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**September 2008**

**Dear TJ,**

This is our third newsletter to you and we will do our best to inform you on the current events of landscaping throughout the seasons. Fall is approaching thank goodness! Hopefully we can all stop sweating for a while. Again, thank you for your gracious feedback. Next month we will be talking about fall color in your landscape and beautiful accent lighting.

**OVERSEEDING YOUR LAWN**

If you are looking to have a lawn that is green all year around either because you don't want to see brown dormant lawn or because your homeowner's association requires you to have a green lawn all year around, then over seeding is the key.

The optimum time to over seed is typically the first few weeks in October; but more importantly, when the evening temps are consistently 65 degrees or below. This could go into November.

There are a few steps in doing this:

1. Cut or scalp your lawn to remove as much thatch (decomposing or brown debris) to expose the maximum amount of soil
2. Rake up as much remaining thatch as possible. It will expose the soil and loosen it. The new seed can germinate more effectively when spread on the soil.
3. Sow about 9lb. of rye seed per 1000sq. ft. Be generous with the seed and tamp it down. Your feet are sufficient. Birds will get to some, so as it is growing watch for thin or bald spots and fill in again with more seed. You also can put about 1/8" of mulch to protect it.
4. Water as you would with new lawn (daily is best for new germination).

6. After about 4-6 weeks, or late fall, you can put a fertilizer that is high in nitrogen to promote deep greening of your lawn.

Over seeding a lawn can be done over one weekend but reaps beautiful benefits for months!



[Click here for more Helpful Tips.](#)

### Featured Design

**Location:** *Queen Creek*

**Designers:** *TJ Wilcoxson and Tracy Hosobe*


This was an elaborate project that incorporated many landscape elements from the pool with bold tile accents, a sunken kitchen



equipped with a grill and a sink, as well as an additional steel structure island that accommodates six bar stools. Also incorporated was Marbella decking and abundant accent lighting strategically placed to enhance every detail. We are not done yet... to further give them the resort feel, there were other things added such as misters, mature palms, lion head fountains, and of course the gorgeous furnishings done by the homeowners.

This project was a collaboration between Alexon Design and California Pools. The swimming pool was unique because of size,



swim up bar, the  negative edge, and the foam-cushioned Splash pad with the dancing water jets. The Marbella decking was one of the first installed in the east valley. Marbella stone comes from the floor of the ocean and is imported from the Philippines. It is a beautiful natural stone that is 10 percent cooler than cool deck. This project was absolutely enhanced by a Nightscaping Package.

Contact California Pools at 480-345-0005

[See more of our Featured Products.](#)

If you would like to renovate your yard Please call the office at 480.699.7796.

See more of this property: [Click Here](#)

#### Reader's question:

*\*If your question is selected you will receive a gift to show you our appreciation.*

**Q.** I've heard that people aerate their lawn before over seeding, what is it and is it necessary?

**A.** Aerating your lawn is another step to maximize results when getting ready to over seed for winter grass. Aeration is basically poking holes in the soil of your sod with a machine with spikes to gouge plugs from the soil. It can be rented at your local home improvement store. I've noticed from experience that a pair of high heels on wet soil can do the trick as well. Basically, it loosens the soil and allows more water and fertilizer to penetrate deep for better rooting. For best results, aerate when the soil is wet, but not muddy. Is it necessary? It's helpful especially if you have tough or bad soil conditions, but I have had beautiful winter grass for four years and have not intentionally aerated once before I over seeded with winter rye.

Got a Question? Send it to [Tracy@alexondesign.com](mailto:Tracy@alexondesign.com)

If you have comments or questions please email:

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