



Is your lawn ready for the Summer?



As temperatures start to rise and days get longer, it is time to start thinking about getting your lawn ready for the summer. Below are some tasks that can be completed to help improve the health and beauty of your lawn.

Rake & Dethatch

Raking removes left over fall leaves and grass blades that did not survive winter. Mechanical rakes/dethatchers are available for rent for larger lawns. Use a spring-tine rake with a strong upward pull to remove dead grass. Rake when soil is not soft and muddy to reduce the amount of healthy grass that can be damaged when the soil is wet and easy to pull out roots.

Aerate & Overseed

Aerating your lawn is great for promoting root growth and relieving compaction. How often you should aerate your lawn depends on soil type and how you use your lawn. Fall is the best time for cool-season types. But if you didn't get to it last fall, you can tackle it in early spring.

Fill bare or thin spots in the lawn by overseeding. Choose a seed that will work in your lawn, whether it is shaded or full-sun area will determine which type of seed you will need. When you overseed, apply a quality starter fertilizer.

Fertilize & Weed

Apply fertilizer in the spring after the chances of a frosty morning have diminished. Apply fertilizer too early in the spring and you risk feeding weeds and creating fertilizer runoff before the lawn has a chance to soak it in. Now is a good time to start weed control. When the weeds are small and not fully grown, they are easier to control.

Water

Don't wait to inspect your irrigation system. Getting it ready for the summer should happen in the spring to allow time for any adjustments and repairs/upgrades that need to be done. Having a properly functioning irrigation system is key for a healthy lawn.

Mow

Start mowing when the ground is dry enough and grass is long enough to require cutting. Cut at the proper height for your type of grass. Avoid mowing too low. Grass cut too short allows sunlight to reach soil, encouraging weed seeds to germinate. It also favors shallow root development, which makes the lawn more easily susceptible to drought stress.

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