

## **Tips To Help Sell Your Home**

Thinking about selling your home? The Professional Landcare Network (PLANET) provides easy ways to increase interest in your home.

Curb appeal is extremely important. If buyers don't want to stop at your house, you have no chance of them ever seeing the inside of the house or the backyard.

The Professional Landcare Network offers homeowners ways to improve their front lawn and landscape.

**Create clean bed lines and mulch.** Properly edged beds and new mulch will go a long way to improving the way your yard looks. To have this done professionally will cost approximately \$45 to \$70 per cubic yard of mulch, which covers about 10 feet x 12 feet.

**Plant new trees and shrubs.** Replace any dead or dying trees or shrubs. Plant new trees and shrubs to create focus areas, camouflage foundations and old fencing, or unsightly views. The cost to have this done professionally is \$100 and up, depending on shrub and tree sizes.

**Have your trees and shrubs professionally pruned.** Remember when your mom tried to cut your hair? Do-it-yourself pruning can result in disaster if you go shear happy. Professionals know what to cut and what time of the year is best to prune each plant. The cost to have this done professionally is \$40 to \$60 per hour.

**Add color.** A well-designed container at the front entry will add a burst of energy and warmth at your front door. A flowering plant around a curbside mailbox will give your yard a finished look. And you can always pop some bright colorful annuals into your beds. The cost to have this done professionally is \$20 to \$300 for a do-it-yourself container and plants.

**Pay attention to your lawn.** Mow, edge, and trim your lawn and get rid of the weeds. Purchase and install sod in areas where there are bald spots. The cost to have this done professionally is \$25 to \$60 to mow a 5,000 square foot lawn; \$50 to \$65 for fertilizing and weed control on a 5,000 sq. foot lawn. Sod costs \$12 to \$15 per square foot.

**Power wash walkways, driveways, and front porches.** Power wash those areas that have become tracked with dirt. This can be professionally done for \$500 or under, depending on the amount of work needed.

**Paint the house foundation.** A neutral color will cover up outdoor dirt and scuffs and provide an attractive backdrop for foundation plantings. It will cost approximately \$250 to \$500 to have this professionally done, depending on the house size.

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**Be proactive.** With more than 30 million acres of lawns across the United States, PLANET reminds homeowners to proactively care for their landscapes and lawns. Have a landscape professional and/or lawn care specialist inventory your property. Professionals will be able to diagnose and treat conditions before they start.

In addition to the aesthetics, healthy lawns and landscapes provide environmental benefits. Lawns filter rain water as well as dust and dirt in the air. Plants help to purify the air. And, a well-landscaped and well-cared for lawn can increase property values and help a house sell faster.

To find a PLANET professional in your area, visit [LandcareNetwork.org/findaprofessional](http://LandcareNetwork.org/findaprofessional), or call the PLANET office at (800) 395-2522.