discuss your future landscape plans!



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860-228-3915 or pplandscape1@sbcglobal.net

Christmas Decor

Starting in October...This will be our 18th Season of Decorating: **WE DO IT ALL FOR YOU!** Our Full Service Program offers our clients convenience. We design, install, maintain, remove and store our top of the line, commercial quality holiday lights & decorations for you to enjoy. New LED C9s and

mini-lights use 85% less energy than regular lights!

Early Incentives if you sign up before Halloween



- Roof and Ground Lighting with LED C9 bulbs
- Windows, Trees, and Shrubs with LED minilights
- Commercial quality garland, wreaths with or without lights
- Bows and Specialty Decor such as Ornaments and Signs
- Digital Timer and electrical setup



Something to match every style.

CHRISTMAS DECOR SERVICES by Picture Perfect Landscape