

NATURALLY HEALTHY: LAWN MAINTENANCE TIPS

MOW HIGH

ADJUST YOUR MOWER BLADES TO CUT YOUR GRASS TO A HEIGHT OF 6 TO 8 CENTIMETERS (2.5 TO 3 INCHES) INSTEAD OF TO THE LOWEST SETTING. CUTTING AT THIS HEIGHT, INSTEAD OF SHORTER, PROMOTES GROWTH, PREVENTS WEEDS, AND DISCOURAGES INSECT PESTS.

KEEP MOWER BLADES SHARP

THIS WILL KEEP TURF LOOKING NEAT (EVEN WHEN MOWED AT A HIGHER HEIGHT), MAKE MOWING EASIER, AND REDUCE TEARING THE BLADES OF GRASS WHICH CAN PROMOTE LAWN DISEASE.

FEED

LEAVE GRASS CLIPPINGS ON THE LAWN, AND ADD COMPOST OR AN ORGANIC, SLOW RELEASE FERTILIZER TO PROVIDE NUTRIENTS TO THE TURF AND SOIL PROMOTING LAWN HEALTH.

AERATE

AERATE YOUR LAWN EVERY COUPLE YEARS (IDEALLY IN THE FALL) TO ELIMINATE THATCH, AND ALLOW OXYGEN, MOISTURE, AND NUTRIENTS TO PENETRATE THE SOIL EASILY AND REACH THE GRASS ROOTS.

SEED

ADD GRASS SEED TO THINNING OR BARE PATCHES OF LAWN TO PROMOTE RE-GROWTH. FOR ESPECIALLY TOUGH SPOTS YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE TO GRASS OPTIONS.



NATURALLY HEALTHY: LAWN MAINTENANCE TIPS

CHECK

CHECK YOUR LAWN OFTEN TO DETECT PESTS AND OTHER PROBLEMS EARLY.

KEEP IN MIND THAT THE MAJORITY OF PESTS ARE ACTUALLY NECESSARY AND BENEFICIAL TO MAINTAIN A HEALTHY TURF (LIKE LADYBUGS AND PARASITIC WASPS) AND . INVASIVE AND INFESTATIONS OF PESTS CAN OFTEN BE AVOIDED BY REMAINING DILIGENT AND PROMOTING OVERALL SOIL AND LAWN HEALTH BY FOLLOWING THE ABOVE TIPS.

SET REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

A PRISTINE TURF IS RARELY ACHIEVABLE WITHOUT THE APPLICATION OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDES. A TRULY GREEN LAWN IS A DIVERSE ONE. OFTEN PLANTS THAT ARE CONSIDERED WEEDS ARE BENEFICIAL AND A MODERATE PRESENCE OF THESE TYPES OF PLANTS ACTUALLY HELP KEEP YOUR GRASS LOOKING LUSH AND GREEN DUE TO THEIR HEARTY CHARACTERISTICS. FOR EXAMPLE, CLOVER IS AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF LAWN HEALTH AS IT IS DROUGHT TOLERANT, AND EARTH WORMS LOVE IT MEANING IT PROMOTES OXYGEN, MOISTURE, AND NUTRIENT RETENTION IN THE SOIL.

*What is a weed? A plant whose
virtues have not yet been discovered.*

*-Ralph Waldo Emerson,
Fortune of the Republic, 1878*