

TIPS FOR IMPROVING THE LONG TERM HEALTH OF YOUR LAWN.

Proper care of an established lawn does more than affect the immediate appearance of the turf; it also affects the turf's long-term health and ability to resist pest attacks. Follow this tip to help meet these goals.

FERTILIZING

The single most important thing you can do for a lawn is to provide it with proper nutrition. In fact, fertilizing is the cheapest and easiest way to impact a lawn.

Grass plants require 16 elements essential for growth and development. Three of these; carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen are readily available from air and water. The rest must come from soil and/or fertilizer. Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium are three main elements that have a major impact on plant growth and are represented in commercial fertilizers as N:P:K. The numbers on the bag represent the proportions of these nutrients. For example; a 21-7-7 formulation contains 21% nitrogen and 7% of each of phosphorus and potassium. The remaining trace elements and micronutrients also play a significant role in turf grass growth, but are required in far smaller amounts.

NOTE:

- Nitrogen (N) to promote leaf growth
- Phosphorus (P) for root growth
- Potassium (K) which is essential for stress resistance

Fertilizers with a slow-release form of nitrogen are preferred because they release nutrients slowly and uniformly over a period of time. (OVER)

Fertilizers can come in many formulations and types.

They can be synthetic, organic, or a combination of the two. The difference is that synthetic fertilizers tend to feed the plant and organic fertilizers tend to feed the soil. Synthetic Fertilizers (slow release) provide a predictable, slow release of nutrients so that turf growth is uniform throughout the season.

Continued:

SUPPORTED BY:



Organic Fertilizers offer many benefits. Most have soil-building properties, improving its structure and organic matter content, in addition to providing nutrients. They release nutrients slowly, so plants have a steady supply of “food” through the growing season. They often contain valuable micronutrients and growth hormones that help to strengthen the plants.

Fertilizer must be applied evenly and at the proper rate to prevent burning or leaving stripes on the lawn. Autumn fertilizing stimulates a lawn to become thick and strong rather than increasing top growth. During the cooler days between August and November plants begin storing nutrients and sugars for the upcoming winter. It is building up its reserves, which will speed up the lawn greening up in the spring.

**CONTACT YOUR FULLY LICENCED IPM ACCREDITED LAWN CARE PROVIDER
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THEIR TURF MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

SUPPORT BY:

