

The Basics:

1. Mowing

All lawns need some management.

This quick reference guide is designed for the homeowner who doesn't have a lot of time to "baby" their lawn –but wants it to look good!

Bermuda lawns are popular and offer many advantages. Bermuda is drought and heat tolerant, grows in a wide range of soil conditions, and is pleasing to the eye.

This grass needs full sun (it does poorly in the shade), adequate watering and monthly fertilizing to look its best during the spring and summer months. During the winter, this grass goes dormant, turning brown.

Activities required include:

- Watering
- Fertilizing –twice a year only
- De-thatching
- Mowing
- Controlling weeds and pests
- Aerating

Improper watering, either too little or too much, or at the wrong time of day, is a major factor in having a poor lawn.

De-thatching is removing the accumulated dead plant tissue (thatch) from underneath the leaf blades. When thatch builds up, pests and diseases attack the turf.

Aerating is simply poking holes through the grass and into the soil, loosening the soil so that air, water, and roots will have some room. This can be done by renting a machine called an "Aerator", walking around with golf shoes on, or any other means of poking small holes through the grass into the soil.

Lawn Maintenance Schedule:

<i>Month</i>	<i>Activity</i>
January	Read some good books, volunteer at your favorite charity.
February	Kill summer weeds early-call the Extension office for the latest herbicide recommendations. Once the danger of frost has passed, de-thatch and aerate. Do this once before the grass turns green.
March	Kill summer weeds early-call the Extension office for the latest herbicide recommendations.
April	Water * see back panel De-thatch When the grass turns green it's called "green-up". Fertilize with 5 pounds of 16-4-8 per 1000 sq.ft. of lawn. Mow- 1 to 2 inches high
May	Water Apply insecticide to reduce billbugs Fertilize 6 lbs of 16-4-8 per 1000 sq.ft. of lawn Mow-1 to 2 inches high

<i>Month</i>	<i>Activity</i>
June	Water Apply insecticide for reduce billbugs Fertilize 6 lbs of 16-4-8 per 1000 sq.ft. of lawn Mow- 1 to 2 inches high
July	Water Fertilize 6 lbs of 16-4-8 per 1000 sq.ft. of lawn Mow-1 to 2 inches high
August	Water Fertilize 6 lbs of 16-4-8 per 1000 sq.ft. of lawn Mow-1 to 2 inches high
September	Water Fertilize 6 lbs of 16-4-8 per 1000 sq.ft. of lawn (Last time!) Mow-1 to 2 inches high

<i>Month</i>	<i>Activity</i>
October	Water Kill winter weeds sq.ft. of lawn