Winterize Your Lawn

When you hear me say, "It's time to apply a winterizer to your lawn." Does that confuse you? You might think, "Why would I apply this NOW? Shouldn't it be applied in the winter?" Well, oddly enough, the answer is "No. You need to apply a winterizer to your lawn in the FALL."

There are two main components to a winterizer. First is the fertilizer, and second is the pre-emergent herbicide.

Have I already further confused you? Are you thinking, "Why is there fertilizer in a winterizer!? My grass really isn't growing a lot in the winter anyway."

You're right! Ideally, your grass is not growing at all in the winter. Have you ever seen a weed-free, brown lawn during the month of January? The only way to achieve that is by starting NOW. The fertilizer in the winterizer will help your lawn to grow more roots over the next several weeks. Your lawn will go dormant over the winter, and in the spring, when it 'wakes back up' – it will have a nice healthy root system to start the season off strong!

The other component to the winterizer is the pre-emergent herbicide. This is the component that suppresses the weeds during the winter. Without this part, you're pretty much out of luck! We live in a climate where weeds grow wild during EVERY month of the year. So, you NEED this part. Fertilome makes two different kinds of winterizer. One that is simply fertilizer, and one that is fertilizer plus dimension. The only reason I would recommend that you do not apply the one WITH dimension, is if you've already recently applied dimension to your lawn, or if you plan to over-seed your lawn with ryegrass during the winter months. Dimension can't tell the difference between weed seeds & grass seeds, so be careful!

If you're still lacking clarity, give us a call! We'll point you in the right direction. Either way, just remember, it is important to apply a winterizer NOW, in the fall – despite having the word 'winter' in the name.

Written by John MacMillan