

THE GREEN SHEET



Providing Sustainable Landscape Management to southeastern Wisconsin

Simple Approaches to a More Environmentally Sound Landscape

Invite Pollinators

Bees, butterflies, birds, bats and other animal pollinators are directly responsible for pollinating more than 35% of the world's food crops and 75% of the world's flowering plants, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Loss of habitat, pesticide use, and climate change have all contributed to declining populations.



Photo by Dyann Kostello, Green Team client

So how can we help? Planting just a few pollinator favorites is a great place to start. Love the Monarchs? Milkweed is a workhorse — and the *only* food source of the Monarch caterpillar. Want more hummingbirds? Tubular flowers in red, orange and yellow will attract them. And to protect the bees, our most important pollinators, tuck a clump or two of Bee Balm, Coneflower or Aster into a plant bed. Even containers with herbs like Sweet Basil, Thyme, Lemon Balm and Lavender make an impact. The Green Team experts will help you select the right pollinator plants for your property. If you plant it, they will come!

Practice a Holistic Pest Management Approach

Garden pests, from noxious weeds to non-beneficial insects and diseases, can take a toll on our landscapes. While pesticides can be effective to managing these, chemicals should be considered last. Improper cultural practices — mowing, pruning, fertilizing and watering — are often the reason for the pest, and can be easily modified. Correct identification and understanding of the pest is step one, and we can help you diagnose the underlying issue and advise the best course of action for what's bugging your landscape.



Opt for an Eco-Friendly Cleanup

Fallen leaves, once decomposed, become valuable compost and fertilizer for our plant beds and lawns by adding nutrients, improving soil structure and increasing water-holding capacity. Leaf cover also provides important habitat for wildlife and protects plants over winter.

And leaving up select perennials for winter not only provides birds seeds when food is scarce, but adds winter interest and movement to landscapes that otherwise appear to sleep until spring.

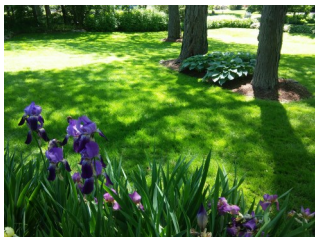
So why not put our fall gardens to work for us and our creatures — and keep the leaves out of our streets and municipal landfills? Let's talk about Eco-Friendly Fall Cleanup options for your property.

The Green Team provides sustainable landscape design, maintenance, installation and natural lawn care services for residential, commercial and municipal properties.

Call or visit us online to request an estimate or design consultation.

Managing Lawn Weeds in a Natural Lawn Care World

At The Green Team, we believe that lawns should be healthy and green for people, pets and our communities. The healthiest lawns are dense, deeply rooted and able to outcompete weeds.



Some lawn weeds are unavoidable, however — even in healthy turf. To knock down broadleaf (non-grassy) weeds, with less environmental impact, The Green Team applies a product that's permitted for use in parks, sports fields, playgrounds and golf courses, where pesticide bans exist.

Since it's made from iron, it's quickly absorbed by the plant's tissue, has no unpleasant odor and is rain-fast within three hours. People and pets can enter treated areas as soon as the product is dry, rather than having to stay off the lawn for days. Let's talk lawn weeds!

A Fresh Look at Container Gardening



Most gardeners are familiar with the "thriller, filler and spiller" method of container planting: a tall focal plant surrounded by mid-height plants, and vines that trail over the edges. While that's lovely, there are countless options that not only add beauty, but also accomplish something unique to you and your outdoor living space.

If you dread watering, consider a shallow urn filled with drought-tolerant succulents. If you love to cook, perhaps a collection of terra cottas with your favorite (yes, edible!) herbs or veggies. Love nature? How about a brightly colored pot with cut branches for perching birds? Have an area heavy in hard surfaces? A grouping of pots with foliage plants will soften it up. There's a display just for you!



A Note From Bradley Blaeser
President
The Green Team of WI, Inc.

As we traverse through our 15th year in business, I can't tell you how thrilled we are to be here. Less than 30% of small businesses make it beyond year 10.

Demand for our services in 2020 challenged us — in a good way. We continued our commitment to building our capacity this off-season by building the strongest back office and field team to date. More importantly, we elevated our customer service potential and the credentials of our field staff.

When expanding our team this past winter, we were pleasantly surprised to find qualified and enthusiastic candidates who sought out The Green Team primarily as the result of our commitment to the environment.

We're fortunate to have an amazing bunch of team members who truly care about our mission, each other, and our clients' properties. And we're equally privileged to have loyal clients who stuck with us through the uncertainties of 2020, and who trusted us to safely provide services during a pandemic.

We couldn't be more optimistic about our future, and our team looks forward to being of service to you too!



Clustered containers filled with interesting textural foliage and flowers hug this porch, providing a unique entrance.

Start Planning Your Perfect Outdoor Living Space Today!

Design | Installation | Maintenance