

Crabgrass



What is Crabgrass?

Crabgrass is a wide bladed grass that shows up each year starting in June. It is an annual plant that dies each fall when the first frost hits. Crabgrass leaves many seeds behind to germinate in the spring, these plants will be visible in late June.



Is It Crabgrass?

There are many other wide blade grasses that are mistaken for crabgrass. Many wide bladed grasses are perennial and are present year round. This is one way to recognize crabgrass; it dies each fall and reappears in June of each summer.



How to Prevent Crabgrass?

Prevention is the first line of defense in winning the war on crabgrass. There are two ways to prevent crabgrass.



1 Keep your grass thick and healthy.

Thick healthy grass competes against crabgrass. The best way to do this is through proper mowing, watering during dry spells/drought, fertilizing and over seeding/ slit seeding bare and thin areas.



2 Apply pre-emergence for crabgrass in the spring.

Apply pre-emergence for crabgrass in the spring, prior to germination. This is very effective, but has its limitations with weather. Excessive rain and even drought can cause failure.



3 Consider a reoccurring application.

Clients with a reoccurring crabgrass problem should consider an additional application of pre-emergence that would be applied approximately 30 days after their first application.



What If I Get Crabgrass After Prevention Efforts?

Even the best efforts can be spoiled by weather conditions. Excessive rains through spring can break down the protective barrier and very dry conditions can cause the ground to crack, allowing an unprotected spot for crabgrass to germinate.



If Brookside Lawn Service treated your lawn with the crabgrass prevention application during the first treatment of the year and you are on Brookside Lawn Service's 5 or 7 step program, we will spot treat any crabgrass that appears in your lawn, at no charge.

It is important to note, that crabgrass can be very difficult to control. There are times that the crabgrass will require multiple treatments and may not be controllable, depending on growing conditions and what growth stage the plants are in.



Remember that the first hard frost will kill the crabgrass and you will have another chance to prevent it with the above mentioned options.



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