



How lawns benefit from aeration

Compacted soil can have a dramatic effect on grass. Compacted soil blocks oxygen, water and nutrients from reaching the root systems of the turf. That creates a lawn with weak roots, which make grass more vulnerable to disease and compromising its ability to withstand harsh weather, such as summer heat.

The buildup of thatch, which is a matted layer of grass clippings and other organic debris that collects on the top of the soil, is one indicator that a lawn could benefit from aeration, a process in which the surface of the lawn is perforated to break up compacted soil and allow oxygen, water and nutrients to reach root systems. Other signs that aeration may be necessary include patches of thin grass, brown spots and a high concentration of clay in the soil.

When faced with a lawn that could benefit from aeration, homeowners may wonder if such a task lends itself to DIY or if it's best left to professional landscapers. Aerating a lawn is not always easy, and typically it involves the use of one of three types of aerators:

CORE AERATOR: A core aerator uses hollow tines to pull plugs of soil from the lawn. The plugs are left on the surface of the lawn. Homeowners can pick up the plugs or, according to the grass seed experts at Pennington, even leave them in the yard and allow them to break down.

SPIKE AERATOR: The experts at Pennington note that spike aerators employ solid, spike-like tines to poke holes in the soil. These aerators leave the spikes in the soil. Some people wear spiked aeration shoes while walking around the yard to mimic the effects of spike aerators.

SLICING AERATOR: According to Pennington, slicing aerators employ rotating blades that slice through thatch and down into the soil. These aerators leave the soil in the ground.

Aerators can be operated manually, though professionals tend to use motorized aerators. The machines are often heavy, so homeowners should consider their health and physical ability before deciding to aerate on their own. Hiring a professional landscaper who has experience aerating may be the quickest and most effective way to restore a lawn to full health.

During the cold months of winter, many people stare longingly out of the window dreaming of spring and time spent outdoors. For those with green thumbs, images of tending to the garden and other aspects of their landscapes no doubt dominate such daydreams.

Draw inspiration from those budding crocuses and daffodils pushing through the last remnants of snow and employ these tips to prepare for the upcoming gardening season.



- One of the first steps is to apply a preemergent weed killer to get a head start knocking out weeds that can plague the lawn during the growing season. Killing weeds at the roots early on can mean far fewer hassles in spring and summer, and may prevent new generations of weeds from cropping up each year.
- While it may be tempting to take a prematurely warm day as a sign that spring is in full force and purchase a bunch of annuals, it's better to know the last of the possible frost dates (check "The Farmer's Almanac"); otherwise, you may waste time and money planting flowers or vegetables only to have them zapped by another frosty day.
- Amend the soil so that it is the right consistency — just crumbling when lifting it. Soil that is too muddy after spring thaw can harden, making it difficult for plants to flourish later on. Speak with representatives at a local lawn and garden center about which types of amendments you can add to the soil in your particular area to enrich it.

- Lawn and garden experts at The Home Depot suggest filling in bare patches of lawn now by mixing a few shovelfuls of soil with grass seed. Then apply this patch to the bare areas, water, and continue to care for the area until the spot fills in.
 - Spend a day in the garage or shed tending to the lawn mower and other gardening equipment. Clean all tools and ensure that everything works, repairing parts as needed.
 - Give outdoor entertaining spaces a good scrubbing, clearing away dirt and grime that may have accumulated over the winter. Use a leaf blower to blow away any leftover leaves.
 - Check if the front porch, railings or decking need painting and/or staining. Tackle these projects when the weather is cooler so everything will be ready for those peak spring days.
 - Think about any annuals you might want to plant in the landscape this year that will complement any existing shrubbery or perennials. Come up with a theme so that the entire yard is cohesive.
- Before homeowners know it, winter is gone and it is time to once again enjoy long days spent outdoors. Get a jump start on spring lawn prep as soon as you can.

LACEBY
REAL ESTATE

residential • country estates • farms • commercial • land

King City
2169 King Road
905-833-0033

Aurora
15228 Yonge St.
905-841-9090

Cookstown
11 Queen Street
705-458-8600

16130 Bathurst St, King



Privacy And Convenience! 10+ Acres Located On The Edge Of Aurora Within King Township. Country Living At Its Finest. This Level Lot Presents An Excellent Building Or Renovation Opportunity. Lots Of Trees For That Private Setting With Wildlife Outside Your Door. Nothing More Peaceful Than Living In The Country Yet Situated Only Minutes To All Amenities. Located In Laca Jurisdiction With No Regulations, Own-Country-Style. Do Not Walk Property Without An App. Quiet Country Setting W/ Renovated, Bright 3+2 Bdrm Brick Bungalow. Fully Finished Lower Lvl. Lg. Windows, New Flooring, Updated Kitchen. Separate 1,000-Sq-Ft. Bldg. W/ 2 Drive-In Overhead Doors. All Structures Being Sold In As Is Condition

Jeff Lacey*** & Cinda Brown* \$ 2,550,000

14405 8th Concession, King



This Charming Designer's Bungalow Is The Quintessential Modern Farmhouse, Set On A Scenic Acre In The Heart Of King's Equestrian Community. Fully Remodelled, This Bright And Cheery Home Is An Inviting Blend Of Rustic Farmhouse Elements And Clean Modern Finishes. Soaring 16' Vaulted Ceilings, Exposed Authentic Barn Beams, Open Concept Living, Dining Room And Gourmet Kitchen, Luxurious Spa-Like Bathrooms, Lovely Country Views From Every Window, Bertazzoni Double Oven/6 Burner Range, Massive 10' Island, Walk-In Pantry, Large Mudroom, 3 Frpts, Retractable, Oversized Garage, New Well & Septic, New Driveway, Roof, Door/Windows, Charming Workshop/Hobby Shed, Barn, Alarm System.

Lynda Lacey* & Mike Lacey* \$ 2,389,000

35 Kleins Ridge, Kleinburg



Kleinburg - Exclusive Hill Top Community Hosting 12 Estates Lots. Set Within Tranquil Surroundings With Access To Klms. Of Walking Trails Just Out The Front Door, 3 +1 Bdrm Bungalow. Spacious Main Floor Living With Field-Stone Fireplace And Dining Rooms, Family Sized Updated Kitchen, Walkout, Finished Basement With Field-Stone Fireplace, Amazing Heated 6 Car Garage With Hoist. Amazing Lot, Just Under Two Acres. Minutes To All Amenities And Kleinburg Ctr. New Windows And Eaves, Wrap Around Pressure Treated Wood Decking. Lot Not Located In The Green Belt Or In The Heritage District. Include All EIF's, All Window Coverings, All Appliances, Car Hoist. Over 350 Ft. Of Frontage.

Lynda Lacey* & Cinda Brown* \$2,149,000

17102 Warden Ave, Whitchurch- Stouffville



Excellent investment property! Conveniently situated close to the newly completed 404 extension and Newmarket. This idyllic, country setting consists of over 46 acres on gently rolling hills offering beautiful pastoral views with acres of private riding/walking trails. Renovated 5 bedroom farm house with outbuildings, large principal rooms 9' ceilings, slate and hardwood floors. Great potential for an equestrian / farm / investment property with long (1 km) treed drive. Situated among century maples, towering pines with stream and ponds offering a serene and tranquil setting. 30' X 40' garage, sauna and covered porches. Endless possibilities!

Jeff Lacey*** & Cinda Brown* \$ 2,095,000

2385 Davis Drive, King



Rare Find In King Township. 25 Vacant Acres With A Variety Of Topography, Trees, Streams, On Which To Build Your Dream Home. Great Location On Paved Road With Easy Access To Highway 400. Close To Aurora/Newmarket, Private Schools And An Easy Drive To The Airport! This Unique Parcel Is Looking For The Creative Buyer Who Can See The Potential And Think "Outside The Box"! There Is No Entry To This Land From Highway 9. Book An Appointment To Walk The Property. There Is A Mix Of Table Land And Trees

Lynda Lacey* \$ 1,125,000

32 Marlynn Court, Schomberg



Prime Location In Mature Subdivision In Schomberg. Large, Pool Sized Lot For Your Dream Home. Great Family Neighbourhood, Close To All Amenities In Schomberg, Walking Distance To Schools, Library, Town Plaza. 30 Minutes To Pearson Airport If You Travel. Enjoy Small Town Living At Its Best In This Wonderful Rural Area Of The Gta.

Lynda Lacey* & Mike Lacey* \$850,000

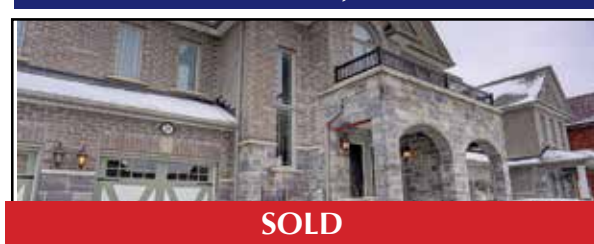
46 Mumberson St, Cookstown



Stunning Brand New Home Located In The Heart Of Cookstown. Enjoy A Touch Of Elegance & Class In This Spacious 3500 Sq Ft House With Upgrades Throughout, Including Hardwood And Tile Flooring, Large Windows, Quartz Countertops, Soaring High Ceilings In Great Room, Pot Lights, Large Staircase And Moulded Ceilings.

Amanda Vizziello*

39 Walker Blvd, Alliston



Spacious 2200 Sq Ft Freehold Townhouse, With A Touch Of Elegance & Class Throughout, Including Open-Concept Entrance, Hardwood Floors, 9 Ft Ceilings, Cozy Sitting Area With Gas Fireplace, Upgraded Countertops, New Patio Deck, & Natural Lighting Throughout. Kitchen Includes Quartz Countertop, Stainless Steel Appliances, Gas Stove & Walk-Out To Patio. Located In A Great Family Neighbourhood, Close To Schools, Amenities, Hospital & Parks. Fully Fenced Backyard. A Must See Home!

Amanda Vizziello* & Lynda Lacey*

7469 Concession 4, Uxbridge



This Property Is An Exceptional 10 Acre Parcel Of Land On Concession 4 Just South Of Davis Drive And An Easy Commute To 404 And Uxbridge. Ideal For A Weekend Getaway, Developing A Country Estate Or Fulfilling Your Dreams In A Rural Setting. Original Farm Farmstead, Including House, Large Bank Barn And Drive Shed Need To Be Updated Or Replaced. Large Open And Level Parcel Of Land Is Currently Farmed For Hay.

David Nattress**

LACEBY
REAL ESTATE
FOR SALE
905-833-0033
www.laceyrealty.com



Lynda Lacey*



David Nattress**



Danny Kanyo*



Cinda Brown*



Anita Parliament*



Diana Dunlap*



Chris Bresser*



Stephanie Sinclair**



Andrea Pinska*



Glenn M. Hant**



Mike Lacey*



Ian Hastings*



Amanda Vizziello*



Jeff Lacey***

LACEBY REAL ESTATE LIMITED, BROKERAGE

LACEBY
REAL ESTATE
SOLD
905-833-0033
www.laceyrealty.com

*Sales Representative **Broker ***Broker of Record

How is Real Estate dealing with Covid-19?



By Julien Laurion
The Big Tuna of Real Estate

WOW! What a difference a month can make! My article last month was prepping buyers for a crazy, bidding war style of environment this spring. Now, homeowners are faced with many new challenges to selling their home!

COVID-19 HAS REALLY SHAKEN UP the entire country and even though Real Estate was deemed essential, that does not mean it is business as usual. There have been quite a few changes and I think it is important to discuss them.

In this current atmosphere, buying and selling homes has become difficult because everyone's health and safety is paramount. This means that a number of traditional practices have had to be revised and changed so that social distancing is maintained. So, what's changed? Open houses – homeowners no longer want to have strangers walking through their homes. Buyers do not want to expose themselves to possible infection by entering a stranger's home. Foot traffic and face to face interaction has been virtually eliminated. The typical Saturday and Sunday open house signs are no-where to be seen.

In response, many Realtors are posting detailed virtual tours or even 3-D tours to allow purchasers a way of looking at a property without being in it. Now, you are probably thinking, how can I buy a house without actually seeing it? Most brokerages are accepting clauses that make a sale conditional, pending an actual viewing by the buyers. This means that you can come to an agreement to buy the home and have the ability to walk away without penalty should you view the property in person and feel it does not match your needs. A lot of people need to 'feel' the energy of a home before the purchase.

Additionally, OREA has introduced new State of Emergency Clauses that are to be included with an offer. The Unable To Complete clause provides that if the transaction is delayed due to the buyer or the seller's bank or mortgage provider is closed or if the land registry office is closed due to extraordinary events, the transaction completion date is automatically extended two business days following the resumption of those services without penalty. The clause allows for electronic signatures of documents as well as video conferencing for the signing of closing documents.

On the legal side of real estate transactions, the Law Society of Ontario had made the same type of changes in their regulations allowing for signatures to be executed electronically and witnessed via video conference. Legal offices have set up protocols in their offices to respect social distancing while finalizing all of the legal requirements to complete a transaction.

In summary, should you need to sell your home or buy a home. It is now more important than ever to work with an experienced Realtor like myself who can help you during these rapidly changing times.

Lastly, I want to take a moment to thank everyone who works ever so hard at keeping our lives somewhat intact. Now more than ever, we are grateful to all of the dedicated people who work in healthcare and put their lives on the line to save ours! As you know, there is a severe shortage of personal protective equipment in our hospitals. Our hospital, Southlake Regional Health Centre is in dire need of donations to help purchase that equipment to keep their healthcare workers safe. If you can, please make a donation at www.southlake.ca/foundation/donateCOVID-19

In addition, I would especially like to thank those people who, three weeks ago, were under-appreciated in their importance to our survival: our grocery store clerks, garbage collectors, delivery people, LCBO & Beer Store employees, our cleaners and drivers...

THANK YOU

for stepping up to the plate for our all of our benefit! You show how strong and selfless Canadians are.

To all my readers, the next time you go to any store, please take a moment to thank everyone you see. They are scared as well, but are working tirelessly to keep us going. Stay healthy everyone and, please, WASH YOUR HANDS AND DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE!

Julien Laurion AKA Big Tuna, is a local Real Estate Sale Representative with Royal LePage Your Community Realty in Aurora. I am a real estate agent who has expertise in both Real Estate and Renovations and have been involved in this community for over 20 years. If you have a question for my monthly article or if you are considering buying, selling or leasing a home please feel free to call or email me directly at (416) 402-5530 or julien@bigtuna.ca or by alternatively visiting my website www.bigtuna.ca or Facebook page @bigtunarealty

A name you know... people you trust!



BEAUTIFULLY UPGRADED - AURORA

Stunning Home At The End Of A Family-Friendly Court! 9' Ceilings & Hdwd On Main & 2nd Levels, Beautiful Chef's Kitchen With Jenn-Air Appliances Overlooks Great Rm With Gas F/P. Fin Bsmt Feat Large Rec Rm With Built-Ins & Electric F/P, Office, & 3 Pc Bath. Prof Landscaped Yard With Patio, Fully Fenced!

\$1,289,000



FULLY RENOVATED - AURORA

Backsplit On Quiet Street, Close To Trails, Parks, Great Schools, Restaurants, Shopping, Minutes To GO Station! Open Concept Main Floor Features Kitchen Features Stainless Steel Appliances, Centre Island With Bkfst Bar, Pot & Pan Drawers, Wine Rack. Bsmt Has Rec Room, Above Grade Windows, 3-Piece Bath!

\$839,000



STUNNING LOT - EDGE OF NEWMARKET

Stunning Backyard Oasis Offers Pool With Waterfall & Slide, Hot Tub, Cabana, Extensive Patios, Outdoor Bar & BBQ! Hdwd On Main & 2nd Levels, Custom Maple Kitchen. Master Suite With Sitting Area, Gas F/P, Dressing Room, 6Pc Ens! Incredible Fin Bsmt With Custom Cabinets, Wet Bar, Gas F/P, Sauna & More.

\$2,100,000



PRIVATE LOT WITH POOL - OLD AURORA

Charming One-Of-A-Kind Home In Fantastic Old Aurora! Relax On Porch, Walk To Shops, Restaurants, GO, Parks, New Armoury & Upcoming Library Square! Stunning Lot Features Gorgeous Gardens, Salt Water Pool, Extensive Patterned Concrete Patio, Bright Kitchen Features Sky Lights, Floor-To-Ceiling Windows!

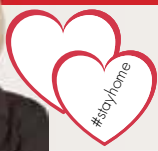
\$899,000

Not intended to solicit clients currently under contract. All Listings: MLS* REALTOR* REALTORS* owned and controlled by the Canadian Real Estate Association. Trademarks: MLS*, REALTOR*, REALTORS* unless otherwise noted.

A name you know... people you trust!



SUSAN COWEN



THANK YOU

To all the Health Care Workers during this difficult time, we're in this together



ANDREW COWEN



Call us today and experience the difference!
Direct: 905-727-1961 | info@susancowen.com
www.SusanCowen.com



Thinking of Buying or Selling Your Home?

For Insider Tips Visit:
HelenAvraamNeo.com



Helen

(Elena) Avraam Neophytou,

Sales Representative, SRES

ROYAL LEPAGE CONNECT REALTY, BROKERAGE



Each office independently owned and operated

Call Direct: 416-587-3415
Email: HelenAvraamNeo@RoyalLePage.ca

I HAVE QUALIFIED BUYERS FOR PROPERTIES IN KING!

Julianne Boileau
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

DIRECT: 416-418-6683 OFFICE: 905-727-1941
JULIANNEBOILEAU@HOTMAIL.COM
TIME2BUY-SELL.COM



SOLD THROUGH JULIANNE BOILEAU



My clients are so happy to call this their new home in King!

I have several qualified buyers searching for the perfect bungalow, please call me direct if you'd like to sell yours!

Ask A Realtor®

We planned to start looking to buy a home and we aren't sure where to start, please help.



Start by having a conversation over the telephone with a REALTOR® and book a face to face video conference to discuss and assess your needs and build rapport and an understanding of what's involved. Next discuss the urgency around the timing of needing to buy a home.

The shift for real estate is how we serve others in a post-COVID-19 world under a current state of emergency. In a statement from the Ontario Real Estate Association to it's members: 'ALL REALTORS® should stop face-to-face business, including open houses, in-person showings, and maintaining agents and public office hours.'

Real estate is deemed as essential services to remain open for business. The understanding is that there are thousands across Canada that are in the midst of buying or selling a home and they still require support ongoing from their REALTOR® as well as a host of other business providers that are also deemed essential like their real estate lawyers, land registry office, lending institutions, moving companies, inspectors and appraisers to name a few.

Sellers may need to buy or lease their next home and require the support of a REALTOR®. Others may need to sell due to a variety of personal circumstances stemming from their life stage, health concerns, work changes, shifts in family relationships and more and require the support of a licensed professional without delay.

The best place right now defined by our incredible front line health care workers is home and wherever you currently call home now is where REALTORS® can start offering as much virtual information as possible on making a home purchase.

Real estate agents can provide buyer guides, buyer consultations, send documents electronically for

signature and review what's on the market and provide market analysis through video conferencing to safely serve clients. Further, they can connect you with lending professionals to help with pre-approvals, many lawyers are also equipped to serve virtually, stagers can be engaged for video consultations, inspectors and movers also engaged as needed. Each essential service provider should be conducting their business with safe measures protocols to protect themselves, their clients and the homes experienced.

If buying is an absolute necessity and as the selection of homes gets narrowed down, the REALTOR® can dig deeper to supply virtual tours, virtual open houses, floor plans and request a guided walk through tour on demand as well. If Buyers are in agreement to place an offer to purchase the home; with conditions, one of them may be that the home is viewed with in person upon acceptance of the offer to limit physical exposure to multiple homes. A safety protocol should be discussed prior to any physical face to face meetings.

If moving is not urgent during this pandemic we encourage Buyers to fully set their plan of action now, keep saving their money and following their lenders recommendations and gain more understanding of the market and prepare to take full action when safety conditions improve for the greater health of everyone.

– Written by Connie Power

Connie Power is the Assistant Manager, Sales Representative CNE® SRS® ABR® SRES® for RE/MAX Hallmark York Group Realty Ltd., Brokerage serving York region and beyond in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Empowering you in Real Estate. Call Connie today to make an appointment to discuss your next move at (905) 726-0856.

***Not intended to solicit those currently under a real estate contract.

PROFESSIONAL RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE SERVICES



SCHOMBERG

\$1,150,000 Spacious & Bright 4 Bedroom Home In Desired Family Friendly Location Just Steps To The Park With Summer Splash Pad! Features Include: Hardwood Floors & Potlights On Main Floor - Sunken Office With High Ceiling - Main Floor Family Room - Centre Island Eat-In Kitchen With Stainless Steel Appliances & Walkout To Backyard - 4 Spacious Bedrooms All With Ensuites - South Facing Fully Fenced Yard With Raised Deck Backing To Walking Trail And The Dufferin Marsh! Can accommodate a quick closing! MLS#N4721239



**H.R. HORIZON REALTY LTD.,
BROKERAGE**
Independently Owned & Operated
416-706-0419
HORIZONREALTY.CA

239 Main St., Schomberg



**HOUSE
POWERWASHING
TIPS**

POWERWASHING, also known as pressure-washing, utilizes a high-velocity water spray to remove dirt and residue from the exterior surfaces of a home. It is frequently used on vinyl siding, concrete and sometimes wood decks to treat mildew and other growth that accumulates over time.

Powerwashing can be a great way to remove grime without having to scrub by hand. But it requires a delicate touch to get it right. Sometimes it is best to leave the job to professionals. But homeowners willing to give it a go can try powerwashing themselves, as various stores rent power washers.

The home improvement website ImproveNet says that, until very recently, pressure washers were almost exclusively commercial machines sold to professionals or rented to do-it-yourselfers. Lately manufacturers have targeted homeowners looking to buy with lightweight options. For those who see powerwashing as a routine venture, purchasing a unit may be worth the investment.

It is important to exercise caution when operating a powerwashing machine. The high-velocity spray can tear through skin. It is key to get a feel for the washer, and try less pressure first to get a handle on the magnitude of the tool.

Don safety gear prior to using a pressure washer. Gloves, eye protection and ear protection can be handy. Most units will connect to a standard garden hose. Choose old clothing and expect to get wet. Never point a powerwasher hose at anyone and do not attempt to rinse feet or hands in the spray.

The renovation resource The Family Handyman suggests starting with a wide-degree nozzle to test out the spray on the surface that needs to be cleaned. A 15- or 25-degree nozzle is usually the wand for general cleaning and paint stripping without damaging the surface of the home. Experiment with an optimal distance of the washer wand to get the desired cleaning effects without causing any damage. Work using a horizontal and slightly downward angle to avoid driving water up under the siding of a home.

Avoid spraying any electric wires or components on the home. Also, try not to spray upward, and angle the spray away from doors, windows and vents.

Some washers have reservoirs that will hold a detergent solution. Choose the right detergent for the job. Keep in mind that cleansers containing bleach can damage surrounding plants, so they may need to be covered while the washing takes place.

Avoid the use of ladders when operating a powerwasher. The push-back from the wand can cause falls. Instead, opt for an extension wand to address the upper reaches of a home.

Powerwashing a home is an effective way to remove stubborn grime and refresh the look of a home's exterior.

On behalf of the Key Advantage Team, we want to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all of those working in the front lines during this global pandemic.

We are grateful for each and every one of you for your courage, strength and hard work, for your ongoing fight against Covid 19 and continued care around the clock to keep our communities safe.

Thank you for all that you do!



Wonder What YOUR Home is Worth?
TOGETHER TO SERVE YOU BETTER



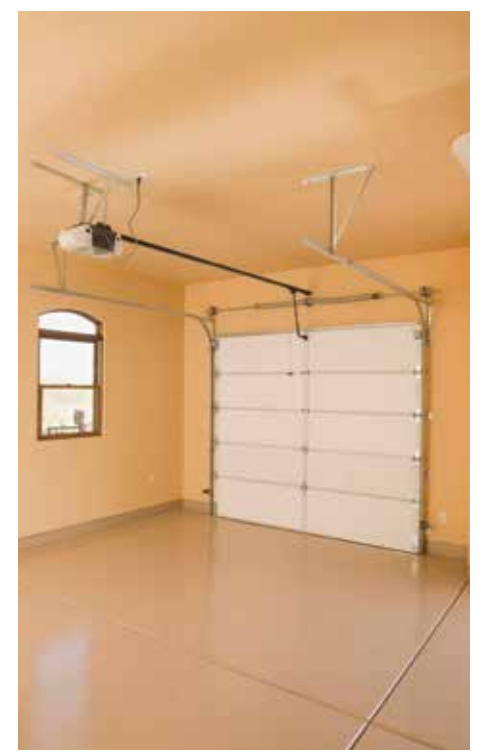
KEY ADVANTAGE Team

ROYAL LEPAGE
RCR Realty, Brokerage
Independently Owned And Operated

SUSIE STROM (Sales Representative) | **CAROLINE BAILE** (Broker)

905.836.1212 | info@KeyAdvantage.ca | www.KeyAdvantage.ca

7 things to consider when buying a shed



Make garage organization go smoothly

Garages tend to fall victim to disorganization during the winter, when homeowners want to hurry inside and get some respite from the cold. As a result, many homeowners resolve to clean their garages come springtime.

Cleaning a disorganized garage overcome with clutter can be an all-day job, so homeowners would be wise to reserve a springtime Saturday or Sunday to get their garages back in order. Upon designating ample time to clean their garages, homeowners can then utilize a few additional tips to make the project go as smoothly as possible.

EMPTY THE GARAGE. The first step when organizing a garage is to empty it completely. Old machinery and rusted lawn and garden tools have a way of disappearing in garages, and those items may remain there for years if the garage is never emptied. Once you have emptied the garage, you might be surprised to learn just how much or even how little space you have to work with.

CLEAN THE GARAGE TOP TO BOTTOM After you have emptied the garage, give it a thorough cleaning. Cleaning the garage serves multiple purposes. A clean garage is less likely to be overcome with dirt and/or critters, both of which can contribute to the deterioration of tools and machinery stored in the garage. In addition, you may be less likely to let a clean garage fall back into disorganization, saving you the trouble of reorganizing the garage next spring.

LOOK UP Many homeowners fail to make adequate use of the vertical space in their garages. But keeping items off the floor can make it easier to clean the garage and will provide more room for your car or other machinery you don't want to leave in the driveway or a backyard shed. Install shelves so you can more safely store automotive fluids and cleaners, and hang some hooks or hammer a few nails into the garage walls so you can hang tools like rakes and garden shears.

GROUP TOOLS BY SEASON Grouping tools by season can make for a more organized garage and one less likely to be overcome with clutter. Designate one corner of the garage for lawn and gardening tools and another for winter tools like snow shovels or snow-blowers. This makes it easier to find tools when you need them. When grouping tools, you can also group items by who uses them. For example, parents can designate one area of the garage for their tools, while kids can get their own area for their toys and bicycles.

RESOLVE TO PARK IN THE GARAGE One of the best ways to keep a garage organized is to park your vehicle or vehicles inside the garage each night. Parking in a garage protects your vehicle(s) from the elements, and you also won't be tempted to leave items lying around on the garage floor if you know you will eventually be pulling your vehicle in.

A few simple strategies can make springtime garage organization more effective and efficient.



BACKYARD SHEDS can be useful assets. Sheds can create storage space in the garage, basement or other areas of the house that have become gathering spots for gear typically used outdoors. Sheds are ideal for housing mowers, tools and even pool-care equipment. But they can be put to other uses as well, such as being key spots to engage in hobbies or even as a child's clubhouse.

Various factors should be considered before building or buying a shed. A storage shed can be a significant investment. Once placed, sheds may remain in their dedicated spots for years to come. That means careful thought should go into the planning process.

1 Check your local building codes first. Before you accumulate building materials or order a shed, be sure to know the ins and outs of shed codes. The codes may impact the shed's placement, construction, the materials used, size, and numerous other factors. It's much easier to amend plans beforehand than to face the hassle and expense after learning you did things incorrectly.

2 Choose placement wisely. Spend several days assessing the yard and thinking about the uses for the shed. If you plan to store pool floats and chemicals inside of the shed, it should be located close enough to the pool to be convenient. Look at the lay of the land. If there is a soggy patch of land that can turn swampy under the shed's foundation, that is a poor location choice. If you need access to electricity, placing it far away from the house could necessitate running expensive wiring.

3 Consider the design. Just because a shed is for storage doesn't mean aesthetics should be overlooked. Choose a shed style that complements your home. You may also want to match certain architectural features, like arched doorways or dormers. Design also may relate to practicality. For instance, storing a riding mower inside may necessitate dual doors that open widely.

4 Invest in quality materials. Spending a little more and using quality materials can ensure it lasts long enough to be cost-effective. The right materials will be resistant to splitting, cracking, decay, and insect damage.

5 Prepare the site well. A proper foundation for the shed is almost as important as the shed itself. You cannot just drop the shed on the lawn and leave it, as the shed can sink or structural issues may arise if it is placed on a weak base.

6 Blend into the environment. Surround the shed with shrubs or plants so that it blends into the yard and complements the space.

7 Deck out the interior. Use every storage tool at your disposal to maximize floor, wall and even rafter space for storage. Plan where items will be kept and customize the storage options around those locations.

Sheds can be an asset and improve storage capability in the backyard.



**Experience and Integrity
You Can Trust**

**King City, Vaughan, and
New Tecumseth, Ontario**

Tel: **905-833-9090**

Fax: **905-833-9091**

Email: info@blacklawoffice.ca

**Real Estate Transactions
Corporate ♦ Wills ♦ Estates
Probate ♦ Family ♦ Immigration**



www.blacklawoffice.ca



Here's How

COVID 19: WHAT WE ARE DOING

AS PER THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT,

AURORA HOME BUILDING CENTRE WILL REMAIN OPEN AS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE TO SERVE OUR CUSTOMERS.

HERE IS HOW WE ARE CHANGING WITH COVID19 TO SERVE YOU:

- **IN ORDER TO PROTECT CUSTOMERS AND STAFF, WE ARE LIMITING ACCESS TO OUR STORE.**
- **NEW STORE HOURS ARE MONDAY TO FRIDAY 7:00AM TO 6:00PM
SAT 8:00AM - 5:00PM SUNDAY 10:00AM TO 4:00PM**
- **WE ENCOURAGE CUSTOMERS TO PLACE ORDERS FOR PICKUP IN THE STORE PARKING LOT OR DELIVERY TO YOUR JOB SITES. DELIVERIES WILL BE MODIFIED TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING.**
- **WE ARE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING RETURNS OF PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED PRODUCTS.**
- **WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE AS WE CONTINUE TO WORK THROUGH THESE DIFFICULT TIMES.**
- **TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER AND STAY SAFE! WE AS A COMMUNITY CAN GET THROUGH THIS IF WE ALL DO OUR PART!**
- **FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR NEW PROCEDURES. PLEASE CALL 905-727-4751**

289 WELLINGTON ST. EAST L4G 6H6, AURORA

How to control crabgrass before it appears

HOMEOWNERS who enjoy tending to their lawns know that grass is vulnerable to a host of problems, many of which appear at a time of year when lawn enthusiasts want to showcase the fruits of their lawn-and-garden labours.

Crabgrass is a common problem that appears in summer. According to Lowes, crabgrass plants produce thousands of seeds between midsummer and early fall. While



the first frosts of late-fall or early winter kill the crabgrass plants, the seeds produced by the plants remain dormant throughout winter and then begin to grow as the ground temperature warms up with the spring and summer thaw. As a result, controlling germination, which is the development of a plant from a seed or spore after a period of dormancy, is the key to preventing crabgrass from becoming an unsightly blemish that can harm your lawn in summer.

A proactive approach to crabgrass can save homeowners the headaches of dealing with this unwanted guest taking over their grass. The following tips, courtesy of Lowes, can help homeowners reduce the likelihood of their lawns being overcome by crabgrass as summer hits full swing.

- Recognize that routine lawn maintenance may not be enough. Even lawns that receive sufficient TLC can fall victim to crabgrass. A proactive, crabgrass-specific approach to lawn maintenance is the most effective way to control the problem before it pops up.

- Apply a pre-emergent herbicide. Pre-emergent herbicides kill crabgrass seedlings as they germinate. While these herbicides are highly effective, they must be applied at precisely the right time. The right time to apply them depends on weather patterns. For example, Lowes notes that homeowners who live in regions that might have experienced warmer than usual winters will probably need to apply the herbicides earlier than usual. While the manufacturer instructions should always be followed when applying herbicides, it's essential that homeowners take weather patterns into consideration as well.

- Wait until the ground temperature rises above 60 F. Applying herbicides when the ground temperature is below 60 F might render the products ineffective. Gauging soil temperature can be tricky, but Lowes advises monitoring shrubs and trees on the property. Once shrubs begin to bloom and trees bud, herbicide can be applied.

- Wait when treating newly seeded lawns. Pre-emergent herbicides might kill new grass seedlings, so homeowners with newly seeded lawns should wait until they have mowed their lawns three times before applying a herbicide.

- Emphasize uniform application. If a herbicide is not applied uniformly across the lawn, crabgrass can establish itself and ultimately spread to the rest of the lawn.

- Do not thatch or aerate after applying a herbicide. Thatching or aerating a lawn after applying a herbicide might break the product's chemical barrier, thereby rendering it ineffective.

Crabgrass can quickly spread on an untreated lawn. A proactive approach that prevents its growth can keep lawns looking great through summer.

Real Estate Market Update – Aurora

Safety First before Home Sales

March home sales rose by almost 19 per cent across York region with 1403 homes sold, a trend of growth established early in 2020. Average home pricing across York was 10 per cent higher at \$1,038,598 than prior year.

Across the neighbourhoods of Aurora 93 homes sold for an average price of \$1,009,804 an almost 17 per cent spike from 2019 and all indications showed a welcomed improvement in consumer confidence in real estate across most of York region. The month ended with less than a 3 month supply of homes for sale inventory to select from at this current demand. On average it took 15-20 days to sell what was available and Seller's on average received the full asking price. There were 181 homes placed for sale in March and at the commencement of April 164 were available for sale.

The story doesn't end there as the month of March was the timing of a huge disconnect in the strong market action defined as the pre-COVID-19-period and post-COVID-19 affecting some communities greater than others. Across Aurora, 36 homes sold in the final 16 days of the month; classified as the post-COVID-period by the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board which was on par to the market activity for the same timeframe of 2019.

With a state of emergency called due to the COVID-19 pandemic the message globally, federally, provincially and locally has been clear to place safety first and make social distancing the top commitment in a united effort to flatten the curve or spread of COVID-19. The Canadian federal government classified real estate amongst the 75 businesses that are deemed as essential services to remain open for business. This classification does not mean that business is as usual. Call a REALTOR® today and discuss any concerns, plans and needs in real estate and be sure to seek an understanding of how they can serve safely, virtually and share their COVID-19 best practice protocols.

– Written by Connie Power

Connie Power is an Assistant Manager and Sales Representative CNE® SRS® ABR® SRES®, for RE/MAX Hallmark York Group Realty Ltd., Brokerage serving York region and beyond in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Empowering you in Real Estate, Call Connie today to make an appointment to discuss your next move at (905) 726-0856.

*The statistics provided herein were obtained from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board; Summary of Existing Home Transactions of all home types, March 2019 and 2020 for all TRREB Areas.

***Not intended to solicit those currently under a real estate contract.



MULTIPLE ZONING

Premium location at Yonge & Kennedy St in Aurora Village complete with R-5 zoning for potential home business or multiplex. Inviting front wrap around porch, 4 bedrooms plus 2nd floor den with enclosed porch. New family room addition with in-floor heating open to the kitchen and overlooking the large private 132 foot lot. Renovated kitchen boasts centre island, quartz counters & breakfast bar. Renovated master ensuite & w/in closet, updated electrical & more! Steps to Yonge St. Incredible opportunity! **\$1,050,000**



GATED COMMUNITY LUXURY

Upscale living & mntce free lifestyle in Aurora's gated community. Enjoy sunset vistas in the backyard overlooking protected woodlands & golf course. Elegant open concept design bungalow with huge main fir master suite + 2 bedrooms and open loft on 2nd floor. Prof. fin. open basement with 2nd gas fireplace, main fir laundry with direct access to double garage & heated interlock drive. Vaulted ceilings, granite counters, wrought iron staircase, hrwdvds & more. Bright, open & airy is the best way to describe this beautiful home. **\$1,080,000**



Monica Stohr

30 Award Winning Years
National Chairman's Club

#1 Individual in Aurora
#7 Individual in Canada
Top 1% in Canada

Direct 416-618-1714
www.monicastohr.com

*Based on GCI for Royal LePage YCR 2018 GCI **Based on GCI for Royal LePage Canada 2018



KING LUXURY LIVING
Buy or Sell with
Re/Max Hallmark Trends Group Realty
Your Source for Everything King

Want to talk real estate from the comfort of your home?

We are offering our services with as little contact as possible using a virtual platform for those that "Need" to buy, sell or help with financing.



Ana Pronio, Broker of Record
C. 416.528.0330
ana@trendsrealtyinc.com



Maria Ongaro, Broker
C. 289.221.4564
maria@trendsrealtyinc.com



Jasmine Smith, Sales Representative
C. 416.993.7173
jasmine@trendsrealtyinc.com



Sal Zappulla, Sales Representative
C. 416.562.6846
sal@trendsrealtyinc.com



Lucy Brocca, Sales Representative
C. 905-833-0111
lucy@trendsrealtyinc.com



Franca Malfara, Sales Representative
C. 416-605-5378
franca.malfara@gmail.com



Raffaele Tomasone, Sales Representative
C. 416-896-2911
raffaele@trendsrealtyinc.com



905-833-0111
www.trendsrealtyinc.com



WHAT'S YOUR HOME WORTH?
Call us for a "Virtual"
Current Value Assessment