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'Debris everywhere'

By LISA TALLYN
Staff writer

At about 8:20 a.m. Ken Allan of Trafalgar Rd. was at the end of his driveway picking up his morning paper.

"I heard a tremendous bang," said Allan who looked in the direction of the noise. "I saw a tire flying through the air and debris everywhere."

Allan said he saw a truck on its side and at that point didn't realize any other vehicles were involved in the accident. He ran back to his home, called 911 then went back to the scene of the accident.

"A fellow came running down the road and told me to get back because there might be an explosion. I didn't even realize a bus was involved."

Allan said the police were on the scene quickly and the first ambulance arrived shortly after.

Dick Appleyard, another Trafalgar Rd. resident who lives just south of the crash, was in the shower when he heard "a hell of a bang."

"It was an awful noise, it just sounded like an explosion," said Appleyard. Appleyard said he observed later at the scene about 10 visibly shaken passengers of the bus were brought into his son's driveway adjacent to the crash scene to rest.


Ernie Pearce, 82, was among the passengers on the bus heading for cottage country Wednesday. Pearce had a window seat about halfway back opposite to the driver's side.

"I didn't really know what happened," said Pearce. "I felt the brakes go on and stretched my neck over the seat and saw a dump truck turning into a driveway. The next thing I knew there was an ungodly crash."

Pearce said there was broken glass everywhere and when he looked up the whole front end of the bus was gone.

"It didn't seem like very long for the emergency people to get there," Pearce said the passengers couldn't get off the bus until the emergency workers arrived.

Turf Tips



Duncan Atkinson
Eileen Atkinson

SHOULD I BAG MY GRASS CLIPPINGS?

Is it better to leave grass clippings on the lawn, or is it better to take them off? I am asked this question on a regular basis, and my answer is always the same. If you can see the grass clippings clumping on your lawn, then remove them. If not, leave them on the lawn to return valuable nutrients back into the soil.

Before you can begin leaving grass clippings on your lawn, you must first maintain healthy lawn care practices. It is also essential that your lawn receives 3/4" of water twice a week, and is mowed at least once per week. Ideally, lawns should be mowed every 4 to 5 days. This will reduce the length of the grass clippings, and subsequently speed up the rate of decomposition. Also, don't forget to keep your mower blade razor sharp.

Grass clippings are a valuable resource to your lawn. They contain over 4% nitrogen, 2% potassium and .5% phosphorus -- all of which are essential plant nutrients. They are also the three main nutrients found in fertilizer. Grass clippings are also between 20% to 30% protein. The protein is rapidly attacked by soil bacteria and fungi resulting in fast decomposition. As a result, grass clippings do not contribute to thatch.

Bagging grass clippings began in 1950. Since then, the bagging of grass clippings has become a standard practice. However, now that research indicates grass clippings are beneficial to your lawn, mulching mowers have appeared on the market.

NEXT TIME: Turf Grass Scale

Weed Man®

WE CARE FOR YOUR LAWN
This is a weekly lawn care column.
For additional information contact Duncan or Eileen
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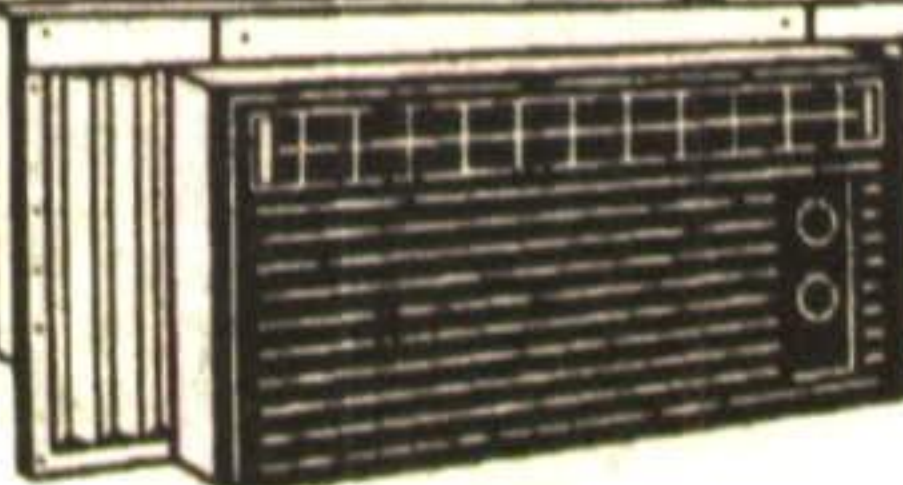


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