



A Publication for clients of Tomlinson Bomberger Lawn Care & Landscape, Inc. | 717-399-1991 | www.tbll.com | Editor: Beth Tomlinson



## SOIL SCIENCE

BY BETH SMITH

*"My lawn doesn't look any better after I have it fertilized."*

*"I don't think the applications are working."*

*"Every time I plant something in this area, it dies."*

Familiar comments? Then you need a soil test. Why? It's simple: Lawn care programs deliver carefully determined amounts of nutrients to the soil at specific times of the growing season. If your soil pH or nutrient balance fall outside an acceptable range, some of these nutrients won't be absorbed by the roots and used by the grass.

An inexpensive Tomlinson Bomberger soil test yields a detailed analysis from Penn State. Delivered in about three weeks, it spells out what you need to improve your soil. For example, limestone is recommended for acidic (low pH) soils. Phosphorus and potassium might also be needed. Insufficient amounts of these elements inhibit root growth and make your lawn more disease-prone.

Tomlinson Bomberger will recommend what to apply based on this analysis. It's an important step toward a healthier, more beautiful lawn.

If you notice any of the items listed above, Tomlinson Bomberger can help. Call today to set up an appointment with one of our licensed lawn care technicians at 399-1991.



## PREPARING FOR WINTER BY ROB BROWN

As cooler temperatures arrive, it's time to prepare for the dormant season — the best time to enrich and protect our lawns and plants. Fertilizing now and in late fall helps lawns and plants store nutrients for the winter and get a head start next spring.

Of course, unsightly weeds also store these nutrients, so fall is a great time to kill them. At this time of year, herbicides move quickly through weeds, killing the roots.

Also, help sensitive evergreens withstand winter's cold, drying winds by using an anti-desiccant. Start treating in November and continue until March. Broadleaf evergreens like hollies, rhododendrons and azaleas especially benefit from this protection.

### GRUBS GALORE

Currently, there is a grub explosion. Look for brown patches of lawn that lift easily when you pull them. If you see white, c-shaped critters or even if you suspect damage, it should be treated

immediately. If your lawn has been damaged by grubs or other causes, now is a great time to core aerate and overseed. This is especially true for shaded lawns which thin out through the season. Shady lawns need to be reseeded twice each year, spring and fall.

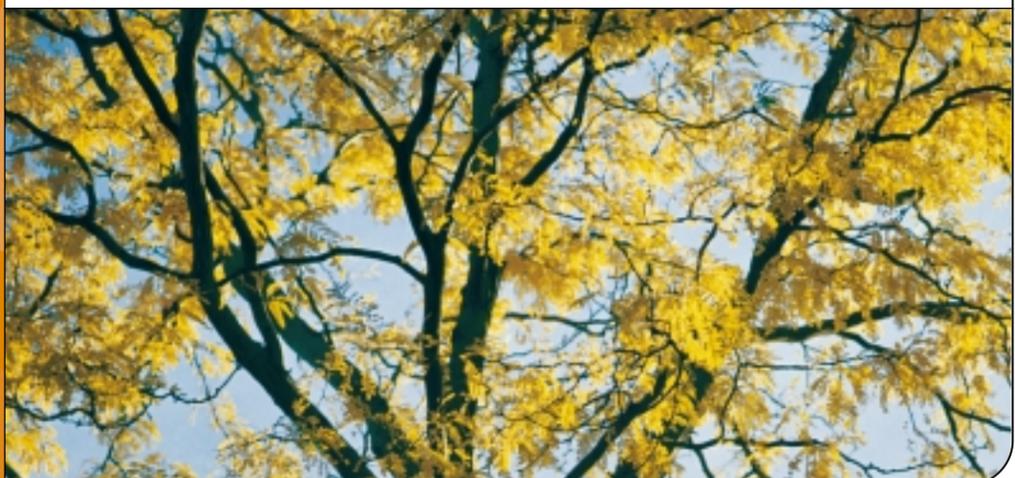
### RUST DISEASE

If your shoes and mower turn orange after moving across your grass,



you have a rust disease problem. Fertilizing now will enable your lawn to "grow out of the disease." Bagging clippings also helps.

Above all, enjoy your landscape this fall. Vividly colored foliage and the dark green grass signify that our plants are preparing for the winter ahead. With your help, they will welcome next spring with vigorous growth.





### WHERE WE'VE BEEN WHERE WE'RE GOING

It's hard to believe Tomlinson Bomberger has reached its 23rd year of business. It seems like only yesterday that Clark and I talked about starting our own lawn care and landscape business. At the time, we both worked on the Lancaster Country Club golf course. Clark was a full-time guidance counselor in the Columbia School District; the LCC was his summer job. I'd just graduated from Penn State with a degree in Turfgrass Science and worked full-time at the Country Club as Assistant Golf Superintendent.

We started by working part-time for 3 years, then going full time. From the outset, we enjoyed great support from Kenny Dietrich, former LCC Golf Superintendent, and Don Hollinger. Today, both are leaders in the local turf business, and we thank them for contributing to our success.

This December, we move to a new site on Yellow Goose Road in East Hempfield Township. The 12-acre facility provides ample warehouse and office space, plus plenty of room for expansion. As we anticipate this move, we thank all the people who helped along the way — especially our wives and families, who made many sacrifices while we built the business.

Also, Tomlinson Bomberger wouldn't be a 23-year success without dependable, highly professional coworkers. We feel ours are the best in the industry.

Finally, deep gratitude goes to loyal customers like you, who have demonstrated your confidence in us over the past 23 years. Without you, we wouldn't be moving anywhere! So, please let us thank you for your continuing business and the opportunity to meet all your future lawn care and landscape needs.

**David Bomberger, Owner**



### CAREER SPOTLIGHT BOB SCHMITT

A crew leader on Tomlinson Bomberger's maintenance team, Bob Schmitt has over 20 years' experience in the landscape industry. Before joining us, he owned and operated his own residential landscape company. Bob helps satisfy our clients with comprehensive skills that include restoring athletic fields, landscape design and installation, lawn renovation, and performing various maintenance operations.

Bob's hobbies include bass fishing, making fishing lures, and watching National Hot Rod Association drag racing. In addition to sharing his wide-ranging expertise with his team, he feels that keeping them motivated is a key to success.

### CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

Tomlinson Bomberger has added a link on our home page for on-line access to your account. This feature will let you...

- View and edit account information
- Pay invoices online through our secure server
- View current year services
- View charges and payments

Log on to [www.tbll.com](http://www.tbll.com) and see how easily you can view and manage your account. If you have any questions or comments, please email us at [support@tbll.com](mailto:support@tbll.com).

### CLIENT FEEDBACK

"It was a pleasure to have a real 'team'... hard working... and who communicated with us so clearly. Your crew was great. We can't believe what they accomplished in one day. They did a wonderful job."

**Pam and Tom Hall, Lancaster**

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