

Lawn Care By The Month

Here is a guide for caring for your turf areas. If you follow these recommendations, you should have a beautiful, healthy, environmentally friendly lawn for about two cents per square foot per year.

DECEMBER/JANUARY: Be sure you have raked all the leaves off your lawn and avoid walking on frozen turf.

FEBRUARY/MARCH: Control moss with Bonide's 'Moss Max'. Only fertilize if your lawn really looks pale. Do not mow too close, two inches high is best for most grass varieties.

APRIL/MAY: Dethatch, aerate, apply lime and over-seed if needed. Apply E.B. Stone Organic's 'Nature's Green Lawn Food' if you haven't yet. Trap moles now or try to repel them with a castor oil product. Control red thread with Infuse's fungicide 'Serenade' and by improving drainage and good fertility.

JUNE/JULY: Feed again, only if you are not happy with the color. Spot treat for broadleaf weeds such as clover, dandelions, etc. Do not use a weed and feed. Water an inch per week, letting the ground dry out slightly between waterings.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER: Make a second application of an organic lawn food, if you didn't in May, June or July. Late August through September is another great time to aerate, dethatch, lime and over-seed.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER: Apply organic lawn food, only if you did not in August of September. Watch for new mole activity and trap them if necessary. October is the last chance to over-seed or plant a new lawn. Control red thread if it shows up again.

Remember, gardening is relaxing and therapeutic. A well-maintained lawn can serve as a bio-filter for pollutants, a receptor for rainfall and a great place to recreate. Enjoy and get gardening!