



Turf Tips

Spring (March-May)

SHARPEN MOWER BLADE

Dull blades can cause a lot of harm to the grass whereas a sharp blade allows a cleaner cut and faster recovery time.



MOW HIGH & FREQUENTLY

Set mower height to 3 1/2"-4" for optimal results. Mowing 2x weekly will avoid removing more than 1/3 of the grass blade. Mowing too short or removing too much grass during mowing can cause discoloration of the grasses as well as make it more susceptible to turf diseases and insects.



DO NOT BAG

Removing clippings can take away as much as 60% of the fertilizer applied on a yearly basis! Additionally, lawns require organic matter for rebuilding the soil, and the clippings help provide it.



EDGING

Limit edging to when it's absolutely necessary. Edging too frequently allows grassy and broadleaf weeds an opportunity to attack.



WATERING

Typically not needed before May



Summer (June-August)

MOW HIGH

Cut grass at 3 1/2"-4" once weekly, no shorter. Avoid removing more than 1/3 of the grass blade.



DO NOT BAG

Avoid bagging grass clippings. If clumps are left behind, spread evenly throughout the lawn.



WATER

Watering 2x weekly for 30-45 minutes, preferably in the morning, will help your lawn stay healthy during hot periods. Water is an essential component for a healthy lawn. Without it, your lawn can succumb to heat/drought stress, turf diseases, as well as making it easier for insects to damage the grass.



WEED EATING/TRIMMING

Avoid cutting the edges short near walks, driveway(s), and around your home. Doing so can encourage grassy and broadleaf weeds to attack as well as make these areas more susceptible to heat/drought stress and turf diseases. Instead, cut the grass evenly with the rest of the lawn.



Fall (September-November)

SHARPEN MOWER BLADES

The general rule is to sharpen your mower blades every 25 hours at a minimum, but this is definitely not a universal rule.



MOW HIGH & FREQUENTLY

Set mower height to 3 1/2"-4" until seasonal growing ends. Mowing 2x weekly to avoid removing more than 1/3 of the grass blade. Avoid a common mistake of cutting the grass short as this creates less opportunity for photosynthesis to take place.



Do Not Bag

Mulch the grass clippings. Do not leave leaves unattended as this can prevent photosynthesis from occurring. Thus causing the areas to thin, or worse, die off. Additionally, heavy leaf debris provides a perfect habitat for mice and voles.



AERATE AND SEED

Aeration helps with alleviating soil compaction allowing more air, water, and nutrients to get to the grassroots. This also is the best time to seed to fill in thin and bare spots - leaving fewer spots for weeds to attack the following season.



WATER NEW SEED

Water 2x daily; once in the morning (15 minutes), and once in the early afternoon (15 minutes). The goal is to keep all seed "damp" without drying out within the germination period - which is generally 14 days.



Winter (December-February)

WINTERIZING YOUR LAWN

By this time we've completed your winterization application. However, "some companies" will attempt to sell you additional late season applications (ex. Root Builder) when not necessary. Most importantly, whenever the ground is frozen, minimizing foot traffic is essential! When the grass is frozen and you or equipment goes through it, the grass breaks causing damage to the plant!



SNOW REMOVAL

Avoid piling snow in one area as this can create compaction of the soil as well as encourage winter turf diseases like snow mold.



SALTING

Common rock salt can cause damage to grass and other vegetation. Instead, use calcium chloride as this is less likely to harm vegetation and is more pet-safe compared to other salts.



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