



Featured Article

SPRING LAWN CARE

Frost regularly occurs in our area starting in the fall and continuing until spring. Lawns start to turn yellow and shrubs show signs of browning leaves. For those of you who were not fortunate to get a dose of fertilizer down before the onset of the frost, here are some tips on how to get your lawn looking healthy again.

In addition to the yellowing of your lawn, there are a significant number of dead grass blades, especially in the high traffic areas. While the lighter green grass will bounce back with fertilization, the dead grass must be removed to avoid thatch buildup.

To remove the dead grass, start by mowing your lawn at a lower cutting height than you would normally use. Make sure your lawn is not wet – the dryer the lawn, the better the results. The mowing action itself will pick up a lot of the dead material. However, to get what the mower has left behind and to pick up the dead blades the mower has skipped over, lightly rake the lawn with a leaf (fan) rake. Collect the loose material and place it in the green waste receptacle or compost bin.

Once you have completed the task, put down an application of fertilizer. Remember, the higher the first number on the fertilizer bag, the higher the nitrogen count, which will bring back that deep green, healthy color to your lawn. Check with your local nursery or garden supply store for the best fertilizer to use. A light topdressing of compost or topsoil is also beneficial.

Spring is also a good time to aerate and fill in the bare spots. A healthy lawn in the spring will last through the summer and will help to cut down on your watering needs.