

LAWN CARE

Fertilizer Timeline

Early Spring

Crabgrass Pre-emergent fertilizer is recommended to prevent crabgrass.

Mid to Late Spring

Weed-N-Feed fertilizer is recommended for an early feeding and weed control.

Mid Summer

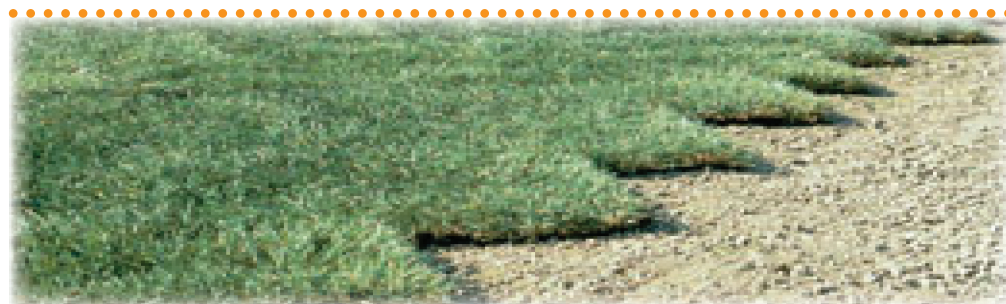
Insect Control fertilizer is recommended

Fall

Winter fertilizer is recommended for the last feeding of the season and to encourage stronger roots and earlier greening in the spring.

- All applications should be at least 6 weeks apart
- If you are planning to overseed your lawn, you must wait 4-6 weeks after a Weed-N-Feed application.
- All of the above items and more can be found at Bromm's Garden Center.

Sod Installation



The following steps are instructions to prepare a lawn for sod installation to ensure quality growth for a lasting lawn.

- Remove any existing grass, weeds, and large rocks.
- Fill in low spots, ruts and dips with bagged topsoil which can be purchased with sod.
- Level the area smooth with a hard rake.
- Spread starter fertilizer on area to be sodded, follow the directions on the package. Greenyard Fertilizer in a 50 lb bag and Shultz Fertilizer in a 18 lb bag can be purchased in our Garden Center.
- Lay sod in a straight line, staggering the seam as you go.
- Use sod pins on sloped areas to help stabilize sod until it has rooted. Sod pins can be purchased in our Garden Center.
- Trim edges using a spade or knife.
- When finished laying the sod, water thoroughly. See Watering Guidelines.

Checklist

- ☐ Sod
- ☐ Bagged Topsoil
- ☐ Hard Rake
- ☐ Sod Pins for slopes (optional)
- ☐ Gardening Gloves
- ☐ Spade or Knife
- ☐ Fertilizer
- ☐ Hose and Sprinkler

All of the above items and more can be found at Bromm's Garden Center.





Fertilizer Timeline

- Mow Frequently (every 4-7 days)
Springtime requires more frequent cutting because a large percent of total growth occurs in the spring
- Never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade, otherwise stress will result in browning
- Cut at a height of 2.5 to 3 inches.
Mowing at these heights allows your lawn to shade out newly germinated weed seeds, and forces weeds like dandelions and plantain to grow more upright, resulting in more removal of weed leaf area when the lawn is mowed. Turf grass root depth is also deeper in lawns that are mowed high.
- Mow in different patterns to avoid rutting or tire marks. Going over the same set of tire marks compact the soil and inhibits good turf growth.
- Sharpen the blade regularly. A dull blade creates a ragged cut that caused the lawn to look brown.
- Mow when the lawn is dry because it is difficult to get a clean cut when the lawn is wet.
- Make your last cut before winter short: 2 – 2.5" (inches) high.

Prior to dormancy (browning) the following occurs:

- **Foot printing-** foot prints and lawnmower tracks do not bounce back
- **Premature wilt-** the lawn takes on a smokey blue color

If these symptoms occur, this is a sign that your lawn needs water immediately to avoid drought dormancy.

Watering Guidelines



For Newly Sodded Areas

- Using a lawn sprinkler, thoroughly water newly sodded area enough to soak through to the soil beneath the sod
- If the area is too large to water all at one time, place sprinkler on farthest spot and pull sprinkler by the hose to the next spot.
- Be sure to water all areas well. Each area should receive 60 minutes of water during the initial watering followed by 30-45 minutes of water during each additional watering.
- Water daily, or as needed during very hot weather, for the first two weeks or until sod has rooted (when you can no longer pull up the corners of sod).
- Once the sod has rooted in, water deeply as needed. Bromm's recommends once or twice per week for one hour per area.

For Established Lawns

- Apply 1 inch of water, once per week in early morning (vs. mid-day or evening)

Avoid watering in the afternoon because a large percentage of the water is lost to evaporation. Avoid evening watering because the lawn will remain wet for 12-15 hours, until the following morning sun dries off the lawn. This prolonged wet period can increase fungal disease incidence.

- Increase watering frequency during hot periods

To maintain a lush lawn during hot periods of the summer more frequent applications are required. Generally one application of water every 4-5 days is adequate.

It's important to remember that you can over water a lawn as well, so allow the surface (1 inch of soil) to dry out between watering. By allowing the surface to dry out, this encourages the grass plants to grow roots deeper into the soil, making your lawn more drought tolerant.