

BUGS

Vol. 45 No. 286



APPLICATION NO.1

SERVICE RECAP

WEED CONTROL

This two-part treatment begins with a pre-emergent formula to keep crabgrass and other weeds from germinating. Our post-emergent herbicide follows to help control broadleaf weeds present.

FERTILIZATION

Cool-season fescue lawns get winter nourishment from our Special Blend fertilizer. Dormant, warm-season Bermuda and Zoysia lawns receive a dose of potassium to strengthen roots to grow healthier for spring.

FUNGUS CONTROL

add-on service

Zoysia lawns receive a fungicide treatment to control and prevent the spread of Zoysia patch – a common winter fungus.

ORNAMENTAL TREE & SHRUB TREATMENTS

add-on service

We treat trees and shrubs with Dormant Oil to help smother any insect eggs left to overwinter.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: FINN'S TIPS FOR 2025

DON'T MOW TOO LOW

Raise your mower blade a half-inch this winter; longer grass protects your lawn's roots from frost. Leave grass clippings to recycle into the soil for an extra nutrient boost.

RAKE REGULARLY

Leaf buildup traps moisture and keeps air and light from reaching your grass. A lack of leaves also makes our treatments more effective.

PROTECT YOUR LAWN AGAINST WINTER WEATHER

- Fill any holes in your lawn with soil to keep water from pooling and freezing.
- Insulate trees and shrubs with a 2- to 3-inch layer of mulch.
- Leave a 3-inch gap between the mulch and the base of trees and shrubs.
- Cover outdoor plants with burlap or protection bags when temperatures are below freezing.

GET READY FOR SPRING WITH AERATION

Atlanta's soil gets hard and compact during the winter, putting stress on warm-season grasses. Our spring aeration service loosens dense soil to help:

- Air, water, and nutrients reach your lawn's roots
- Root systems grow deeper and stronger
- Lawns grow thicker, fuller, and more weed-resistant



SCHEDULE SPRING
AERATION BY
CALLING 770-447-6037

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 was on YouTube the other day, and clips of the movie “Evan Almighty” with Steve Carrell were in my feed. The plot follows Evan, a brand-new congressperson, who has been asked by God (played by Morgan Freeman) to build an ark while navigating the pressures of supporting a controversial piece of legislation. While talking with God, Evan expresses his frustrations about his life and how he doesn’t know where to begin. God makes a key statement, at least in my opinion, that if you want to change the world, do it through one act of random kindness at a time. As he speaks, God cleans and fills a water dish for a thirsty dog in the background. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4cOQZG01YE>)

I don’t know why that scene resonated with me, but it’s a great reminder with everything going on in the world right now. In another clip, God talks to Evan’s wife and helps her see the opportunity amidst her initial skepticism of her husband’s actions. Perspective has helped me view challenging times in a different context. My car broke down recently, and I was 45 minutes from home. However, I had an immediate free ride to get back home; I was able to retrieve my car the next day and fix it the following day. It could’ve been a lot worse!

I wanted to share ideas of random acts of kindness I’ve experienced myself or heard someone else mention. We’ve all heard about paying the tab for the person behind you at the coffee shop or helping someone with a difficult door or big load to carry. My mom recently shared with me how, after she had loaded her car with her groceries, she was far from the cart return, and a helpful stranger returned her cart for her.

I attended an industry association event last year, and the speaker discussed the impact a mailed,

handwritten note or nice card can have. He made some custom cards incorporating his nature photography and gave them to everyone at the meeting. These days, getting a card in the mail outside of Christmas is a rarity. You could change someone’s day for the better with some uplifting words of encouragement – provided your handwriting is legible!

A couple of years ago, I saw another neat YouTube video of a guy feeding raccoons hot dogs on his back porch in the snow. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ofp26_oc4CA) There must have been 25 of them gathered around for the free food. Raccoons don’t hibernate, but they do enter a state of torpor where their breathing slows, and they sleep for weeks at a time. They need to store up fat to get through this period, so they are super hungry. There is something so entertaining about watching a raccoon eat, and they seemed super grateful for the easy treats. I wouldn’t advise trying it yourself, but there are lots of other ways to show kindness to animals – even putting a bug outside instead of squashing it should count for something!

I still have a watch my dad gave me through an act of kindness almost 30 years ago. I picked it out at the store and was making layaway payments on it. I’d paid off about half of it, and my dad went in and covered the other half and surprised me with it as a gift. That watch will always be a treasured item for me because of the good memories I associate with it.

If you’ve got a great story of how a random act of kindness changed your life or how you were able to help someone out, I’d love to hear about it. My email is josh@arbor-nomics.com. I hope you have a great 2025 and we won’t need an ark to survive it!

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