



SPRING 2015

Green Words

THE NEWSLETTER OF TREE • TURF • GARDEN • LAND • FOREST



On this last day of February 2015, individually and collectively We Are Chippers: Clint, Mike, Cody, Jill, Ron, Josh, Tim, Rob, Wesley, Nate, Tom, Tarkin, Kim, Monica, Chris, Cameron, Mike, Richard, Carl, Jason, Cal, Paul, Dan, Danielle, Heather, Cody, Jon, Matt, Lenny, Dan, Alex, John, Gabe, Jeremy, Nick, Brent, Bill, Eman, Marcus, Theron, Jon, Scott, Nick, Joe, Normand, Sean, Tanner, Jesse and Brian.

These are some of the folks on our team you will see and talk with this year, while they drive Chippers vehicles, plant, prune, and care for your trees and shrubs, fertilize, aerate & overseed your lawns, weed & maintain your gardens, collect and boil sap, answer your phone calls and questions, and make sure that you are happy with the green care services we provide. In our high-tech, fast-paced, often high-stress, over-connected and ever changing world, it is still the people who matter most in work and life, and at Chippers that will never change.

—Mundy Wilson Piper

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Enhance Your ‘Curb Appeal’ This Year, Northern New England Style

THE GRASS FACTOR

According to a 2013 National Assoc. of Realtors survey, 71% of home buyers consider curb appeal important when house hunting. The famous Bob Villa agrees, stating in a recent article that a well done landscape can add up to 20% to a home’s sale value. Wow! Clearly, curb appeal is not just window dressing, it is an important factor whether you are selling or buying a house. First impressions count! One of the easiest ways to improve your curb appeal is to upgrade your lawn. A vibrant carpet of green grass gives a welcoming impression and visual proof of an owner caring for the property.

This is good news because a healthy lawn is one of the most economical investments you can make. Many of our clients aren’t aware that we provide a wide array of affordable lawn services. Most lawns can

be improved without costly renovations, making this curb appeal upgrade an inexpensive one.

Other landscaping projects may involve long-term planning and implementing with a higher associated investment, but you can see results in a few weeks with a lawn program. We offer a comprehensive menu of leading-edge organic and natural applications all designed to improve the health of your lawn. Watch your lawn’s beauty and the value of your home grow together!

[**Theron Peck** AKA Mr. Grass, *Turf Division Manager* Got turf questions? Please contact mrgrass@chippersinc.com, or visit mrgrassblog.net.]

COLORFUL CURB APPEAL WITH FLOWERS

The many home improvement shows and online lists devoted to improving your home’s curb appeal all have one thing in common: a makeover for your garden landscape. Garden upgrades can range from carefully planned perennial gardens to simpler improvements, such as adding color and personality with containers and annuals to your entryway, deck or existing gardens.

Both containers and annuals add instant color, and their inherent versatility allows you to do something different every year while showing your personality a little, or a lot. Annuals come in every size, shape and color you can imagine, so you can create the impression you want with your favorite blooms and foliage. Containers also come in a wide range of sizes, colors

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SPRING 2015 Dates to Note

March 20 *Spring Equinox*

March 20-22 *Hanover HomeLife Expo, Leverone Field House*

March 28-29 *Concord & Lakes Region Home Show, Everett Arena*

April 8-May 3 *We are proud to sponsor the Northern Stage Production: "Songs for a New World"*

April 22 *Earth Day*

SONG

Here is calm so deep, grasses cease waving. Everything in wild nature fits into us, as if truly part and parent of us.

The sun shines not on us but in us.
The rivers flow not past,
but through us, thrilling, tingling,
vibrating every fiber and cell
of the substance of our bodies,
Making them glide and sing.
The trees wave and the flowers bloom
in our bodies as well as our souls, and
every bird song,
wind song, and; tremendous storm
song of the rocks in the heart of the
mountains is our song,
our very own, and sings our love.

WALK WITH NATURE

Let children walk with nature,
let them see the beautiful blendings.
communions of death and life,
their joyous inseparable unity,
as taught in woods and meadows,
plains and mountains and streams.
And they will learn that death is
stingless. And as beautiful as life.

—John Muir, 1838-1914



*In loving memory of our loyal friend
D. Henry Westenfeld 1960-2015*

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and materials to complement both the plantings you choose and the architectural style and details of your home. Be creative, have fun!

When we create containers we think in three different levels of plants: ‘thrillers’ for the focal points of shape and color; ‘fillers’ that like their name describes, fill the body of the container with more blossoms and foliage; and the flowing ‘spillers’ that cascade down the side of your container to give a rich and plentiful look.

However you choose to enhance your outdoor space with flowers, whether enticing guests into your landscape with a planted walkway, adding a splash of interest and color to your front entrance, or wow-ing with the spectacular garden view, there is no doubt that flowers can make a beautiful and important difference for your home’s curb appeal.

[**Monica Collise** Garden Division Manager for Maintenance, Installations, Container Design, Interiorscapes and Special Events **Garden questions?** monica@chippersinc.com]

AN ARBORIST’S PERSPECTIVE

Frequent appointments throughout the Upper Valley and Lake Sunapee Region take me past numerous homes for sale. I often wonder why, for a small investment, the homeowner doesn’t hire a tree service company to



Lawn, gardens, trees and shrubs were beautifully upgraded at this property to enhance owner enjoyment and promote overall value.

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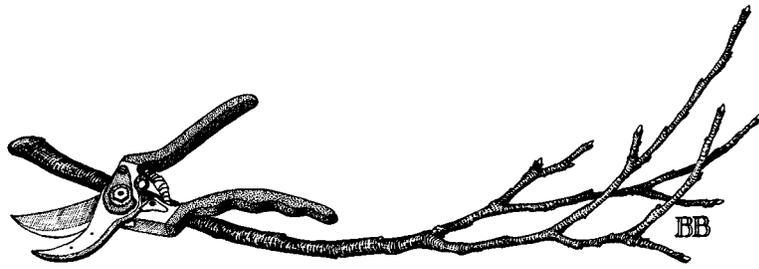
 **GREENWORDS** is provided free of charge to anyone who loves plants. If you know someone who might enjoy this publication, have them call us at 866.683.6222. Current and past issues are available at our website.

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improve their home's curb appeal? A carefully planned investment in tree-related or ornamental work can have a big return. Here's where I would concentrate that investment:

1. *Light.* A bright house could be the single best asset your property possesses. Careful tree work can open light corridors especially early and late in the day.
2. *Distant views.* If you have the potential for spectacular long-range views then I'd put this even before light. Additionally, opening views to a field, a pond, a steeple, a wetland—all can contribute to the 'wow' factor you need when showing a house.
3. *Screening.* The only thing worse than no view is a bad view. The view from the curb may reveal an unsightly landscape or a busy road—not good—so the views from inside the house need to be considered as well. Pick out windows that a potential buyer will look through. I'm a kitchen guy and my view from the sink window is important. The family room and bedroom windows need to be included as well. An investment in well-placed screen trees, usually evergreens, can have a BIG return!
4. *Dead trees and branches.* If there are dangerous trees within striking distance of the house or drive, move this to the top of the list. Large dead limbs over the house and drive should also be removed. Remove dead or dying trees before you start showing your home. They are discouraging to look at and leaving them in place will not only detract from your curb appeal but will give a potential buyer the first item on their price-down list.
5. *The ornamental landscape.* Foundation plants present a much better appearance than the concrete that meets the siding on your house. If the aesthetic from the curb is lacking because of an ugly foundation then an inexpensive planting at the foundation can increase your curb appeal. Sometimes older foundation plants are overgrown and simple pruning can do the trick. A property with no trees and shrubs looks stark. Invest in a few well-placed woody ornamentals such as crabapples.

Do the math and speak with your agent about how much a few landscaping improvements will help your curb appeal. My bet is that the return will far exceed the investment.

[**Cal Felicetti** ASCA Consulting Arborist, ISA & NH Certified Arborist, Plant Health Care Manager Got questions about trees? cal@chippersinc.com.]

MEET A CHIPPER



Dan Gibson has been with Chippers for over 12 years, first as a land enhancement crew member, then as crew leader, and recently he was promoted to Operations Manager of our Woodstock office. He is passionate about the hard outdoor work we perform, about learning new skills, and about training and developing the talents of others. Dan also recently earned the challenging Certified Tree Care Safety Professional designation from the Tree Care Industry Association, further underscoring that his primary focus is safety in all that we do.

Dan is also an ISA Certified Arborist, a CDL-A licensed driver and holds a DSWA certification from the Dry Stone Walling Association. Before coming to Chippers through a friend's referral, Dan attended the College of the Redwoods in Eureka, CA.

A graduate of Hartford High School, Dan was born and raised in the area, and now lives with his wife Gen and daughter Esme in South Strafford. In his free time Dan enjoys snowshoeing, hiking, camping and working on his property. This summer he's planning to explore his new interests in hand hewing beams and chainsaw sculpture. Dan embodies the core values we strive for in our company, as he '**Lives A CHIPPERS Life**'—accountability, communication, hard work, integrity, positive, professional, excellence, reliability and safety. *Thanks for all that you do for us Dan!*

LIVE a chippers LIFE

accountability communication hard work integrity positive professionalism excellence reliability safety

“I never had so many good ideas day after day as when I worked in the garden.”

—JOHN ERSKINE (1721-1803)



Sweet Side Update

As you some of you may know, we have a sugar house at our Pomfret, VT location and most of our maple sap comes from trees on property owned by the estate of our founder, the late William A. Russell Jr. Will enjoyed the sugaring season and was a wonderful ambassador for all things maple. In his honor and with the same values he instilled 29 years ago, Chippers established a maple division.

In May 2014, Brent Lehouiller joined the Chippers family as Manager of Maple Operations. He is a fourth generation sugar maker and has been involved in the maple industry full time for the past 15 years. Brent has had the privilege of working with maple producers from Maine to Wisconsin and brings a wealth of knowledge in every aspect of maple production. Brent and our eight full-time maple employees consult, design, and install modern sap collection systems.

It is important to stress that Chippers does not compete with our local maple producers as we are selling our sap in bulk to Butternut Mountain Farm in Morrisville, VT—the largest Vermont purchaser and bottler of pure Vermont maple syrup. With the demand for maple syrup continuing to grow both nationally and internationally, there is plenty of room in the Vermont maple syrup market for us all. Participating in this market doesn't encroach on the livelihood of our neighbors.

This is a very exciting time in the maple industry and we welcome the opportunity to discuss our options for returning one of Vermont's quintessential farming activities to your property.

[**Brent Lehouiller** *Maple Division Manager, member of the Windsor County Maple Producer's Association, delegate to the Vermont State Sugarmaker's Association* Got Maple questions? brent@chippersinc.com]



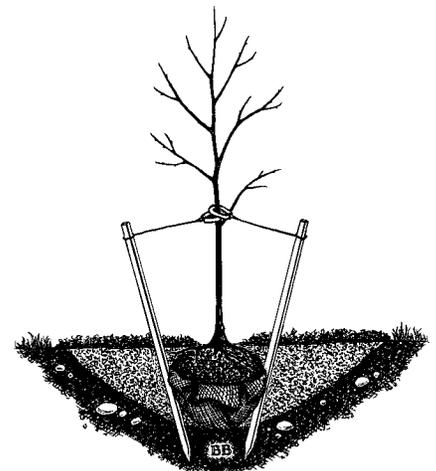
CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY 2015

Friday, April 24
in New Hampshire
(state tree is *Paper birch*)

Friday, May 1 in Vermont
(state tree is the *Sugar maple*)

Planting a tree is a lasting and personal way to celebrate the life of a loved-one, a new home, the birth of a child, or another special occasion.

Visit the Arbor Day Foundation at www.arborday.org for more ideas and to learn more about this 135-year-old unique holiday.



chippers is proud to announce it has been awarded a Professional Communications Award from the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA). This award honors marketing and communication excellence within the tree care industry. The winning submission was our 2014 calendar included with last year's annual spring newsletter, designed by Lev Belford of Aiki Creative and printed by RC Brayshaw & Co. The judges said the calendar was "extremely attractive, very well-done" and they also loved the format—"so unique". We hope you enjoy the new calendar for 2015 as much as we enjoyed creating it for you.

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We're All About Your Life Outside