



ESTATES LANDSCAPING

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RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPING SINCE 1999

**Best wishes for a great holiday season and
all the best in the New Year from Mike and staff!**



Did you wonder, what's the difference between hot chocolate and cocoa?

Hot cocoa comes from a powder, while hot chocolate is (technically speaking) what many call "drinking chocolate" or "sipping chocolate," made from chopped bits of chocolate or small chocolate pellets that are melted slowly and painstakingly, then blended with milk, cream or water.

If you want to drink healthy, you might want to know that cocoa powder is richer in taste and flavor, however, it's lower in vitamins and antioxidants. Raw chocolate, on the other hand, is nearly twice the antioxidant level compared to dark cocoa powder.

Source: www.thespruceeats.com



Should You Wrap Your Shrubs in Burlap?



It isn't mandatory, but before the winter winds arrive and the snow begins, you may need to cover some shrubs and plants to protect them through the coming cold winter. Burlap is a natural covering that people have used for years. Burlap helps insulate the shrubs, keeping them safe from wind, snow, animal damage, freezing and thawing. Burlap is easy to work with and inexpensive. Wrap your shrubs in the late fall after all the leaves drop. Keep the shrubs covered until spring.

If you'd like help with this, we are glad to provide the service.

Source: www.ehow.com

It's winter, and everything has gone dormant, but . . .



Don't forget that if you are considering a project for next spring, it's never too early to plan!

If you're thinking about putting in a patio, a firepit or some other large project, ask Mike to come and consult any time now to give you your free quote!

Planning now will secure you an early place in the spring line-up to get your project taken care of. You'll want it done in plenty of time to enjoy your outdoor project all season long!

Just give us a call at 440-729-7800. Leave a message if we're not available.

Winter Hours

During the winter, our hours are limited. We do come in to check messages, both phone and email. But the times will be irregular. We don't do snow removal, but some of our employees are here to do maintenance on the equipment. If something comes up that you need taken care of, just give us a call!

Favorite Holiday Foods & Traditions

Gingerbread - The first-known recipe of the sweet treat is said to be from Greece in 2400 BCE. The formula was developed and remixed through several cultures and eventually made its way to England, where Queen Elizabeth I was credited with the idea of decorating the cookies. Eventually, gingerbread was consumed year-round, and the shapes changed with the seasons. The designs were so elaborate they became a symbol of elegance, which is why we save them for a special time like the holidays.



Cranberries are harvested mid-September to mid-November, making them perfect to consume during holiday times. Marcus L. Urann first canned the berries in 1912 as a way to extend the short selling season, creating a jellied treat that acted as a sauce when warm.

Dressing/Stuffing - The first mention of stuffing meat with something for added flavor appears in a collection of Roman recipes by Apicius. The ancient cook suggested stuffing hares, dormice, chickens, sardines, and squid. Eventually, the concept of stuffing meat with meat was adopted by Europeans—particularly the French. Today, most cooks stick to non-meat fillings. Recently, stuffing can be found as a side dish to a big holiday meal, where, depending on geography and many other factors like whether or not it's cooked in or outside the bird, it's referred to as dressing.



Latkes - In the Jewish tradition, dairy foods are eaten during Hanukkah in honor of Judith, a celebrated heroine who saved her village from an invading army; the original latke was just a cheese pancake. Potato latkes gained popularity in the 1800s thanks to a mass planting of potatoes—which were cheap and easy to grow—in Eastern Europe after other crops had failed. Many different cultures have their takes on the latkes and brought those traditions over to the U.S. to not only help celebrate Hanukkah, but Christmas as well.

Source – www.mentalfloss.com

"In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy." -- William Blake

Employee photo: L-R – Bess (Book Keeper,) Becky (Office Manager,) Landscape Technicians Neil. Jae, Brandon, Renato, Aaron, Adrian, Ramon, Andy, Angel, Doni, Mike Hetman (Owner) and John