



WHEEL TRACKS LEFT ON THE TURF

There are several times during the year that mowers, fertilizer spreaders, and even foot traffic can leave tracks in the lawn. The grass where the wheels (Or feet) were then turns brown, white, or tan.

This is most frustrating because the activity on the lawn was intended to improve the appearance of the lawn. And now you have tracks of brown grass that looks dead!



WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF WHEEL TRACKS?

There are two causes of this condition. The first happens when the lawn is drying out and the turf is going into dormancy. For a very short time, the turf can be very sensitive to any traffic on the lawn! It would seem simple to stay off the lawn at that time. Right? The problem is that it is almost impossible to determine when that time is. It is not about being hot and dry out. We may have hot and dry conditions for months with no problems with tracks being left, and then suddenly there is a short window of time (sometimes a couple hours) during a certain day, that lawns experience this condition. Some years we do not see any lawn tracking! It is a rare condition and it is generally accepted that the improvements to the lawn far outweigh the slight risk of tire tracks!



WHAT TO DO ABOUT WHEEL TRACKS?

Although the tracks are very disappointing and unsightly, the damage is only temporary. Only the leaf blade has been damaged, not the grass plants. The best course of action and quickest route to making the tracks go away is to get the lawn growing. This means proper deep watering and proper fertilizing, if it has not already been done! It will take a significant amount of water to get the lawn growing. As soon as the lawn starts to grow, it will grow out the damage in 2-3 weeks!



THE OTHER WHEEL TRACKS

At times during the spring once the grass is growing, and lush, it can be susceptible to wheel tracks. This happens when we have a hard frost on lush growing grass! There are times that just walking in grass or a strong wind blowing on the grass that has been frozen solid by a hard frost, will be damaged. These tracks are much easier to avoid, simply stay off the grass during times of growth and hard frost.



(330) 721-8873

