

# New Yard Care Technology Helps Older Adults Maintain Outdoor Spaces

Source: [Foster Stubbs](#), August 12, 2024

It's no secret that most seniors want to age in place, but there is an often-overlooked obstacle in the way. And it's a big, green, grassy one. As many homeowners get older, the lush lawns they brag to their neighbors about become harder and harder to maintain. Ken Kohlmann, vice president of [Yarbo](#), witnessed this firsthand and sought to find a solution.

"Two of my uncles passed from Parkinson's," Kohlmann told *McKnight's Home Care Daily Pulse*. "Through that, they lost their independence and they could do less and less, but the lawn still had to be cut; you still have to remove snow from the driveway. Our CEO [of Yarbo] had a couple friends who actually passed away from heart attacks [while] doing snow removal and so we really wanted to come up with a product that could help people."

Kohlmann and Yarbo's solution comes in the form of a [modular yard robot](#), Yarbo Core, that can be used for a variety of functions across all seasons from mowing the lawn to blowing snow. The user can change the functionality of the core robot by adding and removing attachments, a quick and simple process.

"We have different treads that you could put on it whether it's for the snow or for the lawn," said Kohlmann. "You can hook up the leaf blower to the front or the back but the nice part is you can have the lawn mower hooked up and the blower on the back [simultaneously]. So for the whole summer, you don't have to change modules and when you do have to change modules, it's easy."

The [Yarbo Core](#) is currently listed at \$3,499 by itself or with attachments in packages ranging from \$4,199 to \$4,700. While there are no current partnerships with Medicare or insurance, Kohlmann sees it as a possibility as the company progresses further. He believes that by taking care of these potentially-strenuous outdoor tasks, the Yarbo robot will provide peace of mind for its senior users.

"It would be incorrect to say it's going to replace every aspect of your yard care," said Kohlmann. "But what we want to do, especially for someone that's elderly, is give them their independence back and to take the physical aspect off of it. So if their robot can go out during the snowstorm, they can sit inside and enjoy the snowfall, have a coffee or a hot chocolate. They don't have to worry about going out and slipping on the ice or trying to maneuver a heavy snow blower."

*Home Sweet Home is a feature appearing Mondays in McKnight's Home Care Daily Pulse. The story focuses on a heartwarming, entertaining or quirky happening affecting the world of home care. If you have a topic that might be worthy of the spotlight in Home Sweet Home, please email Special Projects Coordinator Foster Stubbs at [foster.stubbs@mcknights.com](mailto:foster.stubbs@mcknights.com).*