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## It's Time to sharpen UP!

By Chris Vasecka

Finally after two months of cool rainy weather, you finally have all of your winter damaged areas looking good. Now all you have to worry about is Water, Fertilizer and Mow. STOP!! OK so we have talked about conserving water, fertilizing responsibly, but when is the last time you sharpened your blades? When asked "How often do you sharpen your mower blades?" 9 out of 10 people said once a year when their mower is serviced in the fall. This would be fine if we only mowed our lawn 5-10 times a year. Keeping your blades sharp through out the season is essential for good lawn maintenance. When your lawn is cut with a dull blade it adds insult to injury, leaving many jagged edges at the end of the turf blade which need to heal. The more damaged the end are, means a higher use of water and nutrients. Not only are you using up the turf's resources, but also the fuel your mower uses increases on the same scale. Every season should begin with two sets of blades, and to interchange them whenever the blade goes dull. If you run your finger across the blade and don't feel an edge, it's time to change. Don't forget to pull the spark plug wire when servicing your machine. Keep your blades sharp and you will reduce your fuel, water and fertilizer use. Good Luck and happy Mowing.

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## Is an Irrigation Audit for Me??

When Men were asked "What is the first thing you look for when buying a Car?" 6 out of 10 said "How many sets of golf clubs could you fit in the trunk. Myself I am more interested in how roomy it is, and if the gas mileage is reasonable. In both instances, we are relying on measured results. If they are not measured, then it is only a guess and we would have to go through trial and error until we find the right vehicle. Same goes for irrigation scheduling, we begin with an idea of what we should be programming, but are unsure if it is right. At the price and availability of water we can not afford to be wrong. Even 10 minutes over on one station for a season will cost you an extra 7800 gallons of water for the season. Next is how much water should we use in the different months of summer. **Use Your Water Right** provides the service that measures the output performance of your system and provides a simple to use irrigation program which begins in April and ends in October. Other services which we provide are design update suggestions and access to new LOW Output, HIGH Impact sprinklers. We don't install new systems, we just make your existing system operate more efficiently, saving you money and water year after year. If you are still unsure, call for a free on-site water consultation. 320-310-4241.

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