

Lawn care tips for a healthy lawn

We provide services to many property owners who mow their own lawns and hire Lawn Lad just for Turf Care and Turf Management services. We want to help you keep your lawn looking great, even if we don't provide all your services, by providing helpful information and consultation when you need it.

Let us help you

We have itemized some basic tips for mowing and routine landscape maintenance. Refer to other information located on our website under the Learning Center (www.lawnlad.com).

Mowing Tips:

- Keep mower blades sharp. Sharpen mower blades at least twice per season
- Mow the lawn as tall as possible (at least 3 inches) to crowd out weeds and keep turf healthy
- Change the direction of travel with each mowing
- Remove no more than a third of the grass plant at any one time
- Mow the lawn more than once a week if necessary to observe the one-third rule
- Disperse and break up clumps of grass left on the lawn after mowing. Use mulching attachments to recycle the clippings into the lawn. You may have to mow more frequently to get the clippings to blend into the lawn. Catch the grass if there will be too many clippings left on the lawn.
- Cut less frequently in shady lawn areas and let the grass grow taller, making more of the grass blade available to sunlight
- Avoid mowing when the lawn is wet, which will create foot or wheel impressions in the soil and will compact the soil



Watering Tips:

- Begin watering your lawn in early to mid May or as the weather dictates and be ready to water into late fall if it is dry
- It takes 25% more water to keep a lawn green than it does to make a lawn green after it has gone into dormancy
- Water in the morning or early afternoon. Avoid leaving your lawn wet overnight to prevent disease
- Lawns need approximately 1 inch of water per week. Measure your sprinkler output over a period of time to determine how long you need to water to achieve an inch of water. Break this up

into two or three waterings during the week to avoid puddling and run off.

- Puddling in the lawn means the soil is either saturated or that water is being applied faster than the lawn can absorb it. If you find puddling or water running off the lawn, then cut back on your waterings to avoid wasting water and damaging the turf.

Other important cultural practices:

- Aerate the lawn at least once per year
- De-thatch or verti-cut if the thatch layer is half an inch or more
- Clean up leaves and other debris from the lawn to prevent the lawn from being smothered