

LAWN CARE CALENDAR

SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER
<p>Start a new lawn from seed. Don't wait too long; your lawn needs to get established before summer arrives.</p> <p>Renovate: Dethatch, aerate compacted soil, and remove perennial weeds. Overseed with seed mix suited to your site and top-dress with compost.</p> <p>Prevent annual weeds, such as crabgrass, from sprouting with a pre-emergent herbicide.</p> <p>Begin mowing to about 3 inches high. Do not remove more than a third of height at one time. Recycle grass clippings onto the lawn.</p> <p>Fertilize in April with a slow-release or organic fertilizer. You can add another light layer of compost to help reduce heat stress during summer.</p> <p>Test your soil: Grass loves a pH of about 6.5. Add lime to raise pH if necessary.</p> <p>Treat for moss if necessary.</p>	<p>Mow as needed: During hot, dry periods, lawns may only need mowing once every two or three weeks. In cooler, moister weather, you may need to mow every week.</p> <p>Water wisely: Allow your grass to take a summer nap if you don't mind it turning brown. (You can reduce watering to once a month.) When the rains come later, it'll go green and start growing again. OR...give your lawn about 1 inch of water a week. Frequent shallow watering encourages thatch rather than rhizomes beneath the soil.</p> <p>Attack grubs: If lawn grubs are an issue in your lawn, prevent further damage by applying grub-control product that continues to work throughout the season. The best time to do this is in early June.</p>	<p>Fall feedings: If you only fertilize your lawn once a year, this is the best time to do it. In fact, your lawn would appreciate a light application of organic fertilizer in early fall and again in late fall.</p> <p>Aerate: If you didn't de-thatch or aerate in spring and your lawn needs it, do it now. Install new seed or sod lawns about a month before frost date. Top dress with compost and keep well watered.</p> <p>Continue mowing: As temperatures cool, your lawn will grow faster again. Lower mower height to 2-3 inches. Keep mowing regularly through the end of the season.</p> <p>Attack perennial weeds: Many perennial lawn weeds, such as dandelions, are most susceptible to attack in fall. Treat them with a broadleaf herbicide or pull them by hand.</p> <p>Try to avoid Weed-and-Fed-type products: They spread pesticides on the whole yard, not just the weeds, and are an unnecessary expense.</p>	<p>Rake leaves and other debris off lawn.</p> <p>Turn off irrigation systems.</p> <p>Clean/service mower and other tools.</p> <p>Avoid walking on frozen lawn.</p>