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 turfgrass 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)

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