



MLM

Monsma Landscape & Maintenance, Inc.

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Growing Concerns

Our Service Is Always In Season

Summer 2008, Vol. 1

Dan and Dave Monsma have been in business together for more than 26 years. During the early years, we could be seen pulling our mowers behind our bikes in Alger Heights. Many things have changed as our business has grown to offer landscape design and installation, as well as complete maintenance and snow-control services. The main thing that has kept our business going is the referrals from our satisfied clients. We hope you enjoy our newsletter; kindly pass it around to your friends and neighbors. Thank you for your business and have a great summer!

-DID YOU KNOW?

~ MLM installed thousands of square feet of brick pavers on the south side of Woodland Mall in 2006.

~ Dave Monsma is Vice President of the Association of Grand Rapids Landscape Professionals (AGRLP). ~ AGRLP members assist with the feature garden at the West Michigan Home & Garden Show every spring. Last year's (left) 100-foot x 50-foot garden was designed by Dan Monsma. It had a stream and water wheel, and featured native Michigan plants.



~ MLM employs two applicators certified by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, as well as a Michigan Certified Nurseryman.

~ MLM installed brick pavers on the White Pine Trail in Greenville last fall.

PLANT FEATURE: Geranium 'Rozanne'

Geranium 'Rozanne' is the 2008 Perennial Plant of the Year. It features large 2 1/2-inch, violet-blue flowers with white centers above mounds of slightly marbled, deep green foliage. 'Rozanne' will grow to 20 inches in height and tolerates heat in full sun or partial shade.



The best part is that this selection flowers continually from early summer until frost! 'Rozanne' works well as a small- to mid-sized ground cover, in the rock garden or as a border plant. We have a limited supply of Geranium 'Rozanne' call to get yours today!

-FEATURED CREW MEMBER: Tim Thompson

Tim (T.J.) Thompson has been with MLM since 1998. He started as a trimmer on a mowing crew and later became a crew leader. Last year, T.J. earned his certification as a licensed herbicide applicator and assisted with turf fertilizer. This year T.J. is our main applicator, working hard to keep your lawn healthy. In his spare time, T.J. enjoys reading and traveling.



—WHAT DO YOU KNOW ... About Core Aeration?

Core aeration is the process of using a machine with hollow tines to run over the lawn, making holes and leaving behind small plugs of turf and soil. The

plugs break down in about two weeks. The holes allow fertilizer, air and water to get to the root system resulting in stronger, healthier looking turf.

Every lawn will benefit from Core Aeration, especially those with high traffic and compaction. Dave will be happy to give you an estimate!

—HELP WANTED

At MLM we want to serve your needs as well as possible, and we need your help.

Please call and let us know how WE are doing. If there is a problem, tell us about it so we can serve you better.

We also like to hear that you are REALLY HAPPY with our work so we can pass on an "atta boy" to the hard-working crews.

—WHAT CAN MLM DO FOR YOU?

MLM is the place to call for your outdoor improvements. With our years of training and experience we are able to craft the environment that suits your tastes and budget. We strive to complement the architecture of your site while improving the function as well as form.

Consider the possibilities of adding color perennials along a border, having us install a specimen plant, or the cooling effects of a new shade tree.

Talk to Dan when the time is right to create more curb appeal or to craft your backyard retreat that will help you relax and enjoy your property more.

TIM'S TIPS ON SPRINKLING



~ Keep the water coming. Don't wait for your lawn to turn tan before you sprinkle. Soil and shade conditions vary, but the experts say that for most lawns watering deeply to get down to the roots is more important than how often you sprinkle.

~ Tweak the system. Your underground irrigation was set in the spring and may need adjusting for hot summer conditions.

~ Not at night. Sprinkling at night can lead to turf diseases because the lawn stays wet too long. Water during daylight hours to allow the lawn to dry before sunset.

HELP YOUR GARDEN GROW

We compost the leaves that we collect and can deliver them to your garden.



There are many benefits:

1. The layers of leaves will help smother weed growth.
2. The leaves will help your garden soil retain more moisture, so you can sprinkle less.
3. Over time, the leaves decompose and amend the soil with organic nutrients.



—PROUD MEMBER OF ...

