



Backbone Valley's LAWN CARE SCHEDULE

MONTH	ACTIVITY	PRODUCTS OR ACTION
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most lawns are dormant now. Identify the winter weeds that are present. (For future prevention with pre-emergent next fall.) • Water lawns every two weeks with 1" of water if no rain. • Apply a selective post-emergent herbicide on existing weeds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilome Weed-Out (Selective post-emergent)
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply pre-emergent herbicide to prevent "warm-season" weeds seeds from germinating (Such as Field Sandburs) Water-in with 1/2" of water. • Apply selective post-emergent herbicide to existing weeds in dormant lawns. • Have an "Irrigation Audit" done to see that your irrigation system is working properly. If you wait too long, the Irrigation companies will be busy, and it could take some time to correct your problems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corn Gluten Meal (Organic pre-emergent) • Hi Yield w/ Dimension (Pre-emergent) • Surflan XL2G (Pre-emergent) • Fertilome Weed Out (Selective post-emergent) • You can do your own "Irrigation Audit" by referring to Backbone Valley Nursery's "Lawn Watering Made Simple" info sheet.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawns should be beginning to emerge. Avoid application of selective post-emergent herbicide as new growth appears, as lawn may be damaged. Hand-pull or dig existing weeds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topdress the lawn with 1/2" of compost if soils are thin. • Topdress with 1/2" of peat moss if Take-All-Patch has been diagnosed in the past.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch for brown circles in the lawn, as Brown Patch Fungus is active in cool weather. If brown leaves pull easily off the runner, it is probably Brown Patch. Avoid night watering. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilome F-Stop (liquid or granules) • Bonide Infuse (liquid)

<p>April</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is the month to fertilize your lawn. We usually wait until we have mowed the lawn (not the weeds) twice, and when the lawn is actively growing, apply fertilizer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MicroLife 6-2-4 (organic fertilizer) • MicroLife 8-4-6 Ultimate (organic fertilizer)
<p>May</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is still time to fertilize your lawn this spring. If you fertilized early in April, you may want to make a second application in late May on St. Augustine lawns. • Apply selective post-emergent herbicide to lawns which are well-established and "hardened-off". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MicroLife 6-2-4 (organic fertilizer) • MicroLife 8-4-6 Ultimate (organic fertilizer) • Fertilome Weed Out (selective post-emergent herbicide)
<p>June</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check brown areas in turf to see if it is getting adequate water or if the soil is thin in that spot. • Hot weather is also when we start to see signs of Take-All-Patch fungus, as root systems have been killed or compromised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water deeply (4"-6") each time you water. Time frequency of watering for the "stress point" of the grass to encourage healthy, deep root systems. (See "Lawn Watering" handout for instructions) • Take a sample from the green grass adjacent to the brown areas and mail "overnight" to Texas A&M Plant Disease and Diagnostic Clinic for analysis (if fungus is suspected).
<p>July</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check areas next to sidewalks, driveways and pavement for brown areas in lawn. This is the time of year that Chinch Bugs are active, usually in the hottest part of the yard. • Late July to early August is the prime time to treat for Grubs in lawns. Symptoms include an irregular shaped yellowing or browning of the lawn and grass that "pulls up" readily with no roots attached. When digging, a threshold of 5-8 grubs per square foot would indicate the need for control. (Yellowing of grass is also a symptom of Take-All-Patch, so do not jump to conclusions without investigating further.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test area in green grass adjacent to the brown grass by pushing a can with both ends cut out into the ground and filling with water. If tiny insects with wings that cross float to the top, the lawn has a Chinch Bug infestation. • Treat Chinch bugs in lawn with Hi-Yield Turf Ranger granules and water-in with 1/2" of water. • Treat grub infested lawns late in the month with Hi-Yield Grub Free Zone II and water-in with 1/2" of water.

<p>August</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late July and early August is the prime time to treat for grubs in lawns. (See "July" for symptoms and control.) Treating any other time of the year will not be successful, as the stage of the insect is not susceptible to control except in late July and early August. • See "July" recommendations for checking for Chinch bugs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See "July" recommendations for Grub Control. • See "July" recommendations for Chinch bug control.
<p>September</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilize your lawn to encourage healthy root systems going into the winter. • Apply pre-emergent herbicide to prevent cool-season weed seeds from germinating. Water-in with 1/2" of water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MicroLife 6-2-4 • MicroLife 8-4-6 • Corn gluten (Organic) • Hi Yield w/ Dimension (Pre-emergent) • Surflan XL2G (Pre-emergent) • Fertilome Weed Out (Selective post-emergent)
<p>October</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is still time to fertilize your lawn for fall to encourage healthy root systems for winter. • Apply pre-emergent herbicide to prevent cool-season weed seeds from germinating. • Evaluate lawns for Take-All-Patch fungus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MicroLife 6-2-4 (organic fertilizer) • Micro Life 8-4-6 (organic fertilizer) • Corn gluten (Organic pre-emergent) • Hi Yield w/ Dimension (Pre-emergent) • Surflan XL2G (Pre-emergent) • Fertilome Weed Out (Selective post-emergent) • Topdress lawns with compost if soils are thin • Topdress lawns with peat moss if diagnosed with Take-All-Patch fungus
<p>November</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust watering frequency as the temperatures cool. • Rake leaves off of lawns, as they block light and oxygen from the leaf blades. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No products necessary.
<p>December</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rake leaves off of lawns, as they block light and oxygen from the leaf blades. • Water lawns every two weeks with 1" of water if there has been no rain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No products necessary.