

THE BUGGETTE



Bare in Mind by Dick Bare

Hi, everyone. In the last newsletter I told you about our time in Amsterdam and Copenhagen, both of which offered so many amazing sights. The next stop on our cruise was to a place my parents always dreamed of visiting but were never able to: St. Petersburg, Russia.

Although my father had been all over Europe, and even Saudi Arabia, due to his deployment during World War II, he did not have the opportunity to see any of what was then the Soviet Union. Decades of hard work later, after he and my mother had the means and finally the time to visit a much-changed Russia, my brother fell deathly ill and they were forced to cancel their planned trip. They never had another opportunity to go.

We awoke at 5:30 the morning of June 18, and the view of the St. Petersburg port through our window was very emotional for me as I thought of my parents. The port itself was in an industrialized area, eerily reminiscent of the Soviet era with its grim-looking cranes, forklifts, and other equipment, as well as the imposing old concrete buildings.

When we finally docked, what we saw surprised us. Maybe it was because we were expecting the city to be a dark, run-down, dingy place, when instead it looked like downtown Nashville. There were a lot of beautiful buildings, with a healthy smattering of new ones. Sharp-looking people were everywhere: women in high heels with modern fashionable dresses and men in suits, starched shirts, and ties, just like you'd see in any metropolitan city.

We began our tour by going to Peter the Great's summer cabin, a small, humble

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Saint Petersburg, Russia

Customer Kudos

I am so thrilled with Joel at Arbor-Nomics and the service they provide! We are recent transplants to the Nashville area from the Rocky Mountains, and all plants and grasses are new to us. Coming to a new area is difficult because what worked there doesn't work here. We were using another service prior to Arbor-Nomics but our plants and grass didn't look very good, and every time I called they would come out and charge me more but with the same results. Since Arbor-Nomics started treating our yard the results have been remarkable, and I feel like we finally have healthy plants and grass – and for a reasonable fee. I also love that I can call Joel for his expertise, and I know I can trust his opinion. I'm finally getting results instead of more bills and no results. We'll be Arbor-Nomics customers for years to come!

J. Moore, Brentwood

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Share Your Secret & Get Rewarded

Refer one of your neighbors and **GET \$50!** If any of your neighbors have commented on how good your lawn looks, give them our contact information. If they sign up for our service (by calling us at 329.4151 or visiting our website) you'll receive \$50 towards your account. Just ask them to mention your name when they sign up.

You can feel confident recommending us. In addition to being **Best Pick for 13 years by Home Reports**, we also just won our second **Angie's List Super Service Award** and are a **TrustDale** service provider. The fact is the majority of our new customers comes from referrals, and that is the greatest compliment you can give us. **THANK YOU!**



Fun Thanksgiving Facts

- The largest pumpkin pie ever made weighed 2,020 pounds.
- A ripe cranberry will bounce.
- All turkeys and chickens have wishbones.
- Canadians celebrate their own Thanksgiving every October.
- Abraham Lincoln declared a national day of Thanksgiving in 1863.
- The first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade was held in 1924.



Are you in the know?

Need advice about a disease or pest wreaking havoc on your property? Looking for tips on weed control? Wondering what to do about those brown patches on your lawn? Be sure you're signed up for our regular emails. Join the list by sending us your name and email address to info@arbor-nomicsnashville.com. We respect your privacy and do not share this information with anyone.



Things You Never Knew About Autumn

Autumn colors could be some of the casualties of global warming, say scientists. Research has shown as the world warms, fall-colored leaves are delayed since their cues to change color come partly from cooling temperatures.

During this period, birds prepare for winter migration. One of the longest migrations is the 11,000-mile journey of the Arctic tern. However, the bar-headed goose is also impressive, reaching heights of 28,000 feet to skim over the Himalayas.

Source: <http://www.livescience.com/39847-autumn-equinox-facts-about-fall.html>

Fall/Winter Lawn Care Tips

There are several other things you can do to keep your lawn healthy during the fall and winter, no matter what kind of grass you have:

Leaves that cover your lawn, can not only damage it, they can render liquid treatments ineffective. We recommend you use a blower versus a rake to remove the leaves. This is probably the most important advice we can give you during the fall.



- Mow warm season lawns one inch higher than you usually mow to avoid scalping. Follow these fall mowing heights for different grasses: Seeded **Bermuda**, 2"-3"; Sodded **Bermuda**, 1.5"-2.5"; Centipede, 2"-2.5"; **Fescue**, 3.75"-4.25"; Rye, 2"-3"; St. Augustine, 3"-4"; **Zoysia**, 1.5"-2.5".
- Leave clippings on the lawn, as they add nutrients while breaking down.
- Do not add supplemental fertilizer to our applications on your warm season grass. Let it go dormant gradually so it doesn't get a growth spurt that may get burned by an early freeze.
- Fall is the perfect time to fill in bare patches in **Fescue** lawns. See point one on how to seed bare spots or call us to schedule an aeration and overseeding.
- Fall is a good time to call one of us in management about treating your lawn preemptively for **Zoysia** Patch, grubs in **Bermuda**, and Spring Dead Spot in **Bermuda**. We will do a free consultation and estimate for these issues.
- Water cool season grasses until the new seed is firmly established. This usually takes 4-5 mowings. One inch a week will do. Never let the seed dry out during the first two weeks, it will kill it. Rough up the bare spots (with a rake or a shovel) before seeding and then cover with **Fescue** straw to help hold in water during hot dry days. If you use wheat straw, you will have wheat growing in the spring, so it's better to use **Fescue** straw.

Fall is here and winter is coming. Are your trees and shrubs ready?

Trees and shrubs may appear dormant in late fall and winter, but their root structure continues to grow as long as the ground is not frozen. They need care and protection from the cold, frost and ice of winter to stay healthy and produce beautiful foliage for spring.

Proper care of trees and shrubs includes:

- Continue to water them until the ground freezes if it doesn't rain
- Providing a warm blanket of mulch to protect the root structure
- Fertilizing now to keep them well fed through the winter

If you are a Gold or Platinum customer, your trees and shrubs are already covered with your application #6 treatment. However, even if you are not on our tree and shrub program, Arbor-Nomics can help. Through fall, we can apply a single treatment of our slow-release fertilizer. This special formula reacts to soil temperatures and fertilizes your trees* and shrubs when they need it.

With this one application:

- Your trees and shrubs will develop a stronger root system
- They'll be more disease- and insect-resistant
- You'll see lusher growth and greener leaves this spring

Your trees and shrubs need to get ready for fall and winter. You can help by calling **329.4151** to get your fertilizer treatment from Arbor-Nomics today!

*This treatment is for ornamental trees only.



Application #6

We reserve the right to modify any of our treatments should the weather require it.

What we did today to your lawn:

1. To warm season grasses, we applied a pre-emergent to prevent winter weeds from springing up this winter and a broadleaf weed control to get rid of broadleaf weeds. You should see those broadleaf weeds die within two weeks of the treatment. If you don't, email or call the office to let us know.
2. **Fescue** lawns received a granular starter fertilizer. This is high in phosphorus, which enhances the germination of the new seeds. If you haven't aerated and overseeded, please call us for a quote.
3. Platinum Customers received a Grassy Weed and a Fungicide Treatment if needed. All Platinum Customers with Fescue lawns received an Aeration and Overseeding.

What we did to your trees and shrubs today:

(ONLY For Gold & Platinum Customers)

1. We applied a fertilizer to promote root growth. Strengthening the roots of your trees and shrubs gives them a strong base to last through the winter and thrive in the spring. The nutrients from fertilizing will still be in the soil in the spring when new growth starts.

What you need to do until our next visit

1. Take advantage of any allowed watering times put forth by your county. Optimally, during fall, all lawns should receive about 1" of water each week from rain or irrigation. Tree and shrubs should receive a thorough watering from rain or irrigation once each month so that the water is penetrating the roots, which means the ground should be wet 2"-3" down.
2. Please see page 2 for the appropriate mowing heights of warm season grasses. **Fescue** lawns should be mowed every 5-6 days. Do not remove more than 1/3 of the grass blades at each cutting for optimal appearance.
3. Routine trimming will help your shrubs grow better.

If you have any questions concerning your lawn, trees, shrubs or our service, please call our Customer Service Department Monday – Friday, 7:00am-4:00pm at **329.4151**. If you call after hours, please leave a message and your call will returned the next business day.



Helpful Phone Numbers

MAIN NUMBER

329.4151

www.arbor-nomicsnashville.com

OWNER/PRESIDENT

Dick Bare, 678.638.4550

Cell: 770.815.3879

richard@arbor-nomics.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Doug Cash, 678.638.4548

Cell: 770.596.8388

doug@arbor-nomics.com

AREA MANAGER

Joel Holcomb, ext 1127

Cell: 615.336.2114

joel@arbor-nomics.com

Arbor-Nomics Loves Fall

Fall seems to be almost everyone's favorite season here at Arbor-Nomics. Here's why:

Joel: Cooler weather and football.

Doug: The sky is the bluest and I love the smell of that first cool air.

Katrina: I like the cooler weather, coffee, my fuzzy socks, and did I say cooler weather?

Brandon: Football and spending time with family and friends around the fire pit.

Betty: Cooler weather, no bugs, fresh apples, and all the festivals.

Megan: My Bermuda lawn goes dormant, so no more mowing, and my power bill is lower!

Blaine: Horror movie season!

Winnie: Football, hot chocolate, pumpkin everything, leaves turning, and opening up all the windows for the cool, crisp air to come in.

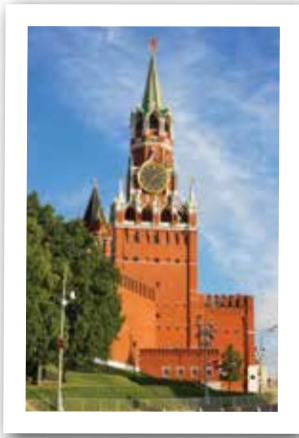
Angie: Cool mornings and warm afternoons. Riding through the mountains and seeing nature's beautiful colors. It is breathtaking!

Frankie: Campfires, fall festivals and the mountains.

PRE-PAY

Don't forget to take advantage of our pre-pay special. You will be receiving your pre-pay letter in the mail in early November. You can save 5% if you prepay your 2014 service by 12/31/13.





Moscow Kremlin Tower

home that he shared with his wife, Catherine I. But let's back up a bit and see what made this guy so great. Peter Alekseyevich Romanov was born June 9, 1672. Peter's father, Alexis, died in January 1676, and the Tsar dynasty was passed on to Peter's older half-brother, Feodor III, who was weak and sickly. Feodor III died in 1682, and Peter and Ivan, his brother, became co-Tsars. This was somewhat of an in-name-only partnership as Ivan was also sickly and of an infirm mind. So Peter assumed his Tsar responsibilities at the tender age of 10.

But get this: Since Peter was just a child, and Ivan was mentally incapacitated, Peter's half-sister, Sophia, had a dual throne built with a large opening in the back where she could sit and listen to the problems that Russian nobles brought to them. She would then whisper to Peter what to say and in this way she ruled Russia for seven years as something of an autocrat. This throne can be seen in the Kremlin Armory in Moscow.

Peter's mother, Natalya, who never cared for this unconventional set-up, arranged for Peter to marry in 1689. It proved to be an unhappy union, and Peter forced his wife to become a nun 10 years later, freeing himself of marital bonds. But in the summer of 1689, it was Sophia Peter wanted to rid himself of. However, she got wind of his intentions and initiated a plot to overthrow him. Learning of this, Peter fled in the middle of the night to a monastery. There he gathered support, eventually forcing Sophia into a convent, where she gave up her name and position in the royal family. Natalya then helped Peter rule for a while, but he soon consolidated power to become sole ruler. Peter made for an odd-looking Tsar. At 6'8" he towered over the noblemen and rulers of Europe. He also had disproportionately small hands and feet, with shoulders and a head that likewise did not match his large frame. Finally, he had a form of epilepsy called Petit Mal, which caused his face to twitch uncontrollably at times.

Peter had 14 children, only three of whom survived to adulthood. The eldest, Alexis, became a suspect in a plot to overthrow his dad, so Peter had him tortured until he confessed. He was sentenced to death but died in prison the day before the sentence could be carried out, likely due to the injuries he suffered from being tortured.

As Tsar, he instituted sweeping changes to Russian society. He consulted with advisors from Europe and modernized and strengthened the Russian army. He travelled through Europe incognito for 18 months where he learned about shipbuilding, architecture, and how to manage a navy. He was so impressed with European culture that upon his return he forbade the tradition of Russian men to wear beards, and he changed the Russian calendar back from 7207 (created based on an estimate of the beginning of the world), to 1700 based on the birth of Christ. Peter founded St. Petersburg (named after the disciple St. Peter) in 1703. Shortly after, he met his second wife, Marta, through a best friend. She was a shapely housemaid for (and suspected lover of)

this friend, who let her go as he was engaged to another woman. She and Peter were then married (it was her second marriage, too, though her first had lasted only eight days).

Marta, renamed Catherine when she converted to the Russian Orthodox religion, was charming, energetic, beautiful, and always cheerful. She and Peter had a successful marriage, which their letters to each other confirm. She was the only one who could calm Peter down during one of his frequent rages as well as properly care for him during his epileptic fits. This is why, unlike some unfortunate wives of other rulers, her head remained attached to her neck her whole life. Catherine I became Empress when Peter died in 1725 at the age of 52, but she died just two years later, at 43.

Peter was greatly influenced by European architecture. He especially admired Amsterdam, with all its canals, and copied it in building St. Petersburg. The city was located by the Baltic Sea in what was essentially a bog. The soil from digging the remaining canals was used to build up the existing land, and Peter made all visitors and workmen bring in rock and stone every day to provide foundations for the buildings. Interestingly, wood pilings were also used, just like in Amsterdam and Venice.

The River Neva winds through the city of five million inhabitants and the architecture is stunning. In fact, a whole network of 60 rivers and canals, some lined with granite, crisscross the city, and they are spanned by over 400 bridges. In the morning we saw people sipping coffee and riding all over the water in incredible river buses.

St. Petersburg, located 400 miles to the northwest of Moscow, was the capital of Russia for 200 years, until 1903 when Moscow again became the capital. A shame because Moscow can't hold a candle to all the beautiful sights in St. Petersburg. As one example, there is the impressive Hermitage Museum. It houses over three million exhibits, and it is said if you spent 30 seconds at each exhibit you would take 3 ½ years going through the museum. Touring the Hermitage is a lot like going through the Vatican or the Louvre in Paris; you cannot believe any mortal man could create the sculptures and paintings that you see.



Grand Palace of Peterhof Palace in Saint Petersburg, Russia

In the afternoon we visited Peterhof, Peter the Great's summer residence. It's located about 22 miles southwest of the city, on the southern shore of the Gulf of Finland. We went out on a Hydrofoil, a high-powered boat that flies through the water. What a blast! Peterhof itself rivals the Biltmore in beauty and scenery any day. Try Googling pictures of it.

Another must-see is the Church of Our Savior on the Spilled Blood. You have never seen such incredible architecture, both inside and out. It's so named because it was built on the spot where Tsar Alexander II was assassinated (his blood is on the floor inside). Tsar Alexander II's son built it in memory of his father.

Call me if you would like to visit St. Petersburg, and I will tell you how to get a visa, who to contact, and what to see. It will be the trip of a lifetime. Next time, London and beyond!