



Late Spring Turf Tips

Today's Service

Today we applied our second treatment of the season. Please check your invoice for the exact materials used on your lawn. Our regular service consists of a balanced fertilizer, a broadleaf weed control, a second crabgrass control, and as necessary we may treat for surface-feeding insects. For those customers who are scheduled for our next regular visit, it will be in approximately 8 weeks. At that time we will fertilize and/or apply a preventative grub control. Until then, if you notice any problems, please give us a call. If need be, we will come out to your property within 48 hours (2 working days) to address your concerns.

Important facts about today's service

- Rain will help move the fertilizer into place.
- Start a regular watering program before your lawn dries out.
- Mow properly, no shorter than 3 inches tall. Make sure to keep mower blades sharp. Sharpen mower blades every 7 to 10 mowings.
- **Do not bag and remove your grass clippings.** It is vitally important to your lawn's health that you leave the clippings on the lawn. By bagging when you mow, you remove organic matter, valuable nutrients in the grass clippings, and other valuable products we have applied.
- Delay seeding projects until late August. Pre-emergent crab grass control applied with our normal Early Spring application will also prevent grass seed from germinating.

Tick Season Is Here

Now is the smart time to get started on our tick control program.
Our annual 3 - application program targets ticks where they live.

Recognized Tick Habitats

- Woods are the most common deer tick habitat.
- Leaf litter and plant debris. Humid conditions found under leaf litter and plant debris is an ideal living environment for ticks.
- Overgrown fields and hedgerows. These provide a suitable habitat for both ticks and their hosts.
- Ground cover areas. Examples include mulch, ivy and pachysandra planting beds.
- Wood piles and stone walls provide a home for birds and rodents whom carry ticks.
- Bird feeders. Dropped seed often attracts small rodents and birds whom carry ticks.
- Edges where your lawn meet any of the above areas.





Sneak Preview of Our Next Service

“Summer and Grub”

Our next visit to your lawn consists of possibly two treatments. They are a Summer Fertilization and Preventative Grub Control. As a reminder, the grub control needs to be watered in after it is applied.

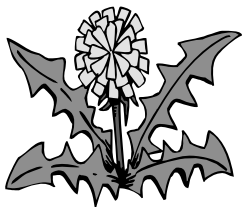
If you are not scheduled for our Summer Fertilization and Grub Control, you should consider scheduling these applications for your lawn. The last few years we have experienced many grub problems on lawns not treated preventatively by us, which caused permanent damage. The old saying “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” definitely applies to grubs. Once you have grubs it is very difficult to control them; grubs eat the root system and cause permanent turf damage causing you the added expense of reseeding.



Seed Heads



Grasses such as Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass will be producing seed heads. They look very similar to little wheat plants. Many of our customers call us for weeds all over their lawn when in fact their own lawn is trying to reproduce. This natural yearly phenomenon detracts from the appearance of a lawn because they grow quickly and unevenly. The most effective way to control seed heads is through mowing frequently with a sharp mower blade. After a few weeks of regular mowing, your lawn will return to normal.



Customers Ask Many Times: “Why do I have Weeds? You have already treated for them”



Broadleaf weeds have their seasons too. Different weeds come up at different times of the year, not all sprout in the spring. In fact many don't germinate until summer or even the fall. With these facts, a single application of broadleaf weed control will not give season long control. There is no preventative to keep them from sprouting up in your lawn. But once they are there we can apply a broadleaf weed control to control them. The key here is **control**; it is impossible to totally eradicate and maintain a totally weed-free lawn. We will do our best to keep any broadleaf weed population to a minimum. Once a broadleaf weed control is applied, it can take up to 14 days to see its effects. The weeds will still be present, initially they will start to curl, cup, and possibly start to turn brown. It will then take several weeks for the weed to die and decay to a point where it is not noticeable. If by chance it rains within an hour of a broadleaf weed control treatment, please give the weed control 10 days to work. If the weeds are not affected, give us a call; we will come back and retreat the weeds. Please don't pull weeds out by hand; they will re-grow. Service calls for our full service customers will be at no charge.



Watering Your Lawn - Made Easy

- Your lawn should receive 1" to 1½" of water per week.
- Best time to water is from midnight to mid-morning the next day.
- Apply enough water at one time to wet the soil to a depth of 6-8 inches.

#1 Mistake

The biggest mistake we see in watering with an underground sprinkler system is the frequency. Most people have their system set to go off every day or every other day for 20 min. Please change it to twice a week for 1 hr./zone. Then if it looks like more water is needed increase the time to 1½ hrs. Do not increase frequency by adding a day. Frequent, light watering does not get the water down to the roots where it's needed.



Water at least 1" once a week.

Not all grasses are created equal in color or looks!

Now-a-days, thanks to Rutgers University turf grass breeding program, there are hundreds of varieties, of several different grass types on the market, all varying in texture, blade width and most importantly, color. In the spring and summer is when these differences show up most dramatically. Color is usually the first characteristic noticed, followed by growth rate, then blade width. As the years go by, these different grasses continue to grow and possibly spread, causing patches of distinctly different looking grass in your lawn. All grasses produce seed that are spread by many different ways, (all beyond the scope of this article) that can change the overall makeup of a lawn in a few years. For an example, an all sod lawn can have other grass types encroach over the years. Eventually these grasses are noticed as an unwanted weeds, or even a different colored patch of grass when actually it is a normal turf grass variety, just out of place. To the right are examples of the four major grass types we encounter here in New Jersey in a home lawn. Most lawns are made up of several different grass types, and only when they don't match in characteristics is when you notice them.



Medium bladed
Blue and Rye Grass



Thick bladed
Tall Fescue



Narrow bladed
Fine Fescues

Nip Turf Diseases In The Bud

You've done everything right. Watering, mowing, and fertilizing on a regular basis; it's green, yet still, it's there: creeping, unwanted disease spoiling all your hard work. Combating any lawn disease begins with taking preventive measures to ensure the problem doesn't take hold. Since Fairway Green, Inc. may only see your lawn once every 8 weeks, when a client calls about brown spots (a disease outbreak), it may be too late. That's what makes having a preventive program in place so important. We've all heard the saying that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Our preventative fungicide program makes it possible to offer our customers a treatment plan that prevents most common summer turf diseases from occurring. For most common foliar diseases, one treatment a month from May through August is all that is needed.



Only \$10.00 / 1000 sq ft per
treatment. Minimum
\$65.00/ App.

Call today for an estimate on another quality service, and use the enclosed coupon as our Thanks for your continued support.

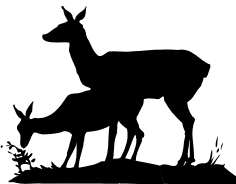
Tree and Shrub Customized insect and disease control; plus fertilization, and shrub bed weed management. All this while practicing an IPM approach and keeping our environment in mind.



Tick Control Three timely treatments to control ticks on your property.

Deer Repellent

Protect your valuable landscape! Six timely treatments to reduce deer feeding on your ornamental landscape plants.



Coupon
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**Save
\$40.00**

Off the 1st application with a new subscription to a Tree/Shrub, Tick or Deer service. Coupon cannot be applied to a currently active program. Must schedule 3 Tick, or 4 or more Tree/Shrub or Deer applications.
Excludes L1, MI,D1 & D2 Tree/Shrub Treatments

Disease Outlook

There are 3 major turf diseases we deal with at this time of year. Diseases flare up in your lawn when the proper conditions are present for disease development such as temperature, heat, humidity, wind, and rain.

A disease outbreak happens very quickly and prediction is difficult. There are two ways to approach diseases, preventatively and curatively. We offer a preventative service that requires 4 treatments 30 days apart. The second way is to deal with each disease outbreak as it occurs. When we visit your property we will diagnose current problems and indicate them on our lawn evaluation. We will also make recommendations on such things as watering, mowing, core aeration, disease treatments, and over-seeding.

- **Aschochyta** leaf blight is a common, usually not life-threatening disease, that occurs in the spring. Symptoms appear as uniform blighting of turf. Infected leaves typically appear “white” from the “tip down” and shrivel in. The fungus enters grass through wounds just after the grass is mowed. Your mower wheels very frequently spread this fungus to other parts of the lawn, many times causing blighting in a pattern where the tires traveled. Watering the affected area is the key to turf’s recovery. A few weeks of watering usually encourages sufficient recovery.
- **Red Thread** causes small patches of tan blighted leaves from 2 to 20 inches in diameter. Patches can coalesce to form large areas of unthrifty turf. Red antler-like threads protrude from the tips of blighted leaves. Tufts of pinkish mycelium may also be present. Perennial ryegrass is a very susceptible host. Red Thread appears from April thru June but we have seen it all the way thru October.
- **Leaf Spot** causes cigarette-type burns on leaf surfaces, which can coalesce into entire leaf blighting and thinning of turf density. There are several varieties in our area lasting from early spring thru mid-fall. Most severe cases are in areas of poor drainage that remain wet, with poor air circulation. Extended cool, wet overcast days favor spring varieties of this disease.

The bottom line is, we need you to call us when something does not look right with your lawn. Don’t hesitate, let Fairway Green diagnose the problem.