

WINDSOR, CT 860.688.7130 www.fourseasonsland.com

Mission Statement

Four Seasons "MAKES IT HAPPEN" as a result of being persistent and consistent to create and offer services

that contribute to a more pleasant, trouble-free way of life to benefit our clients, staff, and our community.

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- · INSERT: Parking Lot Repair
- INSERT: Snow Survey

Congratulations to our most recent "\$100 On Us" Drawing Winners:

> Eric Brown KBE Building Farmington, CT

Lou Ann Leigner Emhart Glass Windsor, CT

Dave Cocola New Boston Fund, Inc. Hartford, CT



An Old Fashioned NE Winter!

Wow what a winter so far! As I write this we are somewhere over 84" of snow for the season. That's a lot of snow and what makes this season so impressive is the amount of snow we got each storm: 10", 12", 13", 22" and so on and so on. As usual, both our Four Seasons Landscaping, Inc. staff and our valued partners have worked seamlessly, and have pulled our resources together to

By Bob St. Jacques, C.S.P., C.L.P. President Four Seasons get the job done! This has meant many long hours, days and weeks to get the job completed. (Hopefully, it's over!) But this is an "old time" typical New England Winter and this is what we do: **Mission Statement:** Four Seasons Landscaping, Inc. "MAKES IT HAPPEN" as a result of being

persistent and consistent to create and offer services that contribute to a more pleasant, trouble-free way of life to benefit our clients, staff, and our community.

With longer days and nice 45-50 degree temperatures, we are all hoping and praying that Spring is right around the corner. At Four Seasons Landscaping, Inc. we are already knee deep in Spring with pricing, scheduling projects and ordering materials. We already got our first delivery of grass seed and fertilizer yesterday, March 1st, 2011! We are servicing our mowers and beginning the mammoth project of transitioning our trucks and equipment to Spring/Summer work. I hope you enjoy this season's newsletter-there is lots of good information, cool pictures and some fun stuff! Again, enjoy and we are always looking for your feedback! Don't forget to enter our drawing for a quick and easy \$100.00!

EARTH DAY/Planet Day of Service 2011

April 22, 2011 marks both Earth Day, and the PLANET Day of Service in the United States.

PLANET Day of Service, of which Four Seasons is participating, is a program designed to unite PLANET members around the country, for a day of giving back to their communities.

The purpose of the event is to give members of the lawn care and landscape industry an opportunity to plan, organize, and carry out projects to benefit their communities. Healthy and beautiful green spaces are a vital part of our parks, schools, and public grounds. The lawn care and landscape industry plays a vital role as a steward of the world's green spaces.

In 2010, more than 200 projects were completed in 38 states and Canada, with approximately 3,000 volunteers and nearly \$400,000 in time and services were donated to local communities. Join us on Earth Day, April 22, 2011!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: Brian Price

A common theme for most of the team members at Four Seasons is that they love the outdoors, and Brian

Price, this month's employee spotlight, is no different. You'll find him outdoors doing a number of tasks at FSL. including landscape maintenance at Friendly Ice Cream restaurants, rotating landscape construction jobs, and snow and ice management at multiple locations during the winter.

The variety that Brian's job brings is one of the things he likes most. "Every day is different. Not being

overly repetitive is a big plus for me". He especially enjoys working with his fellow FSL teammates, and says they bring a sense of camaraderie

to what they do: "At Four Seasons, guys help each other out. If there's anything that you don't know, people



Brian Price

take the time to teach you and help you learn, which is helpful. It's a nice company, with lots of great people." Brian says that he especially enjoys FSL's SCAG Hydrostatic mower, which, for the uninitiated, is a device that has no gear box, and is "really smooth".

When not working, Brian can be found...outdoors!! He has a passion for snowmobiling, skiing, fishing, and sports (especially softball). His skiing and snowmobiling often takes him to Vermont, where he can frequently be found on the slopes of Mount Snow, or on the VAST trails all over the state.

Brian is a 2003 graduate of Windsor High School, and in 2007 graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University with a degree in Business Administration. He resides in Windsor, and celebrated his 26th birthday on March 4th (by snowmobiling!!).

Hartford Wire Works: *"A Quality Job at a Fair Price"*

When you talk with Hartford Wire Works President Steve Litke, you immediately sense the immense pride that he has for the family business

that he and his brothers Eric, David and Paul run in Windsor. The pride is for a company that, as their website "is older says, than dirt". Put another way, it's a company that was founded around the same time that Thomas Edison was getting patent on the light bulb, and shortly (around five years) after the end of the Civil War. So ves, it has a great history

and the pride is well deserved.

Hartford Wire Works began in Hartford in 1870, in the building where Agave Grill is located now (next to St. Patrick/St. Anthony church). Steve's Grandfather bought the business just after his return from World War II, and ran the business until 1968, when Steve's father took over the reins. In 1980 they moved to their current location

David, Steve, Eric, and Paul Litke of Hartford Wire Works

in Windsor, and in 1993, Steve moved into the President's chair, and his father became CEO. Today, it remains a family-run enterprise, with involvement of brothers Eric, David and Paul in the operation.

When a company has been around

as long as HWW, it often builds up a wealth of knowledge, expertise and experienced employees, and HWW is no exception. Their team has some

employees that have been there for over forty years! That expertise is often put to good use as HWW crafts custom solutions to meet customer needs, including wire mesh partitions, window guards, stair enclosures, railing panels, and ornamental iron fencing.

To Steve, being able to customize is a great way to differentiate themselves from the competition: "our niche is very custom. We offer complete custom fabrication of hand railings, ornamental iron fence, and PVC, just to name a few."

HWW's involvement with Four Seasons goes back over twenty years, and the past 7-8 years has seen them do a number of jobs together. According to Steve: "We've had a great relationship (with FSL) over the years. They tackle everything with a wonderful sense of professionalism that matches our approach."

TIPS & TRICKS: Transitioning from Winter to Spring

With a "record" winter seasons like this there are some things you can do **now** to help your landscape get ready for the Spring:

- 1. Attempt to remove snow that is burying plants on a warm day. Carefully try to remove heavy snow from plants the thawing, re-freezing and settling of snow can do tremendous damage to plants.
- 2. <u>Prune off any broken</u> branches on shrubs and trees.
- **3.** <u>Light cracks/breaks in branches</u>-pull back together, maybe tie with a string/tape/etc.

They may heal back together to salvage that part of the plant.

- **4.** As snow melts <u>spread</u> <u>out piles for even melt on lawn</u> <u>areas</u>. This may help reduce or eliminate fungus in areas (Snow Mold).
- **5.** <u>Cleanup debris</u>, down branches, damaged grass and pavement that can smother lawn areas in the Spring.
- **6.** <u>Sweep clean the lawn</u> <u>areas</u> along roadways to remove sand, salt and debris.
- 7. Areas damaged by salt and deice chemicals <u>apply</u> limestone and/or gypsum to

<u>help neutralize affects of</u> deicers.

- 8. Repair damaged asphalt and concrete so they do not cause safety issues or become worse. Hint: Need help with this? Call Four Seasons Landscaping, Inc.!
- **9. Get your soil tested** to determine what nutrients it needs: call CT Ag Exp Station at 860-683-8977, or go to www. ct.gov/caes/site/default.asp
- **10.** Get out and <u>enjoy the</u> <u>warmth and sunshine</u> and put the winter thoughts behind you.

Snow Removal from Some "Unusual" Places



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landscape construction | landscape management | snow & ice management

OUR SEASONS.

ANDSCAPING INC.



E21, 1980

HOW ABOUT A \$100 ON US?

Know the Answer?

Hint: Look Inside this Issue! Save and Win!!

- 1. **Damaged ashpalt and concrete** can become safety issues. What company that has extensive experience in this area can you call to solve these issues?
- **2.** Snow Mold (fungus) can be prevented by doing what?
- **3.** What Company, mentioned in this issue, has been around since Thomas Edison got his patent on the light bulb?
- 4. Earth Day/Planet Day of Service is on what date in April?

Fax your answers to: 860.688.3856, and we'll select one winner (at random) from the correct answers.

Winner receives a \$100 gift certificate!

Spring Facts

- 1. **Spring**, climatologically speaking, is the season between winter and summer., or between the vernal equinox (Mar 20 or 21) to the summer solstice(June 21 or 22).
- 2. **Mosquitoes**. There are over 3500 species of these nasty critters: welcome to spring!
- 3. **Soil.** The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, with offices in Windsor and New Haven, will test your soil FOR FREE, and you can determine what your soil deficiencies are. Phone numbers and website are on page 3 of this issue.
- 4. **Crabgrass.** Apply a lawn food that contains a pre-emergent, in early spring (before temperatures reach 65°F). It will feed your grass while providing a barrier that prevents crabgrass seeds from germinating
- 5. Lawn Diseases. A few of the more common lawn diseases most likely to occur in the Spring include Gray Snow Mold, Dollar Spot, Ring Spot and Pink Snow Mold. Preventing them is easier than curing them, so follow our tips on page 3.