

THE BUGGETTE



EDITOR'S NOTE: *It has been my privilege and pleasure to share stories, humor and insights with you for the last thirty plus years in this column. Beginning this month, I am passing the column over to my son Josh for a new, fresh perspective.*

Josh represents the second generation in our business, and he has been around it since before he could drive. He came on staff full-time in 2012, joining a stepsister already with us. Take it away, Josh!

-Dick Bare

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Help Your Lawn Stand Up to Winter



What you do now will affect how well your lawn fares through the winter and its health next spring. So here are our tips for fall care:

Remove those leaves: Leaves, and other debris, smother the grass, deprive it of light, and can even encourage diseases. So be sure to remove leaves regularly. We recommend using a leaf blower because it doesn't pull up any grass the way raking can, but raking is still fine and is definitely preferable to letting leaves build up.

Don't scalp when you mow: If you continue mowing during the fall, remember to remove no more than one-third of the grass blade at each cutting. Mowing too low reduces your lawn's ability to store up the resources it needs to make it through winter.

Continue watering until there's a freeze: Fall lawns still need an inch of water per week until the ground freezes. What your lawn doesn't get from rainfall, you'll need to supply by watering.



Bare in Mind by Josh Bare

In this issue's column, I want to talk about trees and branches. No, it's not about Arbor-Nomics' treatments. Rather, it's about an entirely different tree. Think family tree or genealogy. If you have even a passing interest in this topic, my hope is to inspire you to...

dig further and use the insights and tools I share here to guide you on this fascinating journey for you and your family.

One of my major insights is realizing how prior generations of family members made decisions that impacted their lives and even shaped your life in ways that are not always obvious. Often several factors influenced those decisions. They include where those family members lived (geographically - in a

rural or urban setting), how they lived (daily activities), and the communities of people who were their friends and members of the same church or support network.

Another realization that came to me is that if prior generations of family members made decisions that affect you, then it follows that things that we do today may influence future generations.

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Trees, Shrubs & Fall Planting

Most people think of planting trees and shrubs in the spring, which is a time for new growth. But with cooler days and more rainfall, the fall months are a good time to plant as well.

The best time for fall planting is September and early October

— this allows plants enough time to establish roots before cold weather stops their growth. If you're looking for fabulous fall

color, here are a few vibrant choices: **Sugar Maple, October Glory Maple, White Oak, Black Tupelo, Oak-Leaved Hydrangea, Spicebush & Bottlebrush Buckeye.**



Colorful Fall Facts

- 1 The breathtaking yellows and oranges we look forward to each fall are actually present in the leaves of trees throughout spring and summer. They're just not visible to us because of the abundance of chlorophyll, which gives leaves their green color. But as days grow shorter and chlorophyll diminishes, green gives way to spectacular fall colors.
- 2 If fall has you seeing reds and purples, common with maple trees, you can bet the trees have sap that runs on the sweet side. The presence of sugars in the sap trapped in leaves is what accounts for magnificent red and purple hues.
- 3 Unlike deciduous trees, which turn colors and eventually shed their leaves in the fall, evergreens live up to their name all year long. What we refer to as needles, are actually leaves, and these leaves are covered in a thick, protective wax that keeps them from freezing and enables them to stay alive throughout the seasons.

Source: <http://www.bhg.com/gardening/gardening-trends/new-trees-shrubs-for-2016-281474979468643/>

The Gnome Goes on the Road

After seven years of being our mascot on billboards, yard signs, brochures and the Arbor-Nomics website, our familiar yard gnome has come to life!

Not only did he speak for the first time in our spring radio ads, he also has a name – Gus. And now he has a replica in the form of two, 11-inch statuettes as well.

In the form of these statuettes, Gus is going on the road. This summer, company employees will take him throughout our metro Atlanta service area and anywhere else they go – including other parts of the country and even the world. Look for photographs of his travels on our website, www.Arbor-Nomics.com

“We’ll all have the opportunity to take Gus on the road and photograph him,” said Arbor-Nomics Founder and President Dick Bare. “He will definitely appear in some of our most beautiful lawns.”

Like his legendary European predecessors, Gus only lives in healthy lawns and gardens. That’s why his image is on all of our service yard signs. He’s also a wealth of knowledge

about Atlanta lawn care, ornamental tree and shrub care and he happily shares his wisdom.

Taking him on the road will also call attention to our Certified Landscape Specialists who keep him happy by making Atlanta landscapes green and beautiful.

“People like the gnome,” said Bare. “I think he’s here to stay.”

Gus’s first stops this summer included California’s famed Napa Valley as well as Gatlinburg, Tennessee. He also has plane tickets for London and Paris later this summer. So keep your eyes open for Gus. There’s no telling where he’ll show up next!



Your cool-season Fescue had a warm summer... Show it some ♥!

Aeration + Overseeding = A Thicker, Healthier Lawn

Do you see thinning or bare patches in your Fescue lawn? Fall aeration and overseeding from Arbor-Nomics can restore your lawn’s rich, healthy appearance. Aeration removes plugs of soil to let air and water reach the root structure of your lawn. Overseeding replaces lost grasses; for example, Fescue can suffer from funguses and heat damage during the summer and thin out over time.

What aeration does for your lawn:

- Allows air to penetrate into the soil and reach the root structure of the lawn
- Reduces soil compaction, improving both water and fertilizer intake by the soil
- Improves the root structure of turf grasses
- Improves resistance to stress caused by heat or drought
- Improves resiliency and cushioning, making for a thicker, healthier lawn

What overseeding does for your lawn:

- Fills in bare patches
- Sows seed over existing grass to create a thicker, richer lawn



Combined with overseeding, aeration helps the root structure of a lawn grow deeper, enabling the lawn to maximize its growth potential. Let your lawn breathe easy this fall with aeration and overseeding services from Arbor-Nomics!

Call us at **770.447.6037** or email brandon@arbor-nomics.com to schedule your aeration and overseeding today.

Application #5

What we did to your lawn today:

1. For warm-season grasses, we applied a pre-emergent to prevent grassy weeds from germinating in the wintertime and a broadleaf weed control to get rid of broadleaf weeds. You should see those weeds die within two weeks of the treatment. If you don't, email or call the office for a free retreat.
2. **Fescue** lawns received a granular starter fertilizer. This is high in phosphorus, which enhances the germination of seeds applied in overseeding. **Fescue** should be overseeded in September or October. Please call us for a quote on aeration and overseeding.
3. **Gold** customers received a **FREE** Outdoor Pest Control application.
4. **Platinum** customers receive a treatment/visit every month so this is application #9 and #10 for you. You received a fungicide to prevent fungi, an application of Outdoor Pest Control and a nutsedge/grassy weed application as needed.

What we did to your trees and shrubs today:

(ONLY For Gold & Platinum Customers)

1. We applied an insecticide to help prevent lace bugs, aphids, and caterpillars from settling into your trees and shrubs and a miticide to battle spider mites.
2. A fungicide was applied to control diseases like powdery mildew and leaf spot.

What you need to do until our next visit:

1. During fall, all lawns should have once inch of water per week from rain or irrigation. If it doesn't rain, check with your local water authority regarding watering regulations. The best watering time is early morning.
2. When mowing, do not remove more than 1/3 of the grass blades at each cutting. For optimal appearance, **Fescue** lawns should be mowed every 5–6 days, **Bermuda** every 2–5 days (depending upon the type of **Bermuda** grass) and **Zoysia** every 5–8 days. You don't need to collect clippings, as they recycle back into the soil, providing extra nutrients. It is safe to mow immediately after we've applied our products.
3. Keep an eye out for brown patch fungus.
4. Routine pruning will help your shrubs grow better.

If you have any questions concerning your lawn, trees, shrubs or our service, please call our Customer Service Department Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM at **770.447.6037**. If you call after hours, please leave a message and your call will be returned the next business day.



Helpful Contact Information

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Beware!

This time of year brings autumn colors, cooler weather and sometimes two big nuisances. Please check your lawn for these two problems and call us if you think your lawn is affected.



Pythium Blight

This devastating fungal disease can affect any type of lawn. It first appears as small, sunken circular patches during hot, humid weather and can get up to 1 foot in diameter. Matted blades within the patches are orange or dark gray with a greasy appearance. As the disease progresses, the blades of grass shrivel, and the patches become light brown. **This fungus is one of the more destructive and will usually require two or three fungicide applications to get rid of.**



Grubs

Grubs are a real threat here in Atlanta. They can be lurking in your soil right now, and you won't know it until your lawn shows signs of serious injury. That's why we're pleased to announce a new service that can help prevent grubs in your turf for an entire season. **If your lawn had grub damage last year, it has an 80% chance of being damaged by grubs again this year. Don't let this happen to your lawn!**

The Ideal Shrub for Brightening Your Winter Landscape

Want to bring a bit of color to winter? Plant some Blue Cascade shrubs this fall. This compact evergreen, reaching a height and width of about 4 feet, will brighten your yard with blue-green leaves and small red flowers that bloom in winter. It tolerates wet and dry soils and resists diseases and insects, making it easy to plant and care for.

Source: <http://www.bhg.com/gardening/gardening-trends/new-trees-shrubs-for-2016-281474979468643/>

How It Started

My interest in genealogy began about ten years ago by casually asking questions about family connections. Ancestry.com quickly became a helpful resource to begin building a family tree. But I soon realized that I was going to need to do some field research.

That involved visiting courthouses and cemeteries. More importantly, those visits changed my attitude about both places. No longer were they cold, sterile environments. Now they appeared as resources that could deliver information about my family members. When looking at tombstones, I initially saw birth and death dates. Over time, I became curious about the dash between those dates. For example, I learned about a family branch that disappeared in 1912. Were they victims of the worldwide flu pandemic of 1918-19? No one knew and there was no way to track that information down almost a century later. In another case, I discovered the tombstone of a family member who had died, but whose year of death did not appear on his tombstone. How did that happen? Again, no one is around to provide what announcer Paul Harvey used to call “the rest of the story.”

Those experiences taught me that if you are fortunate to have good data to work with, you can develop birth and death dates for relatives, but finding the essence of their life’s story — the meaning behind “the dash” — can be a challenge. It can also be a source of great satisfaction when you unearth details about that person’s life. In some cases, you might be able to create a more complete history of your family, but be prepared to find a puzzle where some of the pieces are missing. It may be obvious, but some of the best resources are family members who are still living and hopefully still have good recall.

Eight Tips on Genealogy Resources

- 1 Courthouse and cemeteries are great resources. Although they are destinations for information, remember that getting to the information can be an adventure in itself.
- 2 Consider a way to display your family tree on the wall. Visit www.rootsofetime.com where you can buy a nice tree template and customize it with your ancestors’ names on the leaves.
- 3 Use www.ancestry.com as a great place to start research.
- 4 Be sure to check www.findagrave.com for background details.
- 5 There is a great registry located in Forest Park. To learn more, go online to www.usapublicregistry.com/ancestry-documents/Forest-Park-GA/local.html.
- 6 Another great resource is the Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormons): www.archives.com.
- 7 Google family member names and details for more nuggets.
- 8 Join local genealogy societies to get even better guidance.

Fun Experiences

I especially enjoy going on road trips that involve family research. My most memorable experience involved flying up to Indianapolis, where I bought a car and immediately began research on my mother’s side of the family. With careful planning, I was able to visit

more than a dozen cemeteries in Northwest Ohio. A highlight was visiting with Mother’s relatives and sharing with them some of what I had learned.



On another trip to Youngstown, Ohio, the area where my parents and siblings grew up, I made a side visit to a small, family cemetery plot in Western Pennsylvania. What was intriguing was that it was not well marked and was definitely off the beaten track. In fact, one of the local people who knew where it was drove me through a field to reach it. Once there, I was able to continue my research. Thank goodness for the kindness of strangers!

My experience has left me with an appreciation for what I call “the rhythm of life.” While looking objectively at the lives of relatives, I saw people who grew up, fell in love, had families, and were productive members of society. In addition to prior observations, here are some additional ones to share with you about family research:

- **Invest in family relationships.** I aim to build memories with our three children (soon to be four). I fondly recall experiences that I had with my Dad over the years.
- **Create bonds with people and relatives having similar genealogy interests:** I took a trip to Louisville specifically to meet relatives. Although we hadn’t met before, they were happy to see me. They were gracious hosts and very helpful in providing documents that I scanned into my laptop.
- **On road trips be sure to connect to local points of interest:** On a trip to Pittsburgh, I thoroughly enjoyed visiting Frank Lloyd Wright designed homes. As with any locale, there are bound to be things to see and do that you will find interesting.
- **Wherever possible, try to get pictures of family members that you locate:** They are people who are more than just a listing on a chart. Having a visual tie-in like a photo will anchor the memory and cement the relationship.
- **Define what is relevant to you:** Knowing that our family loves us, that we are alive, and that we can meet many of our basic needs, are just some of the many blessings that we enjoy. While some people may be descended from royalty, most folks just want to discover the noble acts of their relatives.

As I close, I’d like to share one more memory from the journey to discover my family history. I was fortunate to locate a photo journal that my grandfather kept during World War II as his Army unit advanced through Sicily, Italy and beyond. It’s a family treasure and left me with great respect for my grandfather’s military service and his careful record keeping. In fact, I once posted a picture of a town’s buildings from his journal online. Imagine my surprise to receive a response from a total stranger overseas who saw the picture. He told me that his family owned one the buildings in the photo. That was cool. May you enjoy researching your family tree and its branches as much as I have!