

# GRASS

---

## GUIDE



**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW  
FOR A LUSH, GREEN LAWN**



04

**EASY-TO-FOLLOW  
PROGRAM STEPS  
FOR A LUSH LAWN**



A great-looking lawn isn't rocket science, but it is a science. It is an understanding of the natural process of grass and the appropriate application of the right products at the right time.

We are proud to offer Family Tree Nursery Solutions, a line of high-quality, university tested products that are scientifically developed to deliver a lush, green lawn.

Having a beautiful lawn doesn't need to take all your time and money. Let Family Tree Nursery help you successfully produce a luxuriant lawn.





FAMILY TREE NURSERY

# SOLUTIONS

THE PRESCRIPTION FOR THE PERFECT LAWN

## CRABGRASS PREEMERGENT + ECO-FRIENDLY LAWN FOOD

### PROGRAM STEP

# 01



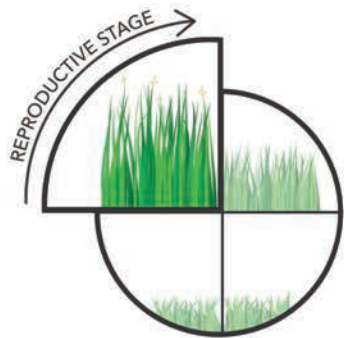
## HEALTHY SPRING LAWN STEPS

Grass naturally wants to grow tall and reproduce during springtime. Using a fertilizer with too high nitrogen will cause excessive top growth without adding to the root development. The result is extra mowing and added stress to the lawn. It also creates an environment that is inviting to disease and fungus. Our **Solutions Crabgrass PreEmergent + Eco-Friendly Lawn Food** contains the ideal amount of slow-release iron and organic nitrogen that contributes to a thick green lawn without undesirable consequences.

**01** Apply one application of our **Solutions Crabgrass PreEmergent + Eco-Friendly Lawn Food\*** anytime between March and mid-April.

- \* The preemergent in this product works to prevent crabgrass and over 30 other weeds.
- \* This product contains a high-iron fertilizer with organic nitrogen that promotes a thick, green lawn without excessive mowing.
- \* Use a broadcast or rotary spreader to administer the product. Apply 1/2-inch of water within 24 hours of application.

**02** Spray any breakthrough weeds as they emerge with a **broadleaf weed killer** (available at all of our locations).





FAMILY TREE NURSERY

# SOLUTIONS

THE PRESCRIPTION FOR THE PERFECT LAWN

## GRUB CONTROL + ECO-FRIENDLY LAWN FOOD

PROGRAM STEP

# 02



## SUMMER MAINTENANCE STEPS

At this time of year, grass continues in its reproductive stage and has been busy using up its stored energy. It is also getting ready to enter the stress of summer. Following the below steps will help restore energy, strengthen the grass, and protect it.

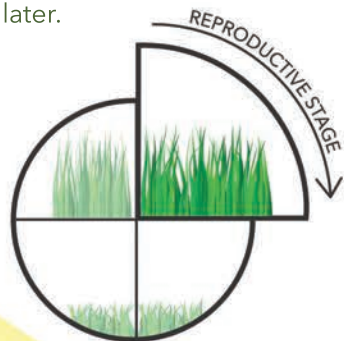
### 01 Apply one application of our **Solutions Grub Control + Eco-Friendly Lawn Food\*** anytime between May and July.

- \* Our product controls grubs known to feed on the roots of grass. If left untreated, grubs can cause damage to the lawn in the form of unsightly dead patches where they have been feeding.
- \* This product provides organically complex iron to your lawn and promotes a long-lasting, deep green color. Its slow-release nitrogen formula promotes even growth, rather than sudden growth. This results in less mowing and better root development.
- \* Use a broadcast or rotary spreader to administer the product. Apply 1/2-inch of water within 24 hours of application.

### 02 Spray weeds regularly with a **broadleaf weed killer** (available at all of our locations).

### 03 Mow your grass at a higher setting (4-inches for fescue). Having taller grass during the summer will help to prevent weeds and protect the lawn's roots from the harsh summer heat.

### 04 Lawn disease is at its peak during the summer months. Apply a preventative application of **systemic fungicide** (available at all of our locations) in early to mid-June. If needed, apply a subsequential application 3-4 weeks later.





FAMILY TREE NURSERY

# SOLUTIONS

THE PRESCRIPTION FOR THE PERFECT LAWN

## FALL REJUVENATOR + SEED STARTER

PROGRAM STEP

# 03





## FALL REJUVENATION STEPS

Fall is the time of year that grass enters its vegetative state. Grass begins to focus its energy on storing nutrients and recovering from the stress caused by the summer. Applying an application of our **Solutions Fall Rejuvenator + Seed Starter** will replenish your lawn with much-needed food. As a result, grass will recover quicker and grow stronger with deeper roots before the winter months.

September is also the best time of the entire year to seed your lawn. Soil temperatures remain warm from the summer months, while cooler air temperatures and gentle rains get ushered in. An ideal environment is created for grass seed to germinate quickly and take root. The Seed Starter element in our product will aid new grass seeds in this process.

**01** If you are seeding or overseeding your lawn, follow the steps on page 14 before moving to the next step. If seeding is not required, you can proceed to step 2 below.

**02** Apply one application of our **Solutions Fall Rejuvenator + Seed Starter\*** anytime between September and early October.

- \* This product delivers Axilo® for a burst of complete micronutrients to revitalize your lawn. It also provides AFT technology that encourages root development. Finally, this product distributes sulfur that aids in the unlocking of soil nutrients and polymer-coated urea with both fast-acting and slow-release nitrogen, resulting in a thicker, greener lawn.
- \* Use a broadcast or rotary spreader to administer the product. Apply 1/2-inch of water within 24 hours of application.





FAMILY TREE NURSERY

# SOLUTIONS

THE PRESCRIPTION FOR THE PERFECT LAWN

## WINTERIZER

PROGRAM STEP

# 04



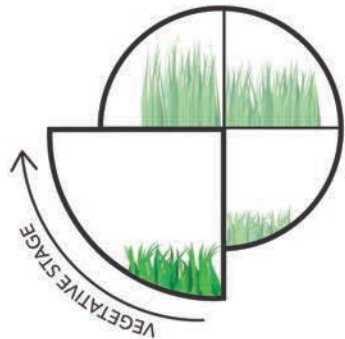
## WINTER PREPARATION STEPS

During October and November, grass continues storing nutrients in preparation for the winter months. Late fall through early winter, grass naturally grows roots, crowns, and rhizomes. Fertilizing grass at this time of year is extremely important. By feeding your lawn with our **Solutions Winterizer**, grass will produce thicker roots, stronger leaf blades, stronger crowns, and more aggressive rhizomes. The result is winter-hardiness and a lush green lawn in spring.

**01** Apply one application of our **Solutions Winterizer\*** anytime between mid to late October.

- \* This product consists of a non-phosphorus formulation that is environmentally friendly. It delivers ammonium sulfate for enhanced micro-nutrient uptake and absorption. Its high-nitrogen content promotes heavy root and stem development.
- \* Use a broadcast or rotary spreader to administer the product. Apply 1/2-inch of water within 24 hours of application.

**02** Apply a second application of our **Solutions Winterizer** four weeks after the first application to promote maximum root and stem development for a thick spring lawn.



# LEARN ABOUT THE GRASSES

**Bluegrass Blend:** Bluegrass is a fine-bladed grass that makes for a luxurious lawn. It spreads readily with underground stems known as rhizomes. This allows it to form a thick turf and gives it the ability to repair itself and quickly fill damaged areas. During extreme heat or prolonged drought, bluegrass can go dormant but will return quickly with watering and cooler temperatures. Our **Solutions Bluegrass Blend** has been university tested and its varieties have been specifically chosen for performance and beauty.

**Fescue Blend:** Fescue is a great turf grass for the Kansas City area. It develops a deep root system that allows it to tolerate both heat and drought. Fescue grass is also great for handling high foot traffic. Our **Solutions Fescue Blend** has been university tested and its varieties have been specifically chosen for resilience and heat tolerance.

**Fescue Blue Mix:** As the name suggests, our **Solutions Fescue Blue Mix** is a combination of fescue and bluegrass seed. These two types of grass work together as the fescue offers durability and drought tolerance, and the bluegrass spreads to fill in the areas around the fescue. Fescue and bluegrass also work together to keep diseases from wiping out an entire lawn. For instance, bluegrass is resistant to brown patch disease and interrupts it from spreading amongst the fescue blades, while fescue will keep dollar spot disease in check.

**Shady Mix:** Our **Solutions Shady Mix** is our most shade-tolerant mix, requiring only three or more hours of sunlight to grow. This mix is ideal for seeding around or under full trees or other areas that receive low light. Our Shady Mix contains a blend of fescue, a blend of bluegrass, and ryegrass which promotes a quick green, beauty, and durability.



# WHAT ABOUT ZOYSIA GRASS?

Zoysia is a warm-season turfgrass known for its vigorous, spreading growth habit. It is a low-maintenance grass and is tolerant of both heat and drought, has low water needs, is disease resistant, and is virtually free of weeds. Warm-season grass actively grows, starting in late spring and peaks during the hot summer months. One downside is that it rapidly changes from green to brown at the first sign of cool weather.

Zoysia can produce a beautiful lawn, but it does have a different care schedule than cool-season grasses like fescue and bluegrass. Apply a high-nitrogen fertilizer in May after it has turned green and is actively growing. Apply a second application of high-nitrogen fertilizer one month later.

Zoysia has very few pests or disease problems. However, it does have the potential to get chinch bugs or develop zoysia decline. Chinch bugs kill sections of the lawn by injecting a toxin into the grass blade. When this happens, remove dead patches and apply a topical insecticide. Zoysia decline is simply the process of zoysia getting old and dying out. Rip out affected areas and replace them with fresh sod. Aerate every three years to keep thatch to a minimum and prevent zoysia decline.

## STARTING ZOYSIA GRASS

Zoysia is purchased and started as plugs or in pads instead of by seed. You will need to measure the area to determine how many plugs you need. A general guideline is a plug every 12 to 18 inches. However, planting closer or staggering plants will help them fill in faster.

Treat the area to kill any existing grass or weeds, then rake smooth and water the space to be plugged.

Dig holes with a plugger tool for the placement of each zoysia plug. When planted, water daily for a week or two until established. May through July is the best time for planting.

# SEEDING THE LAWN

## *September* IS THE BEST MONTH OF THE ENTIRE YEAR FOR LAWN RENOVATION!

Fall is Mother Nature's natural time of year to seed. The cooler air temperatures, shorter day lengths, and warm soil temperatures create the ideal environment. Seeding in the fall will ensure quick germination. It also allows grass to grow for up to 3 months before winter and become well-established before the stress of summer.

### CHECKLIST FOR SEEDING YOUR LAWN

- Mow your lawn short and bag the clippings.
- Verticut or rake area to be seeded; de-thatching will improve seed contact with soil.
- Sow seed with a spreader for even application.

Overseeding	Bare Soil
Bluegrass 1lb per 1,000 sqft	2lbs per 1,000 sqft
Fescue 5lbs per 1,000 sqft	10lbs per 1,000 sqft
- Apply one application of our **Solutions Fall Rejuvenator + Seed Starter**.
- Top dress with peat moss or straw to keep grass seed in place and to help lock in moisture.
- Water 2-3 times a day until the seed germinates. This step is critical. Grass seed can never dry out during the germination process, or it will die.
- Do not apply any weed killer until after the new grass has been mowed twice.

# PROPER WATERING

Proper watering is crucial to maintaining a healthy lawn. Generally, 1-inch of water per week is sufficient, although certain factors like slope, soil type, and competition can affect the needed amount and frequency. The key idea is to water less often but more thoroughly. When watering, it is important to apply enough water to replenish the moisture in the soil and then wait several days before watering again. Use a rain gauge to calculate the amount of time your sprinkler needs to run to deliver an inch of precipitation.

Try not to water daily. This method of watering promotes shallow rooting and can cause fungus to grow. Ideally, you want to water the grass very thoroughly (at least 1-inch of water) and then allow the soil to dry out several days before watering again. By doing this, grass develops a deeper root system and becomes more drought tolerant.



# SPRING & SUMMER LAWN CARE

## MARCH

- Apply our **Solutions Crabgrass PreEmergent + Eco-Friendly Lawn Food** to feed your lawn and prevent over 30 weeds.
- Spray breakthrough weeds as they appear with a **broadleaf weed killer**.

## APRIL

- Apply our **Solutions Crabgrass PreEmergent + Eco-Friendly Lawn Food** if you haven't yet already.
- Spray weeds as they appear with a **broadleaf weed killer**.

## MAY

- Apply our **Solutions Grub Control + Eco Friendly Lawn Food**.
- Spray weeds as they appear with a **broadleaf weed killer**.

## JUNE

- Apply our **Solutions Grub Control + Eco Friendly Lawn Food** if you haven't yet already.
- Spray weeds as they appear with a **broadleaf weed killer**.
- Apply a **systemic fungicide** at a preventative rate.

## JULY

- Apply at least **1-inch** of water per week.
- Apply a second application of **systemic fungicide**.
- Spray weeds as they appear with a **broadleaf weed killer**.
- Spray emerging nutsedge with **Sedgehammer**.

## AUGUST

- Spray any remaining weeds with a **broadleaf weed killer**. Allow 4-6 weeks after applying herbicide before seeding and renovating the lawn in September.



# FALL & EARLY-WINTER LAWN CARE

## SEPTEMBER

- Renovate and seed your lawn (See page 14).
- Apply our **Solutions Fall Rejuvenator + Seed Starter** to supply and replenish nutrients to your lawn.

## OCTOBER

- Apply the first application of our **Solutions Winterizer** four weeks after new grass has emerged (if the lawn is newly seeded) or four weeks after applying our **Solutions Fall Rejuvenator + Seed Starter**.

## NOVEMBER

- Apply the first application of our **Solutions Winterizer** if you haven't yet already, or apply a second application. Allow four weeks between each application.

## DECEMBER

- Apply a second application of our **Solutions Winterizer** if you haven't yet already, or apply a third application, if desired.

**MARCH**  
*through*  
**APRIL**

**MAY**  
*through*  
**JULY**

**SEPTEMBER**  
*through*  
**OCTOBER**

**OCTOBER**  
*through*  
**NOVEMBER**



# COMMON LAWN PROBLEMS



## **HENBIT** (Annual Winter Weed)

- If not seeding, you can prevent annual winter weeds by applying our **Solutions Pre-Emergent** in the fall.
- Spot spray with a **broadleaf weed killer**.



## **CHICKWEED** (Annual Winter Weed)

- If not seeding, you can prevent annual winter weeds by applying our **Solutions Pre-Emergent** in the fall.
- Spot spray with a **broadleaf weed killer**.



## **SPURGE** (Broadleaf Weed)

- Prevent in early spring by applying our **Solutions Pre-Emergent**.
- Spot spray with a **broadleaf weed killer**.



## **CLOVER** (Broadleaf Weed)

- Spot spray with **Spurge Power** 2-3 times or until weeds have died. Allow about two weeks between spray applications.



## **WILD VIOLET** (Broadleaf Weed)

- Spot spray with **Spurge Power** 2-3 times or until weeds have died. Allow about two weeks between spray applications.



## **PURSLANE** (Broadleaf Weed)

- Prevent in early spring by applying our **Solutions Pre-Emergent**.
- Spot spray with a **broadleaf weed killer**.



### **DANDELION** (Broadleaf Weed)

- Spot spray with a **broadleaf weed killer** before they go to seed.



### **CRABGRASS** (Grassy Weed)

- Prevent in early spring by applying our **Solutions Pre-Emergent**.
- Spot spray with a **crabgrass killer**.



### **NUTSEGE** (Grassy Weed)

- Spot spray with **Sedgehammer** 2-3 times or until weeds have died. Allow 1-2 weeks between spray applications. Do not pull nutsedge as this will cause it to multiply.



### **DOLLAR SPOT** (Fungus)

- A lawn disease that affects bluegrass. This can be identified by its brown patches and circling bands. Use a **systemic fungicide** at the curative rate every 14 days until clear.



### **BROWN PATCH** (Fungus)

- A lawn disease that affects fescue. This can be identified by its large brown patches. Use a **systemic fungicide** at the curative rate every 14 days until clear.



### **GRUB** (Insect)

- Dead patches that pull away like carpet are most often caused by grubs. Apply our **Solutions Grub Control** between May and July for prevention.



---

[FAMILYTREENURSERY.COM](http://FAMILYTREENURSERY.COM)

---

### **OVERLAND PARK**

8424 Farley St.  
Overland Park, KS 66212  
(913) 642-6503

### **SHAWNEE**

7036 Nieman Rd.  
Shawnee, KS 66203  
(913) 631-6121

### **LIBERTY**

830 W Liberty Dr.  
Liberty, MO 64068  
(816) 781-0001

