

GARDENING NEWS

KEEPING UP with the Joneses

Does seeing your neighbour make improvements to his home incite an unquenchable thirst for renovation? If so, you aren't alone. Neighbourly competition is a completely normal phenomenon. When you see someone on your street beautifying their home, you want to match or exceed their efforts. *It's human nature!*

Generally speaking, the best-looking home on the block sets the bar for the entire neighbourhood and can spur on an intense need to "keep up with the Joneses." But not every home improvement project is feasible. Budget, weather conditions, and a sheer lack of handyman prowess are just a few of the reasons there could be a disconnect between the home you dream of having and the one you currently live in.

Luckily, there are easier ways to make your home the talk of the town. A lush, green lawn is one of the most impactful and cost-effective ways to enhance curb appeal. Mr. Jones might be getting a new garage door this spring, but that's not going to make his weedy, overgrown yard look any better. Green spaces are the foundation of any beautiful community. Investing in your yard can pay major dividends in terms of both the value of your home and setting the standard for your neighbours.

Weed Man can help. We've been creating and maintaining healthy lawns for more than 50 years. We know a thing or two keeping unwanted growth at bay while ensuring desirable grass plants look their absolute best. Partnering with us will help you BE the Joneses instead of competing with them. Get your free, no-obligation quote today by visiting [WEEDMAN.COM](https://www.weedman.com).





F•U•N-DAMENTALS

of the Ever-Popular *she shed*

Over the past year or so, we have certainly learned the value and enjoyment that can be found in staying at home. If you're looking for a fun summer DIY project, the infamous 'she shed' is one definitely worth considering. And despite the name, it doesn't have to just be for the girls. Make the most of your backyard garden shed and convert it into your very own escape! Get started with these tips from your local Weed Man.

Spring Cleaning

Just like you'd clear the gutters of your home, you might want to give your old backyard dwelling a little wipedown. Remove those cobwebs, sweep the floors and go through all of those garden tools and outdoor knick knacks you forgot about. Our favourite way to be effective in this is to have three piles: **keep, toss, donate**. You'll be stunned at the number of things you forgot you had!



A Fresh Coat

A can of paint can work wonders! Transform your shed from an everyday, run-of-the-mill eye sore, to

an oh-so-cute building that'll catch the attention of all of your guests. A fun pop of colour never hurt anyone! If too much colour scares you, consider a neutral base with a coloured door.

What's Its Purpose?

What sparks joy in your life? What's your favourite hobby or way to unwind? Whatever it is, make *that* the purpose of your she shed! Whether that means converting it to a potting shed, a writing nook, meditation space or simple chill-out zone... vision it in your mind and even turn to Pinterest to create a vision board of your own!

Did you know? Weed Man is on Pinterest! Check us out below.



Go Shopping (or Get Creative!)

Decorating your new backyard hideout doesn't need to cost an arm and a leg. Turn to local flea markets or thrift stores to find some hidden gems to add to the space. Or get creative and do a few of your own do-it-yourself projects (*check out the fun tutorial on the next page for inspiration*).

A Reflection of You

There are no rules when it comes to creating and designing your very own she shed.

Create a space that's a true reflection of you and your family. *Enjoy!*



Want a chance to be featured on our Instagram? Tag us in your posts + stories @weedman_lawncare.



Calling all existing Weed Man customers! Did you know you can also refer friends directly through the Customer Portal? Have you set up your account yet? Set up your profile and log in to access your Weed Man account at any time of the day or night. You'll have the option of scheduling a visit, paying a bill, or browsing through the available lawn care options in your area, too...all with the click of a mouse! Click the button to get started or visit customer.weedmancanada.com.

Online Customer Account Login ➔



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WEED MAN LAWN CARE



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DIY macramé plant hanger

Follow local artist @simplyknotty on Instagram, for all things 'macramé.' From Ontario, Canada, creator and Simple'n'Knotty founder, Ashley, offers customized wall hangings, indoor plant expertise + a healthy dose of positivity.

What You'll Need:

- ✓ 1 wooden or metal hoop
- ✓ Scissors

- ✓ 6 - 9" plant with pot
- ✓ Measuring tape
- ✓ 3 x 100" lengths of rope / cord



1

After measuring your three cord lengths, slide all three cords through your hoop of choice until they are equally halved. You should now have six cords of 50" cord.



2

Use all six of the cords to tie a knot tightly around your hoop (as shown in the image to the left).



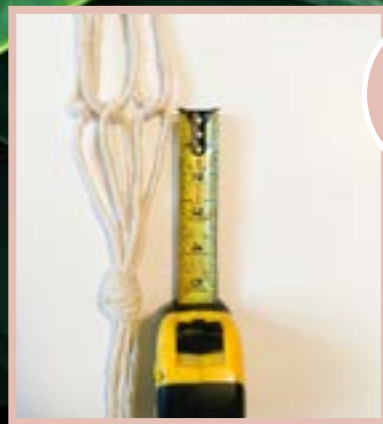
3

Divide your six cords into three groups of two. Tie a basic knot about 18-20 inches down from the ring. Do this for each of the three groups.



4

Take one string from each grouping and "criss-cross" it over the neighboring cord. Tie them together with a basic knot. Do this for all three sections.



5

Approximately 5-6 inches below the second set of knots, complete another knot similar to step 2, with all six cords. Pull tight to ensure that the knot is secure.



6

Carefully put your plant / pot combo into the macramé hanger and enjoy!

Follow @simplyknotty for more macramé magic.

Smokin' Good Smoker Recipes



'Don't Mess with Texas' Smoked Beef Ribs

Ingredients: Beef chuck ribs; 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard; salt, pepper, garlic powder; 1 cup white vinegar; 1/4 cup hot sauce

Preheat your smoker to 250 degrees F for indirect cooking. *Oak or hickory wood is recommended!*

Season your ribs. Slather the meat with Dijon mustard, followed by salt, pepper and garlic powder. Season liberally. Place your ribs on the smoker and insert your thermometer probe into the thickest part of the meat. They'll be ready once the internal temperature reaches **203 degrees F**. Close the lid and **let your meat smoke for 3 hours**.

At the 3-hour mark, using a spray bottle, spritz your ribs with a mixture of **1 cup white vinegar and 1/4 cup hot sauce**. Repeat **every 45 minutes** and continue smoking until done (approximately 8-10 hours). Allow your meat to rest for at least an hour. Slice, serve, enjoy!

Smoky Korean-Style Chicken Wings

Ingredients: Chicken wings; 1/2 cup gochujang paste; 1/2 cup soy sauce; 1/3 cup honey; 2 tablespoons rice wine vinegar; 2 tablespoons lime juice; 2 tablespoons sesame oil; 1/4 cup melted butter; 4 cloves garlic; 1 tablespoon ginger; 2 green onions.

Brine your wings for at least 4 hours. If you want to elevate your basic salt / water brine, consider adding a little sugar, lemon, garlic, thyme and / or peppercorn.

Fire up your smoker and **preheat to 375 degrees F**. *Cherry wood chips are recommended!*

Remove your wings from the brine, drain and pat with paper towel. **Brush wings with olive oil** and transfer to the grill, to cook over indirect heat until an internal temperature of **170 degrees F** is reached.

While the wings cook, combine all ingredients (aside from green onions) in a bowl and whisk until smooth. Transfer to stovetop and **bring to a simmer over medium heat**.

Once the wings are cooked, allow to cool for 5 minutes. **Toss wings in sauce**, garnish with sesame seeds and green onion. Serve and enjoy!



Why + How to Achieve a *drool-worthy* Lawn

PRO TIPS from Weed Man Lawn Care

Why It's Important

Aesthetically, there are many benefits to keeping a well-maintained, healthy and lush lawn. A beautiful lawn increases curb appeal and can boost the value of your home by as much as 15%. A healthy lawn also provides a safe place for kids to play, a backyard sanctuary for you to relax, and a stunning landscape for you to admire.

While there are many aesthetic incentives for lawn care, vanity is not the only reason why lawn care is important. Many people might be surprised to learn that having a well-maintained lawn has many benefits for the environment, community and surrounding ecosystem. Here is why:

1. PURIFIES THE AIR

+ IMPROVES AIR QUALITY:

Your lawn has the ability to trap dirt, dust and pollutants such as carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and convert it into organic matter. This helps to reduce greenhouse gasses that might otherwise contribute to global warming.

2. PRODUCES OXYGEN:

Not only does your lawn reduce carbon dioxide emissions, it also produces a significant amount of oxygen. Turfgrass is one of the largest producers of oxygen in the natural environment. A 50x50 foot lawn produces enough oxygen to sustain a family of 4!

3. PROVIDES TEMPERATURE CONTROL:

Turfgrass plays an important role in controlling our climate. Grass plants absorb sunlight for photosynthesis and up to 50% of the sun's heat may be eliminated through the cooling process. Typically grass areas are 10 to 14 degrees F cooler than areas with concrete and asphalt.

4. PROVIDES RUN-OFF CONTROL + PREVENTS FLOODS:

Urban areas with sealed surfaces such as roads, sidewalks and buildings increase the amount of run-off after rainfall. Most of this stormwater ends up in drainage systems that aren't able to handle large volumes of water and contribute to the pollution of rivers and streams. Areas with greater grass coverage are greater equipped to absorb and better manage these instances, helping to reduce pollution caused by run-off.



How to Do It

Here at Weed Man, we believe that lawn care is a partnership. We work closely with homeowners to control weeds, fertilize, improve lawn health and diagnose problems. At the same time, we rely on our customers to follow good cultural practices to keep the lawn healthy. More specifically, proper watering and mowing will help you achieve better, quicker and more long-lasting results. Follow these guidelines when caring for your lawn.

MOWING FREQUENCY

You should only mow your lawn when it needs it. The frequency of which you should mow your lawn will vary with the time of year and the growing conditions. In the peak of the growing season (spring and fall), your lawn may need to be mowed every 3-4 days. However, in the summer you might be able to get away with mowing every week or two. It is important to mow your lawn consistently, letting your grass get too long and then scalping it is very unhealthy.

MOWING HEIGHT

The appropriate mowing height depends on your grass type. Never remove more than 1/3 of the grass blade.

MOWER BLADES + GRASS CLIPPINGS

Keep them sharp! A sharp mower blade will make a

clean, crisp cut that will heal quickly. Dull mower blades chew and fray the ends of grass, causing yellow grass tips, moisture loss, and a weakened lawn. You should sharpen your mower blades 2-3 times a season.

After mowing, it is recommended that you leave clippings on the lawn after mowing to return valuable nutrients and moisture back into the soil. This practice, known as grasscycling, can act as a natural fertilizer for your lawn.

WATERING FREQUENCY

Lawns require two inches of water per week to stay green and healthy. Keep an eye on rainfall levels (or invest in a rain gauge) to determine how much and how often to water. Deep, infrequent watering is best and encourages deeper root growth.

WATERING IN THE A.M.

Watering early in the day will give you the best results. If you water in the afternoon when temperatures are at their peak, more water will evaporate before it has a chance to be absorbed into the soil. Evening or night time watering is also frowned upon, as leaving your lawn wet for an extended period can promote turf disease and fungal problems. If you ever notice that your lawn is appearing yellow, or dry, water immediately despite the time of day!

OUR STORY



Beginning in 1970, Weed Man has grown from its Canadian roots into an international network of locally owned and operated lawn care businesses, providing healthy lawn care services that produce lush, green lawns for homeowners from across Canada, United States and the United Kingdom.

While our services began with weed control, today Weed Man's healthy lawn care programs and services focus on a well-balanced, high-quality fertilization program first, which in turn produces the thickest, healthiest lawn possible. A well-rooted, thick, lush, healthy lawn is the best defence against all potential pest problems. Working together with our customers, Weed Man guarantees that by utilizing our complete lawn care program in combination with proper watering and mowing, you will have a healthier, better-looking lawn.

The first Weed Man turf grass professional was Desmond Rice, who established his business in 1970 in Mississauga, Ontario. In 1976, he decided to grow the business through franchising. Today, there are more than 300 Weed Man franchises providing professional lawn care services across Canada, the USA, and in the United

Kingdom. Locally owned and operated, they provide responsible, professional services to those who need help maintaining healthy surroundings for families. These include the elderly, the time-pressed, and those living in regions that present the kind of horticultural challenges that require specialized expertise.

When Des Rice established Weed Man in 1970, he had seen a need for controlling broadleaf weeds and other plants whose tendency was to spread quickly and destroy the beautiful green landscapes that have characterized residential life in North America. He soon learned that the best thing for the average lawn was to mow, water, and fertilize it normally, ultimately encouraging the growth of healthy grass and discouraging undesirable grasses and weeds.

It turned out that Des was ahead of his time. Not only were there a lot of North Americans who needed help with the most technical parts of lawn care, but his preventive approach eventually proved to be the right one. Today government agencies are recommending an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedure similar to the approach long employed by Weed Man professionals.

Thanks for supporting our locally owned and operated lawn care business! We couldn't do it without you.

- Your Local Weed Man

Weed Man®
WE CARE FOR YOUR LAWN