

BUGS

Vol. 44 No. 278



LAWN TREATMENT NO. 1

SERVICE RECAP

WEED CONTROL

Our pre-emergent prevents grassy weeds like crabgrass from germinating. Our post-emergent kills existing broadleaf weeds over the next two weeks.

FERTILIZATION

Cool-season Fescue yards were treated with our Special Blend fertilizer for nourishment. Warm-season Bermuda and Zoysia lawns received potassium to support roots and feed them through dormancy in the spring.

FUNGUS CONTROL

add-on service

Zoysia lawns can be treated to control a common fungal disease called the “Zoysia patch.”

ORNAMENTAL TREE & SHRUB TREATMENTS

add-on service

As part of our Gold Plan, we applied dormant oil to prevent winter damage from pests and disease.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

DON'T MOW TOO LOW – Raise your mower deck a half-inch and leave grass clippings to recycle into the soil for an extra nutritional boost. (You can mow after wet applications are dry.)

LEAVE NO LEAVES – Thick leaf buildup traps moisture, deprives grass of air and light, and makes our treatments less effective. Make sure you rake.

DEFEND YOUR HOME TURF AGAINST WINTER

GUARD YOUR GRASS

- Fill in any holes to prevent water from pooling and freezing.
- Let grass grow a half-inch longer and leave grass clippings to recycle back into the soil.

SHIELD YOUR SHRUBS

- Insulate shrubs with a 2- to 3-inch layer of mulch. Leave a 3-inch gap between the mulch and the trunks of trees and shrubs.
- Cover plants with burlap or protection bags when temperatures drop below freezing.

PUT SPRING AERATION ON YOUR SCHEDULE

Atlanta's clay soil becomes hard and compacted from winter frosts, making it difficult for warm season grass to thrive.

Aeration loosens up dense soil to help:

- Air, water, and fertilizer better reach the root system
- Roots grow stronger and deeper
- Lawns grow thicker to be more resistant to heat and drought



SCAN FOR MORE

GET FREE MOSQUITO TREATMENTS FOR A YEAR WHEN YOU UPGRADE TO OUR GOLD PLAN

QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR SERVICE OR YOUR YARD?

CALL CUSTOMER SERVICE AT 770.447.6037, MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8 AM-5 PM. AFTER HOURS, LEAVE A MESSAGE AND WE'LL GET BACK TO YOU THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY OR EMAIL US AT INFO@ARBOR-NOMICS.COM.



BARE IN MIND



BY JOSH BARE



I've found myself out hiking more lately. We live about 20 minutes from Stone Mountain without traffic but we don't go to the park that often. I got a wild hair to hike the "Big Rock" and went over with my sister Molly. We got an annual pass, parked in the lot by the walk-up trail and started hiking. It doesn't take long to get to the top - it's only about a mile, but has 700 feet of elevation. If you haven't ever been it is an uneven pathway but fairly wide. There is one section that is a smooth, steep hill but there are handrails to steady yourself or pull yourself up with.

It is interesting having lived in the same place for a while - sometimes you end up taking for granted the local attractions that draw in tourists. Climbing Stone Mountain is great exercise and there is an amazing view of Atlanta from the top. In addition to the trail up the mountain there is a 5-mile pathway around the mountain called the Cherokee Trail that would be great to try out sometime. It is rated moderate on the Stone Mountain website and estimated to take 2.5 to 3.5 hours to walk.

About a month after Molly and I hiked the mountain, I figured I'd try an earlier hike on a Saturday so that I still had the rest of the day left. I picked up my friend Steve from Decatur and we got there before sunrise (the park opens at 5am). We were using our phone flashlights to go up and, as we got closer to the top, we realized we were going to get to see the sunrise. Steve has this cool smartphone app that shows constellations and where the sun will rise over the

horizon when you hold the camera up to the sky. It was so amazing to see the sun come up from the top of the mountain and there were a number of other folks up there with us. A couple weeks later, we did it again - this was in the fall and you could see a lot of fall color in the trees below us stretching over to Atlanta as we came back down.

Another cool hiking spot on the other side of town is Kennesaw Mountain. It is about the same distance to the top but the trail isn't as wide and, in my opinion, a little more strenuous than Stone Mountain. Sometimes it can be harder to find parking at the base of the mountain, too.

Someday I'm hoping to spend a lot more time on maybe the most famous trail in Georgia - the Appalachian Trail (AT for short). The approach trail starts at Amicalola Falls and the actual trail begins at Stringer Mountain. It stretches 2,200 miles up to Maine and on average takes 6 months to hike. I recently hiked in and back out about 2 miles at Woody Gap off Highway 60 up close to Suches. The trail to the east heads up to Big Cedar Mountain. When Amanda and I went up there it was really misty but I'm pretty sure we would have been treated to amazing views if the weather was clearer.

I'm sure I'm missing other epic places to hike in the Greater Atlanta area. If you have a favorite spot, feel free to email me and let me know. Here is to getting outside and enjoying the great outdoors while exercising!



Top to bottom:

The Appalachian Trail; Scenes from the summit of Stone Mountain with my sister Molly and my friend Steve.

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