

# Residential Property Maintenance

It's spring time in Orem! Cue the aeration, fertilizing, charging sprinkler systems, and yard projects. There are many beautiful yards in Orem that display creativity, functionality, and the hard work of residents. In order to maintain your property while also preserving the environment and keeping to City Code items, here are some tips for you as well as explanations of each point.

- Aeration and fertilizing
  - Aeration is great for your lawn as it reduces compaction, increases water infiltration, and increases oxygen and nutrients available to roots of the grass.
  - Fertilizer should ideally be applied when temperatures are cool. Fertilizer in granular form should be watered into your lawn as soon as possible after application to prevent "burning" your lawn.
- Charging sprinkler systems
  - Take care to charge your sprinkler system slowly to prevent sudden high pressures in your sprinkler system. This will reduce the chances of a pipe bursting or a joint separating. This is a great time to run your system and check for leaks.
- Yard Projects
  - Maintaining your property benefits you as the owner, as well as the community. Any improvement made to your yard increases the value of your home as well as your neighbors and can help the environment.

## CLEAN UP

Orem City Code 16.1.5. states: **"It shall be unlawful to place or spill without immediately cleaning up any material or debris on a public street.... the violator shall within twelve (12) hours clean the street or shall be liable to the City for the costs of doing so...."**

Orem City Code 16.1.6. states: **"The owners, occupants, tenants, and lessees of all real property shall keep the public sidewalks, curbs, and gutters abutting the property free from debris, dirt, rocks, weeds, snow, and ice."**

Why does it matter?

1. When debris are left in the street or on sidewalks it hampers the City's ability to perform regular street sweeping duties.
2. When water from storms or irrigation flows off of streets or a property into the gutters it picks up anything in that gutter and carries it into the City storm drains.
3. Storm water is not treated before being infiltrated or carried to local water bodies like Utah Lake.
4. Sediment is the number one pollutant in storm water flows with nutrients like nitrogen that are found in fertilizer being second. These are very harmful to aquatic life and our local ecosystem. These pollutants also increase maintenance needs of the City's storm water system.



Please do your part to keep our streets and sidewalks clear and enjoy the Spring. Thank you for helping to build a better Orem!