

# Preparing for Winter



October to December 2015

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Almony's Property Solutions, Inc.



## A Message from the Vice President

This is an exciting time of year, as Fall is upon us and the holidays are coming quickly. On behalf of Brian and myself, we would like to thank you for all of your continued support throughout the year. We truly enjoy what we do, as our passion drives our constant desire to be our best and product the greatest quality. It fuels our ability to grow our team and always be working towards distinguished honors.



In October, Brian and I made the annual trip to Louisville Kentucky to the GIExpo, which is the largest Green Industry Expo in the world. This was Brian's third year in attendance, but my first. Little can I say, I was quite overwhelmed. Not only was it a boost for my individual goals, but a reminder to why I decided to return to school to obtain my bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

Brian and I are rapping up our 18th year of seasons in business. I'm energized to continue serving my customers, each one of you, to the best of my abilities, while putting in place an exceptional team who only strives for the best.

Please take a moment to visit our website at [www.Almonys.com](http://www.Almonys.com). You may also keep up with us on Facebook—simply search for Almony's Property Solutions and keep an eye out for our 'Projects of the Week'!

Thank you again,

Carrie Almony, VP/Office Manager

## WHY IS MULCHING IMPORTANT?

THE EARTH'S CRUCIAL THIN LAYER OF SOIL MUST BE PROTECTED, MAINTAINED, BUILT AND NOURISHED. MULCH INSULATES AND PROTECTS SOIL FROM DRYING AND HARD-BAKING EFFECTS CAUSED BY EVAPORATION OF WATER FROM SOIL EXPOSED TO HOT SUN AND WINDS.

MULCHED SOILS ARE COOLER AND HAVE LESS FLUCTUATION IN SOIL TEMPERATURE THAN NON-MULCHED SOILS; WHICH HELPS PLANTS GROW EVENLY.



MULCH BREAKS THE FORCE OF RAIN AND IRRIGATION WATER, THEREBY PREVENTING EROSION, SOIL COMPACTION AND CRUSTING. MULCHED SOILS ABSORB WATER FASTER. THE MULCH COVERING EXCLUDES LIGHT WHICH PREVENTS GERMINATION OF MANY WEED SEEDS. FEWER WEEDS PROVIDE LESS COMPETITION FOR AVAILABLE MOISTURE AND NUTRIENTS. WHILE MULCHES DO RETAIN MOISTURE IN THE SOIL, IT WILL STILL BE NECESSARY TO WATER PLANTS GROWING IN MULCHED SOILS. WATER SHOULD BE TARGETED BENEATH THE MULCH SPECIFICALLY AT THE ROOT ZONE OF YOUR PLANTS. DRIP IRRIGATION IS THE MOST EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE WATERING TECHNIQUE. WHEN A PLANT THIRSTS AND IS SEVERELY STRESSED, OVERALL VIGOR AND PRODUCTION (OF FLOWERS) ARE DECREASED. SHRUBS DISPLAY FOLIAGE ABNORMALITIES! FLOWERS BLOOM WITH MEDIOCRITY! TREES DON'T GROW RAPIDLY! THE TEAM AT ALMONY'S WOULD BE HAPPY TO SCHEDULE A FREE CONSULTATION TO CREATE A LANDSCAPE PLAN THAT IS BOTH EFFECTIVE AND ALLURING FOR YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS. CALL OR EMAIL US TODAY, 717-235-5981 or [Quote@Almonys.com](mailto:Quote@Almonys.com) Make your home even more beautiful!

## Why is it so important to get the leaves off the grass?

Some may think people make a big deal over leaf cleanup for the aesthetic look, but there's a much more important reason than appearance. With sufficient sunlight, nutrients and water, cool-season grasses revitalize themselves in Fall, strengthening their root systems. A thick layer of fallen leaves can impede the growth of these grasses. Leaves will smother the grass and if not removed very soon in the spring it will inhibit growth. Finally, turf damage from critters (voles, mice) can be more extensive in the spring if leaves are left on the ground. Here's hoping that if you have lots of leaves on the lawn, you also have a few kids around the neighborhood (or the house) that want to make some spending money by raking the leaves for you.



# THE SOUTHERN EDITION

# “Autumn....the year’s last, loveliest smile.”



## Flower Tips to keep the color flowing . . .

- \* Select pansies that have been grown in 4” pots. They have a more developed root system for planting.
- \* Till the soil 8”-12” deep and add compost, manure or peat moss.
- \* Add a slow-release fertilizer and work it into the soil.
- \* Shape or contour the soil so water will drain out of the landscape beds.
- \* Space pansies 6”-10” apart for complete fill in of your landscape bed areas.
- \* Add a 2”-3” layer of shredded hardwood mulch to protect the plants during winter months.
- \* Water in the newly planted pansies with a liquid fertilizer.

We accept Online Payments:  
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## RICHARD AND NINA IN SHREWSBURY, PA



## LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE TIPS FOR FALL & WINTER

The cold temperatures, drying winds, and snow cover of winter can all cause problems in the landscape without proper preparation. Almony’s recommends you follow these helpful tips to keep your lawn looking great all season long:

### PRUNE TREES, SHRUBS & ROSES

Fall and winter are a perfect time for pruning, helping to promote fast regrowth in the spring months. Ideally, you want to prune on days when the temperature is above 32 degrees and the weather is dry. You should focus on removing sick and dead limbs, branches, and offshoots first. Next you’ll want to trim back any overgrowth and sculpt the plant to expose the crown to optimal light and air.

### INSULATE SHRUB BEDS

Insulating your shrub beds with mulch in the winter helps protect your plants from the cold and promotes moisture retention. Adding mulch also has the added benefit of robbing invasive weeds of seed germinating sunlight.



### WINTERIZE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

During the winter months, freezing water could expand in your pipes, causing cracks and mainline breaks in your irrigation system. Protect your irrigation system from freezing temperatures by:

- 1) Shutting off the water supply
- 2) Opening all drain valves to allow water to drain freely overnight
- 3) Wrapping any exposed outdoor pipes with insulation tape

### WINTERIZE YOUR LAWN

First you want to make sure you cut the grass short in preparation for winter. Normally you want to cut your grass to a height of 3.5—4 inches, the last mow of the season should be a shorter cut of 3.25-3.5 inches tall. Also you want to apply a fertilizer followed by an application of lime to adjust the pH of your lawn to adapt to extreme temperatures.

Ensure your property looks great in Spring!

Did you know Almony’s does . . .

## Lawn Services

- \* Mowing
- \* Lawn Treatments
  - \* Fertilization
  - \* Aeration
  - \* Over Seeding
  - \* Exterior Pest Control
- \* Field Mowing
- \* Leaf Cleanup and Removal

## Landscape

- \* Landscape Design
- \* Landscape Installation
- \* Landscape Maintenance
- \* Season Flower Packages
- \* Shrubbery and Tree Care
  - \* Trimming / Pruning
  - \* Insect and Disease Treatments

## Hardscape

- \* Hardscape Installation
  - \* Retaining Walls
  - \* Walkways/Sidewalks
  - \* Patios
  - \* Fire Pits
  - \* Outdoor Living Spaces
  - \* Ponds

## Excavation

- \* Site Preparation
- \* Septic Installation
- \* Shed Pad Installation
- \* Grading/Re-Grading
- \* Drainage Resolutions
- \* New Lawn Installation
- \* Driveway Installation
- \* Brush Hogging

## Other Services

- \* Hauling
  - \* Firewood
  - \* Snow Removal
- And more, just ask!

# GET TO KNOW...

Brian Tickle. He was born and raised in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. He has four siblings, that he enjoys spending time with whenever he can. Brian served our country in the United States Navy, as a Communications Specialist.



In his free time, he enjoys hiking, camping or a relaxing weekend getaway to the beach. Most importantly, he enjoys quality time with his fiancé, Ashton (although as of December 4th will be his lovely bride) and hanging out with family. He also enjoys listening to vinyl records, and have quite the collection of all genres!

Most of Brian's work history has been retail and has always considered himself to be a people person. Brian became an Almony's Team member on September 25th. He most recently spent four years working retail for a winery in the area, but was intrigued in our offer to obtain his Certification as a Lawn Applicator Technician, maintaining his own schedule and workload year round. 'Tickle', as he has been nicknamed, has tested for multiple certifications to date, and we are proud to say he is successfully achieving his goals.

'Tickle' will be handling all services for the Lawn Treatments crew, weed control and fertilization to aeration and over seeding. We look forward to his growth throughout the year, with opportunities to grow and thrive in many areas.

Welcome to the Team 'Tickle', we are happy to have you!



## WINTER TURF DAMAGE

YOUR LAWN IS MADE UP OF CULTIVATED PLANTS STRUGGLING TO GROW IN A SOMETIMES HARSH CLIMATE. WINTER CONDITIONS CAN DAMAGE YOUR TURF IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- SEVERELY COLD TEMPERATURES CAN FREEZE THE TURF GRASS
- COLD, DRY WINDS CAN DEHYDRATE THE PLANT
- FROST AND ICE THROUGHOUT THE LAWN CAN TEAR PLANT TISSUES
- EXTREME WINTER TEMPERATURE VARIATIONS CAN DISRUPT THE NATURAL DORMANCY PROCESS

## WINTER DAMAGE CAN BE REDUCED IF :

- YOUR LAWN IS OVER SEEDING WITH A HARDY TURF GRASS
- YOUR LAWN IS FERTILIZED BY A PROFESSIONAL WHO KNOWS YOUR WEATHER CONDITIONS AND KNOWS THE BEST TIME TO FERTILIZE
- LAWNS ARE DRAINED PROPERLY TO PREVENT WATER FROM COLLECTING AND ICE FORMING

ALMONY'S HAS A TEAM OF PROFESSIONALS THAT WOULD BE HAPPY TO ASSESS YOUR LAWN TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS PREPARED FOR WINTER AND WILL THRIVE THIS COMING SPRING.



JAN AND GRACE IN SHREWSBURY, PA

## October through December Chores:

- \* Cleanup leaves from the lawn and landscape beds
- \* Fertilize the Lawn for the Winter Season
- \* Apply Lime to help neutralize your lawns pH level
- \* Check your landscape beds to make sure plants are protected from the cold weather
- \* Unplug your water hose from the house
- \* Turn off any irrigation systems

## YOUR OPINION IS IMPORTANT TO US!

COULD WE PLEASE ASK FOR 2 MINUTES OF YOUR TIME SO THAT WE CAN GET YOUR HONEST, EXACT AND VALUABLE OPINION OF OUR SERVICES? WE HAVE PUT TOGETHER AN END-OF-YEAR SURVEY AND WOULD REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR FEEDBACK. IF WE CURRENTLY HAVE AN EMAIL ON FILE FOR YOU, PLEASE LOOK FOR IT IN YOUR INBOX. IT WILL COME THROUGH AS A SIMPLE TO NAVIGATE SURVEY BY SURVEYMONKEY. IF NO EMAIL IS AVAILABLE, WE WILL BE MAILING YOU A COPY WITH A RETURN ENVELOPE.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS USED TO ENHANCE, IMPROVE AND JUDGE OUR SUCCESS IN MEETING YOUR EXPECTATIONS. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR THOUGHTS. WE TRULY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!



- \* Make sure you bring in any outside plants if possible
- \* Store away your lawn furniture and grill
- \* Be sure to winterize any lawn care equipment
- \* Install your holiday decorations!
- \* Winter pansies are a great addition to end the year with color and bring in warm weather next Spring!



*We take pride in your property's appearance*

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## *Memberships and Affiliations*



*Our Mission Statement*

*With an eye-tary level of professionalism, the Almony's team is committed to achieving the highest quality in our finished projects with the best of our ability's in lawn, landscape, hardscape and eye-catchin' services, without sacrificin' quality.*