

# Caring for your Colorado Landscape



Brought to you by the experts at Swingle Lawn, Tree & Landscape Care

2017 Landscape Proposal



It's hard to believe it's already 2017. I want to thank you for the opportunity to earn your business when caring for your lawn, tree and landscape needs.

## Why should you choose to do business with Swingle?

**OUR BELIEF:** To be the very best by exceeding your expectations with professional service and courteous team members.

**RECOGNITION:** Denver Better Business Bureau, the US Chamber of Commerce, ColoradoBiz Magazine, Lawn & Landscape Magazine, the Denver Post and many more.

**OUR LEGACY:** In 2017, Swingle celebrates 70 years as a local, highly respected Colorado business with a national reputation for excellence.

**WE GIVE BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY:** Denver Zoo, Children's Hospital, Realities for Children, Families First, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Food Bank of the Rockies and many others.

We sincerely appreciate you taking a few minutes to consider the enclosed **2017 Landscape Services Proposal.**

Your proposal is based on recommendations from your Landscape Care Consultant to maintain a beautiful, healthy landscape

all year long. Instructions and options are outlined on the proposal. Know that you can add or remove any service, anytime throughout the year – there's no contract or cancellation fee!

Our services are backed by a **100% guarantee** that all work will be done correctly and to your total satisfaction.

We're always here to answer any questions regarding your landscape so don't hesitate to contact us.

Keeping the green side up,

Thomas R. Tolkacz, CEO

Questions regarding services on your proposal? Call us at 720.381.4830 | 970.688.7275

## RECOMMENDED Services

### Winter:

- ☑ Winter Watering
- ☑ Tree Fertilization
- ☑ Lawn Mite Control

### Early Spring:

- ☑ Lawn Aeration
- ☑ Lawn Fertilization

(discounts available)

### Spring:

- ☑ Emerald Ash Borer Treatment

**\$20**  
off newly authorized services\*

For questions or to schedule call  
720.381.4830 | 970.688.7275



Swingle offers  
Advanced Text  
Notifications

## 2017 pest predictions



**Steven Geist**  
Senior Consulting Arborist  
and Plant Pathologist

*In 2016, Colorado landscapes had their share of challenges, from unpredictable weather events to pests and insects attacking lawns and trees. What can we expect for 2017?*

### **Emerald ash borer**

We predicted that emerald ash borer would be found outside of Boulder by June 2016. That prediction came true with the discovery in Longmont on June 6, 2016. Though not proven, it is suspected that the infestation came from transported wood. This infestation in Longmont demonstrates how the insect will move.

Take responsibility when dealing with ash wood. Bring it to an approved disposal site where it will be buried.

If you have an ash tree you value on your property, take steps to treat your tree before the inevitable progression

of emerald ash borer hits your area. [\(See FAQ's regarding emerald ash borer on the reverse side\)](#)

### **Scale Insects**

We saw a dramatic increase in the numbers and varieties of scale insects in 2016. Oyster shell scale has not been overly aggressive for 20 years, yet is becoming more prevalent in the north part of the state. Usually a pest of aspen, oyster shell is back to infesting ash trees and lilac shrubs. Willow scale continues to be found in the southern part of our service area on aspen trees. This is a very prolific and devastating insect to aspens.

European fruit lecanium scale has been around for many years and usually doesn't cause damage. However, in 2016 we saw lecanium becoming aggressive on oak and maple trees. We expect this insect to spread rapidly in 2017. European elm scale has been an issue on American elm for over a half a century in northeastern Colorado. Elm scale has been a consistent problem for longer than any other landscape pest in Colorado. Next year should be no different. [\(continued on reverse side\)](#)

# Winter watering?

## Why it's so critical

The driest months in Colorado are November through February. Trees release a hormone to increase root growth when days grow shorter. Therefore, maintaining proper moisture levels in the soil is imperative.

**Trees should be watered about every three to four weeks** (when temperatures are above freezing). Allowing the soil around trees to freeze dry will repel natural moisture – damaging your root system. Keeping the soil near roots moist will ensure active root growth in the spring. Our **ReCharge Watering Program** provides convenience and moisture when and where it's needed.

**REMEMBER:** You will not see the damage until spring when your trees don't green up.

# Snow mold can damage your lawn, but there is a simple solution

Snow mold is a fungal disease that usually appears in early spring after a particularly snowy winter. Snow mold occurs when snow falls on unfrozen turf grass and remains on the grass for an extended period of time.

The first symptom of snow mold you will notice is straw colored patches in your lawn with a cotton-like material present.

One of the most important things you can do to prevent snow mold from occurring **is to rake your lawn** as soon as the snow finally melts. Doing so will break up the matted down patches of grass, which allow the grass to breathe and discourage fungal development.

Although snow mold is likely to go away on its own, there is a chance that patches of your lawn could die and seeding or sodding would be necessary.



Swingle offers a **3% prepay discount on all services**

## (2017 pest predictions continued) Japanese beetle

Japanese beetle is a strong flier – spreading on its own by up to two miles per year. Most of the Denver metro area is active with Japanese beetle. Prolific populations exist in Boulder, Longmont and Greeley – the beetle is just getting started in Fort Collins. Feeding from the adults on a wide variety of plants is very noticeable. However, we are seeing more larvae (grub) feeding on grass roots. For 2017, we are expecting more lawn damage from the larvae.

## Aphids on pines

We've been battling these pests for the past several years throughout the front range. The insect persists on Austrian pine for much of the year – even in the winter months. With a relatively mild winter thus far, we're expecting aphid infestations to increase in early spring.

## Ips engraver beetles on spruce

Weather patterns over the past six months favor a resurgence of Ips engraver beetle infestations in blue spruce. This insect causes the death of its host. Once the beetles attack, there is no way to save it.

## Emerald ash borer FAQ

### When is the best time to treat an ash tree for emerald ash borer?

The spring. This is when an ash tree is actively moving water from the root system to the canopy.

### How effective is treatment against emerald ash borer?

Most results indicate a 90 percent or higher success rate. In practical applications, success rates for insecticide treatments are at least 80 percent effective. Why the difference? Trees treated early, and in good vigor, have the highest success rate.

## Lawn mites

When we think of mites, we equate them with warmer weather. Lawn mites are cool season pests that do their damage during the winter and early spring – months before the lawns green up for the season. A very warm, dry fall certainly gives the mites an early start. The predicted normal precipitation, combined with warmer than expected temperatures, will create drought conditions early in 2017 – favoring early spring mite infestations.

## Dutch elm disease and mountain pine beetle

Yes, Dutch elm disease is still around and there is a risk to American elms as well. But the disease incidence has been very low for the past 13 years and we don't expect to see a resurgence in 2017. Mountain pine beetle is a recurring insect. Pine beetle populations are on the decline. Swingle expects to see only spotty activity from this insect in the next several years.



## Do I have to treat forever?

The answer is yes and no. Emerald ash borer infestations follow a definite curve. For the first three years, EAB goes undetected while it's infesting trees. During the next two to three years, borer populations build. During this "cusp" period, preventive treatments are recommended. For the next 10 years, the borer goes through an exponential growth phase. Treatments for EAB are essential. Most treated trees live, while nearly all the untreated trees die. With few trees left for EAB to infest, populations will decline rapidly. It looks as if treatments may be scaled back after this period.



Caring for Colorado outdoors for 70 years

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myswingle.com

Swingle has offices in Denver, Firestone and Fort Collins - proudly serving the Front Range of Colorado. We offer **lawn care, tree service, insect control, landscaping and professional holiday lighting.**



\*\$20 off valid on new services authorized by March 31, 2017. Other restrictions apply.