



PUTTING YOUR LAWN TO BED FOR WINTER

Here are some tips for getting your lawn back into shape, preparing it for survival during the winter and a quick green-up in the spring.

MOWING

- Lower your mowing height in the fall, which will prevent matting under snow
- Recommended mowing height is 2-2.5" in the fall
- Lower the mowing height slowly over successive cuts to avoid removing more 1/3 of the leaf blade with each mowing
- Mow until the grass stops growing
- Do not leave excessive grass clippings on the lawn over winter



TOP DRESSING



- Spreading a thin layer of soil or compost over the entire surface of the lawn helps improve soil quality and even out bumpy areas
- Use high quality soil that doesn't contain weed seeds
- Topdress in early fall, before the grass stops growing
- You may choose to overseed at the same time as topdressing by mixing soil and seed together

FALLEN LEAVES

- Removal of heavy leaf coverage by raking prevents risk of smothering
- A mulching mower can be used to chop some leaf litter into dime-size pieces, but this may take multiple passes with the mower
- Adding leaf litter to a compost pile will create great fertilizer for future use

FALL FERTILIZATION

- Use slow-release fertilizers in the fall
- Make this application when the turf has stopped growing but is still green
- Apply 0.5 kg of nitrogen per 100 m²
- If you make a late-fall fertilizer application, spring fertilization can be delayed until late May to early June



AERATION

- Perform aeration in the fall to alleviate soil compaction and allow water, nutrients, and air to penetrate the root zone.



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