

HOW TO MAINTAIN AN TRADITIONAL WARM SEASON LAWN

Follow these easy steps to maintain a beautiful warm season lawn.

January

- Bring in a sample of soil for a complimentary pH test. Apply Mag-i-cal to adjust pH properly.

February

- **Weed Control** - Apply your pre-emergent this month, to prevent unwanted grasses and broadleaf weeds such as henbit and chickweed. We recommend Hi-Yield Dimension.
- **Irrigate** after application. Apply a post-emergent solution to control broadleaf weeds that are actively growing. We recommend Ferti-lome Weed Free Zone.
- **Fertilize** - DO NOT USE products that contain fertilizer during this month.
- **Check pH** - Apply Mag-i-cal if needed.

March

- **Mow** around mid-month to remove dead top growth. Do not mow below 1/2 inch. Rake and remove mowed debris to prevent thatch buildup.
- **Irrigate** - Give your lawn between 1/4 and 1/2 inch or water if we have not had sufficient rainfall.
- **Control Weeds** - Apply a pre-emergent now if you did not do so in February.

April

- **Mow** regularly to recommended height. If you have a Zoysia lawn, use a bag on mower or rake cuttings after mowing.
- **Irrigate** - Apply one inch of water per week if we have not had sufficient rainfall.
- **Fertilize** - Apply when your lawn is 50% green.
- **Control Weeds** - DO NOT USE post-emergent weed control this month. It could harm young growth.
- **Control Insects and Diseases** - Begin treating for white grubs this month with Milky Spore or Grub Free Zone.

May

- **Mow** regularly at recommended height.
- **Irrigate** - Apply one inch of water per week if we do not receive sufficient rainfall.
- **Fertilize** - Early, if you did not do so last month.
- **Aerate** - Core aerate during the second half of the month. Check your pH at this time and apply lime if needed.
- **Dethatch** with vertical mower or dethatcher if you have more than 1/2 inch of thatch buildup.
- **Control Weeds** - Apply second application of pre-emergent during the second half of the month, water after application. Control established weeds with post-emergent spray or pull by hand.
- **Control Insects and Diseases** - Inspect lawn regularly and treat if needed.

June

- **Mow** regularly at recommended height.
- **Irrigate** - Apply one inch of water per week if we do not receive sufficient rainfall.
- **Aerate** - Core aerate if desired.
- **Control Weeds** - Apply pre-emergent if you did not do so last month. Treat established weeds with post-emergent spray.
- **Control Insects and Diseases** - Inspect lawn regularly and treat if needed.

July

- **Mow** regularly at recommended height.
- **Irrigate** - Apply one inch of water per week if we do not receive sufficient rainfall.
- **Fertilize** - Apply this month.
- **Aerate** - Core aerate during this month only if you did not apply a pre-emergent last month. Remember to water well before aerating.
- **Dethatch** - Watch for thatch build-up, especially in Zoysia lawns. Do not dethatch if you used a pre-emergent in June.

The logo for McDonald Garden Center, featuring the name in a stylized script font inside a white leaf-like shape.

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August

- **Mow** regularly at recommended height. Use a bag while mowing or rake afterwards if you have a Zoysia lawn.
- **Irrigate** - Apply one inch of water per week if we do not receive sufficient rainfall.
- **Fertilize** - Apply mid-month.
- **Aerate** - Core aerate if desired.
- **Dethatch** - Inspect lawn for thatch build-up. Remove thatch build-up with dethatcher if needed. Remember regular mowing prevents buildup.
- **Control Insects and Diseases** - Inspect lawn regularly and treat if necessary.

September

- **Mow** regularly at recommended height. Once soil temps drops below 70 degrees allow lawn to grow to three inches in preparation for winter dormancy, this is usually towards the end of the month.
- **Irrigate** - Apply one inch of water per week if we do not receive sufficient rainfall.
- **Fertilize** - If you did not apply last month, do so now.
- **Control Weeds** - Apply pre-emergent near the end of the month. If you are planning to overseed with Annual Rye for winter color do not apply pre-emergent.
- **Control Insects and Disease** - Warm season lawns are susceptible to both this month, treat if necessary.
- **Overseed** - Can over seed late in the month with Annual Rye grass for winter color, for all but Zoysia lawns.

October

- **Mow** - Allow lawn to grow to three inches in height in preparation for winter insulation.
- **Irrigate** - Apply one inch of water per week if we do not receive sufficient rainfall.
- **Control Weeds** - Apply pre-emergent. Treat established weeds. Do not use weed killers on your lawn if you have overseeded with Annual Rye.
- **Fertilize** - Apply Winter Survival.

November

- **Mow** - Lawns overseeded with Annual Rye to 2 ½ inches. Lawns not overseeded should be allowed to grow to 3 inches for winter insulation.
- **Control Weeds** - Apply pre-emergent to dormant lawns. Do not use a pre-emergent if you plant to overseed.
- **Overseed** - You can still overseed all by Zoysia lawns this month.

December

- **Mow** overseeded lawns to two inches.
- **Control Weeds** - You may apply pre-emergent.

Recommended Mowing Heights:

	Mow to:	Mow when:
Common Bermuda	2"	3"
Hybrid Bermuda	1-1.5"	1.5-2.5"
Centipede	1.5-2"	2.25-3"
St. Augustine	2.5-3"	3.75-4.5"
Zoysia	1-2"	1.5-3"

Traditional Recommended Products:

PRE-EMERGENT:

Hi Yield Turf & Ornamental
Weed and Grass Stopper

POST-EMERGENT:

(Early Spring & Fall Season) Ferti-lome Weed Free Zone
(Summer) Weed Out with Crabgrass Killer
Atrazine

FERTILIZER:

Ferti-lome Classic Lawn Food

INSECTICIDE:

Hi Yield Turf Ranger
Grub Free Zone
Milky Spore

FUNGICIDE:

Ferti-lome Liquid Systemic Fungicide
Ferti-lome F-STOP

Read and follow all directions on any product that you use on your lawn.