Meehan's Brookside LAWN SERVICE

Proper Cultural Practices

Beautiful, thick, healthy turf is the best defense against weeds, insects and disease. Following these simple cultural practices will help your lawn thrive all season long.

Mowing:

Proper mowing is critical to healthy turf grass. Two key factors to consider when mowing are cutting height and frequency.

Cutting Height:



The cutting height depends on the time of the year. During April – mid October, 3–4 inches is the recommended mowing height. Higher cut turf grass helps avoid drought stress by increasing humidity and keeping temperatures at the soil level cooler. Higher mowing also shades out germinating weeds and sun loving insects. Proper mowing encourages deeper rooting and denser turf grass. Denser turf grass chokes out weeds. On most home owner mowers this means raising the cutting height to the highest setting. Some home owner models are not capable of mowing at high enough heights.

During late fall (Mid October), the grass should be mowed gradually lower each mowing, reaching the lowest possible setting before the snow comes. It is ok to cut so low that you scalp the lawn a bit on the last couple mowings. Continue to mow the lawn regularly as the weather allows. Some years you can get a late mowing in during late November or early December. Snow cover on long grass is a recipe for excessive snow mold.

Frequency:

Turf grass should be mowed frequently so that no more than 1/3 of the leaf is removed. Scalping or cutting too short weakens turf grass and makes it more susceptible to disease and other stresses. Do not allow clumps of clipping to lay on the grass.

Watering:

Monitor your turf grass. Don’t wait until it turns brown to water it. The first sign of drought stress is loss of springiness and wilting, generally a dull, grayish, appearance. Proper watering means watering deeply and infrequently. Light, frequent watering encourages shallow roots, which are less capable of supporting the turf grass during dry periods.



To keep your lawn at its best, during dry periods, you must water 1”–1½” of water per week. To measure this place a straight sided container in yard. When the water in the can reaches between 1” – 1½” it is time to move the sprinkler. Watering should be done in the morning if possible. Leaving the grass wet during the night encourages disease. It is not possible to water the entire lawn enough with a single sprinkler during hot and dry weather.

Following these cultural practices along with Meehan’s professional lawn care treatments will give you a thick, green, healthy lawn you can be proud of!

(440) 243-8277 | www.meehanslawnservice.com