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**Walk Test**

Walk across your lawn and look back. If you can see your footprints after a few minutes, your grass needs water.

# THE *Greenscapes Guide* TO LAWN CARE

## Early Spring (April)

- ✓ Test your soil.
- ✓ If tests indicates, add compost, lime and other soil amendments.
- ✓ Start new compost bin/pile.
- ✓ Remove leaves and add to compost bin.
- ✓ Apply corn gluten for crabgrass control. Do not apply at same time as seeding.

## Late Spring (May-June)

- ✓ Rake to remove thatch build-up
  - ✓ Re-seed bare patches and top-dress with 1/2" compost
  - ✓ Sharpen mower blade if needed and reset height to 3 inches
  - ✓ Leave clippings on the lawn
  - ✓ Apply compost tea
  - ✓ Pull weeds by hand or treat with white vinegar
  - ✓ Plant native, drought-tolerant plants
  - ✓ Mulch gardens
  - ✓ Top-dress lawn with 1/2" compost
- Aerate and water compost pile  
Before Memorial Day, no need to water in average years  
After Memorial Day, conduct Walk Test and water if thirsty



### Your Lawn at Dawn

Watering at daybreak is by far the most effective and helps to prevent the growth of fungus.

## Summer (July - August)

- ✓ Allow grass to go dormant during dry summer days
- ✓ Aerate and water compost pile
- ✓ If grubs, treat with beneficial nematodes
- ✓ Routinely conduct Walk Test and water if thirsty (but obey watering bans)
- ✓ Continue to pull weeds of treat with white vinegar

## Fall (September - October)

- ✓ Sharpen mower blades and keep height to 3 inches
- ✓ Leave clippings on the lawn
- ✓ Apply corn gluten to control next year's crabgrass (do not apply at same time as seeding)
- ✓ Overseed with drought-tolerant grass seed (includes mostly tall fescue seeds)
- ✓ Do last mowing of the season at 2" height

Fall is the best time to start or renovate a lawn!

- ✓ Top-dress lawn with 1/2" compost
  - ✓ Aerate compacted areas
  - ✓ Rake leaves; use as mulch and/or add to compost
- Until Labor Day, conduct Walk Test and water if thirsty (obey watering bans)  
After Labor Day, no need to water in average years