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Mike Hebrard is a whiz at painting colorful logos on athletic fields, so when a friend asked him to paint a special design on his lawn, Mike gave it a try. Now his "lawn art" is a common sight in and around Portland, OR. Mike, owner of Athletic Field Design, Clackamas, OR, says some of the requests he gets for lawn art are, well . . . different.

Landscape spending rises in 1998

American homeowners spent a record $16.8 billion for professional landscape/lawn care/tree services last year — a 32% increase in the average amount spent per household. The latest Gallup Survey results, sponsored by a consortium of green industry associations, noted that spending jumped $2.2 billion in 1998.

Landscape installation and construction activities had the largest growth, with a jump of $2.7 billion in spending (a 48% rise in average amount per household). The survey was conducted by the American Nursery & Landscape Association, the International Society of Arboriculture, the Associated Landscape Contractors of America, the Professional Lawn Care Association of America, the National Arborist Association and the National Gardening Association.

Grab Bag features brief observations and prognostications throughout the green industry. If you have an unusual photo or comment you'd like to share with us, please send it in...
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