

End of Summer Tasks

Except for the two week Winter Closure at the end of the year, Grounds Services works across Stanford every month. To keep Stanford looking as good as it does, the work is a year round process, based on seasonal tasks. There is no special preparation for New Student Orientation, but the late summer cycle does focus on several items. Whether on campus, or in your own back yard, concentrate on these tasks.

Turf Maintenance

Now is the time to seed and fertilize your lawn. It is still warm enough to germinate the seed quickly and give it some time to grow before it cools off in a couple of months. A couple of things to look for:

1. Is turf being turned over by animals foraging for grubs?

For raccoons and skunks, use Bayer Grub Control in September. The non-chemical solution to prevent damage is to treat the area with beneficial nematodes. These microscopic roundworms will hunt down and kill soil-dwelling grubs. They will remain effective for 2 years and are safe for people, pets, earthworms and the environment. Do not use follow-up insecticides, they will kill the nematodes.

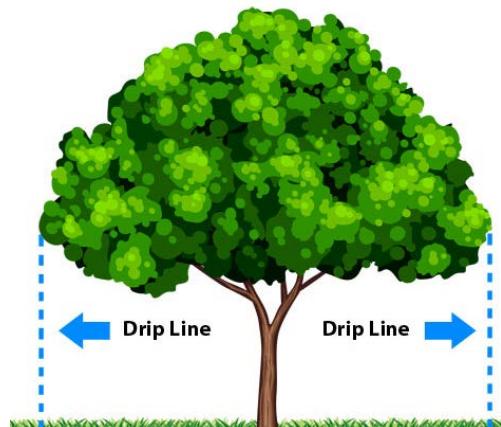
A temporary solution is to cover the perimeter of the area with garden netting. The animals are confused and irritated by feeling the plastic net underfoot. (Remove netting before you mow the lawn).

2. Wet spots in the lawn?

Adjust the irrigation runtimes accordingly

Mature Trees

Water them deeply. After a long hot summer, even mature trees will benefit from a slow soak watering. Lay a soaker hose along the drip line of your tree (not next to the crown) water for 10 minutes, allow to soak for 20. Repeat this a few times. This will help your trees until the beginning of the rainy season.



Grounds will plant trees and plants in October, so the winter rains will help establish the new plants.

As Bonair Siding begins to be re-sized to make way for new construction, Grounds Services has new digs. The new address is 321 Bonair Siding, located in the 'Old Steam Shop'. Our managerial team, landscape service team, irrigation and three of our academic maintenance teams operate from the new location in the Bonair Siding yard. The faculty staff team is located in the Bowdoin parking lot complex and one academic staff team and the Tree Crew are operating out of the yard space, south of the CEF complex.