

YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO AN EASY AND BEAUTIFUL LAWN.

Find out about fertilizers, organic formulas, soil conditioners, weed & insect control, rodent solutions, grass seed, seeding instructions and yard waste recycling locations.





THE BEST LAWN FERTILIZER PROGRAM



Crabgrass Preventer

CONTAINS EXCLUSIVE



VRK Crabgrass Preventer contains dithiopyr herbicide which is highly effective for crabgrass control. This product is excellent for established lawns.

Ingredients include:

- 22% Nitrogen for a lush green lawn
- 6% Potash or potassium for growth and drought resistance
- 2% Iron for a fresh green look
- 2.6% Sulfur
- Contains 25% Nutromatic[™] to improve soil guality and increase water retention

Contains natural, non-burning, organic, slow-release nitrogen and iron for deep greening. Can be applied up to 4 weeks later than other pre-emergence crabgrass preventers. A selective herbicide plus fertilizer combination product that provides control of crabgrass and many other weeds in established lawns and ornamental turfgrasses.

Apply in spring before weeds germinate or in the fall for a pre-emergent the following spring. Water in to activate.

Do not reseed grass or over-seed your lawn until 3 months after application.

Available in 18 lb. and 50 lb.





VRK Weed & Feed contains natural nonburning organic slow release nitrogen and iron for deep greening.

Ingredients include:

- 22% Nitrogen for a lush lawn
- 4% Soluble Potash
- 1% Iron for a fresh green look
- 1.4% Sulfur
- Contains 25% Nutromatic[™] to improve soil guality and increase water retention

Contains VIPER[®] which controls: dandelions, spurge, plantain, chickweed and 200 other broadleaf weeds. Best results are obtained when weeds are growing actively in spring or early fall.

Apply when lawn is moist as granules adhere to weeds. Don't cut your lawn 3 days before or after application. Avoid irrigation, rainfall, and mowing for 24 to 48 hours after application. Avoid applying during temperatures of 90° or more. Morning applications are best. Water in 48 hours after application to activate fertilizer component. Granular is safer than liquid fertilizer to avoid burning.

Maximum of 2 applications per season.

Apply throughout the season to control weeds. Available in 18 lb. and 50 lb.

- * Contains humic & fulvic acids
- ★ Improves turf & soil quality
- ★ Increases water retention



Turf Special is a slow-release fertilizer that will give prolonged feeding with less danger of burning the turf.

Ingredients include:

- 24% Nitrogen to increase vigor and create a lush green lawn
- 4% Soluble potash
- 4% Iron to help keep lawns green during summer stress
- 1.4% Sulfur
- Contains 25% Nutromatic[™] to improve soil quality and increase water retention

Contains natural, non-burning, organic, slow-release nitrogen and iron for deep greening. Slow-release allows for a longer lasting green lawn. Promotes thick, healthy lawns. Extra potash for healthier lawns. 6 to 8 weeks of fertilization.

Apply in spring, summer or fall as a straight fertilizer if your lawn does not need Crabgrass Preventer or Weed & Feed. Water in to activate.

Tip:

VRKC Turf Food can be used in place of Weed & Feed if broadleaf weeds are not a problem in your lawn.

Apply throughout the season when a balanced feeding is needed.

Available in 18 lb. and 50 lb.



VRK Winterizer is the best fertilizer to get your lawn ready for the next spring.

Ingredients include:

- 20% Nitrogen
- 12% Soluble potash
- 2% Iron to help keep lawns green during stress
- 4% Sulfur
- Contains 25% Nutromatic[™] to improve soil quality and increase water retention

Contains natural, non-burning, organic, slow-release nitrogen and iron for deep greening. Prepares your lawn for winter dormancy. Extra potash for healthier turf and quicker green-up in spring. Specially formulated to maximize root building and winter hardiness, or dormant.

Apply just before fall seeding. Water in to activate.

Tip:

By applying **URK** Winterizer in the fall, you are actually fertilizing for the next spring, making this step the most important of all four steps.

Available in 18 lb. and 50 lb.



A **Gertens** family of products.

NEVER MISS ANOTHER FERTILIZER APPLICATION!



Single Application Lawn Fertilizer Plus Crabgrass Preventer

Contains the latest in fertilizer technology and is formulated to feed your lawn for up to 6 months. Apply JRK Brand Single Application Lawn Fertilizer Plus Crabgrass Preventer and be done fertilizing for the season.

- One and done!
- Feeds all season long
- Controls crabgrass
- · 34-0-6
- Controlled release nitrogen for extended feeding
- Covers 7,000 sq. ft.

A Great Looking Lawn with Less Effort

ferti·lome

4-STEP PREMIUM LAWN CARE PROGRAM

Products you need from a brand you can trust.



Step 1

Crabgrass Preventer plus Lawn Food

Apply: Late April - early May

A unique combination of slow release lawn food with trace elements. Crabgrass Preventer Plus Lawn Food contains Dimension^{*}, a pre-emergent crabgrass preventer. Provides 8 weeks of control. Do not reseed for 8 weeks

Ingredients include:

20% Nitrogen, 0% Phosphates, 3% Soluble Potash

Apply as a pre-emergent between mid-April and mid-May. Water in to activate product.



Step 2

Weed-Out Weed Killer & Lawn Fertilizer

Apply: Late May - early June

Weed-out plus lawn fertilizer contains Trimec^{*}, a combination of three powerful weed killers.

Ingredients include:

25% Nitrogen, 0% Phosphates, 4% Soluble Potash

Apply to a wet lawn and avoid cutting 3 days before and after application. Avoid irrigation, rainfall, and mowing for 24 - 48 hours after application. Allow 4 to 6 weeks before your next application of fertilizer.

Note: Apply throughout the season to control weeds.



Step 3 Classic Lawn Food Plus Iron

Apply: Late summer

Lawn Food contains a source of nitrogen which feeds your lawn for 6 - 8 weeks. Also contains a natural source of potash, one of the three primary plant nutrients.

Ingredients include:

24% Nitrogen, 0% Phosphates, 4% Soluble Potash

Water in to activate product. Allow 4 - 6 weeks before your next fertilizer application.

Note: Apply throughout the season when a balanced feeding is needed.



Step 4 Winterizer

Apply: September - October

Great for fall feeding, which is the most important feeding. Winterizer helps your lawn come out quicker, thicker and greener in the spring.

Ingredients include:

25% Nitrogen, 0% Phosphates, 6% Soluble Potash

Apply in the fall when leaves change color. Water in to activate product.



ORGANIC 4-STEP LAWN CARE PROGRAM

Safe for kids, pets and the environment.



Step 1 Spring Weed & Feed

Apply: Early Spring

Spring Weed & Feed (Granular Corn Gluten Meal) is a natural broad-leaf pre-emergent that helps prevent weeds from establishing in the spring.

Contains slow release nitrogen which helps promote thicker lawns and lasting turf color. Apply before germination of weed seeds. A short drying period following germination helps kill the weeds before they form roots. If it does not rain for 5 days after application, water with approximately 0.25" of water and then allow the soil to dry for a period following germination.



Step 2 Summer Maintenance

Apply: Early Summer

Early Summer Turf Maintenance natural fertilizer encourages new growth.

Combines slow release nitrogen which helps promote thick lawns and lasting turf color with quickly available natural Chilean nitrate for a fast turf response. Suståne 9-0-2 is made from a combination of aerobically composted turkey litter, green waste compost, feather meal, Chilean nitrate and sulfate of potash.

Apply in May or June.



Step 3

Late Summer Starter & Overseeder

Apply: Summer

Example Turf Starter and Overseeder 4-6-4 is made from aerobically composted turkey litter, feather meal and sulfate of potash. The composting process makes the fertilizer safe so it will not burn the grass seed.

Applying new grass seed mixed with Sustane to an existing lawn is a great way to promote dense grass coverage and help crowd out weeds.

Apply in August or September.



Step 4 Fall Winterizer

Fall Winterizer 8-0-4 provides the lawn nutrients that grass needs to prepare for winter resulting in a quick spring green up.

Suståne Fall Winterizer promotes thicker lawns and early spring color. Suståne 8-0-4 is made from a combination of aerobically composted turkey litter, green waste compost, feather meal and sulfate of potash.

Apply in September or October

PREMIUM NATURAL GARDEN PRODUCTS

Lawn Fertilizing & Repairing

Organic Lawn Fertilizers & Chemicals

Suståne 8-2-4 All Natural Lawn & Landscape Plant Food



Suståne 8-2-4 All Natural Lawn & Landscape Plant Food is a slow release nitrogen fertilizer that provides lasting plant nutrition from biologically stable compost, natural potash and feather meal. Recommended for use on lawns, landscape, trees, shrubs, flowers, fruits, vegetables and all plant varieties. **Coverage: 20 lbs. covers 2,000 sq. ft.**

Suståne 9-0-0 Spring Weed and Feed (Granular Corn Gluten Meal)



Corn Gluten Meal (CGM) is a natural broad-leaf pre-emergent that helps prevent weeds from establishing in the spring. CGM is rich in slow release nitrogen which helps promote thicker lawns and lasting turf color. Apply before germination of weed seeds. A short drying period following germination helps kill the weeds before they form roots. **Coverage: 30 lb. covers 1,500 to 5,000 sq. ft. Rate: Apply between 6 and 20 lb. per 1,000 sq. ft.**

Milorganite



Organic, allpurpose fertilizer. Safe for kids and pets.

Organic nitrogen fertilizer composed primarily of heat dried microbes. It's an all-purpose fertilizer used on lawns, shrubs, trees, flowers, vegetables, golf courses and as a seed carrier. Because of absorption, it shows almost immediate results. It contains 4 percent non-staining iron for deep greening and can be applied any time during the growing season and is suitable for any climate. Children and pets can safely go onto areas that have been fertilized with Milorganite. Available in 32 lb. bags. Covers 2,500 sq. ft.

Suståne 4-4-4 Bolster Granular



Sustane Bolster is a granular fertilizer with the right nutrient load and additional components to improve turf health and development. It has a balanced nutrient ratio and added plant biostimulants to provide rapid root development while also protecting the roots from drought and other stresses. Whether it's for a golf course green or another fine turfgrass site, Bolster Granular 4-4-4 is the ultimate turf starter fertilizer for the job. Coverage: Apply 20 lb. per 1,000 ft²

Green Loon[®] Bio Starter Plus



and Nutrient

Availability

fertilizer formulated to start plants faster by providing all the key nutrients. In addition, Bio-Starter Plus is designed to enhance root development for faster establishment. Besides being an excellent starter for establishing sod or seed, makes an excellent starter. It contains all the key nutrients essential to establishing healthy, vibrant plants.

is an organically based starter

SOIL CONDITIONERS Soil Activator | Gypsum | Lime

Soil Amendment



Natural Guard® Soil Activator is a safe, natural way to help your lawn clippings "compost" and return to the soil valuable nutrients found in grass clippings and thatch. Promotes chelation of available nutrients, assists in nutrient uptake and improves the growth of beneficial micro-organisms. For use on lawns, vegetable gardens, flower beds, indoor plants and compost bins.

Available in 20 lb. and 40 lb. bags.

Sustane Bolster



Bolster[®] MycoBio[™] from Sustane[®] is a blend of endo mycorrhizae species and beneficial bacteria, with humic acid and compost to support the proliferation of soil microorganisms. Bolster MycoBio is used for inoculating soils and growing media with beneficial microbiology for improved nutrient cycling and to amend soil to improve seedling success and promote vigorous plant establishment.

Rapid Gypsum



Rapid Gypsum, fortified with pHCa technology, is ideal for leaching out excessive salt in the soil, as well as aerating tightly compacted soil. It will provide instant calcium without affecting pH levels. This patented pHCa technology enhances the plant's ability to convert nutrients into an immediately available form for nourishment and soil pH maintenance. Rapid Gypsum provides superior results in a reduced dust formula for easy application.

Rapid Lime



Rapid-Lime is a fast-acting treatment that will save you time and money on lawn care. Fortified with pHCa technology, it quickly increases soil pH and calcium levels. This patented pHCa technology enhances the plant's ability to convert nutrients into an immediately available form for absorption and soil pH adjustment. Use to ensure a good fertilizer response, promote a healthy lawn, soil structure and cut down on moss and excess weed pressure.

Green Loon® Soil Conditioner



Improves the Quality of Soil for Healthy Plant Growth

Green Loon^{*} Soil Conditioner improves the quality of soils. It loosens clay soil to help improve drainage, aeration and nutrient release for plants to use. Green Loon^{*} Soil Conditioner helps plants & roots hold moisture, nutrients and oxygen in sandy soils. It also increases microbiol activity in the soil. This helps release nutrients in the soil for the plants to use. We recommend that you add a balanced fertilizer program.

C20 Soil Builder



Plant Derived Substrate That Feeds Soil Microbes

C20 for turf, trees and shrubs provides a natural, carbon-based food source for microbes in the soil. It promotes soil aeration and reduces soil compaction. C20 Soil Builder promotes root development, nutrient uptake and overall plant health.



TURF INSECT PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS



Hi-Yield Control Insects In Your Lawn

Turf Ranger is a broad spectrum residual insecticide for control of certain insects in your lawn. Useful in lawn, around shrubbery and other ornamentals, also effective against common lawn and garden foes such as ants, cockroaches, boxelder bugs, digger wasps and more.



Ant, Flea & Tick Killer Granules

Bonide Ant, Flea & Tick Killer

Granules contain 0.25% Permethrin fast acting, long lasting (4 weeks) insect control for lawns and home foundations. Great for ants, fire ants, fleas, ticks, crickets, earwigs, spiders, sow bugs, silverfish, clover mites, chinch bugs, armyworms, sod webworm, leaf hoppers, millipedes and certain grubs.

10 lbs treats 5,000 sq. ft.



Livield Control Insects In Your Lawn, Including Ticks

Bug Blaster II provides broad spectrum control of insect pests in lawns, landscapes, perimeter around buildings. Controls fire ants, fleas, ticks, mole crickets, chinch bugs, european crane flies, scorpions and other listed insect pests.



RAYTR

Excellent Turf Rescue Formula

Bayer Advanced Grub Killer Plus

high-efficiency granules provide 50% higher concentration, 33% less weight and same great coverage. Contains DYLOX* – kills grubs in 24 hours. Also kills ants, billbugs, chinch bugs, crickets, cutworms, earwigs, grasshoppers, leafhoppers, millipedes, mole crickets, pillbugs, scorpions, sod webworms, sowbugs and ticks.



Liquid Contact Insect Control

Eight Yard RTU contains Permethrin 2.5% which provides economical, contact and residual insect control for up to 4 weeks. Kills over 100 insects which destroy lawns, roses, flowers, trees, shrubs, vegetables, fruit, nuts and may be applied to homes and other areas to stop infestations of all flying, crawling and hopping insects.



Annual Grub Beater

Season Long Grub Control. One annual application is all it takes to control grubs all season long. Also kills European Crane Fly larvae, mole crickets and other turf destroying insects. Apply any time, spring to summer. 5 *lb. bag covers 5,000 sq. ft.* 15 *lb. bag covers 15,000 sq. ft.*

Japanese Beetles & Grubs

Japanese Beetles are a constant threat to both Lawns & Gardens. They are an insect with an annual life cycle that decimate lawns by feeding off the root systems and also foliage of trees, ornamentals and edibles. You need to plan preventative treatment on both front.



RODENT PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS



Moles

There are two kinds of moles in Minnesota: the eastern and starnose mole. Moles are characterized as small rodents with pointed noses, large clawed, paddle shaped front feet and bulky hairless tails. Moles feed primarily on beetles, grubs, and other insect larvae. Damage caused by moles is noticeable by the elevated tunnels they create.



Gophers

Their damage to turf can be severe with large mounds and tunnels through large acreage. They can grow to 8 inches, can stand upright and are obvious for their plump cheeks which can carry both food and nesting materials. Because most of their network is underground, they can disrupt irrigation systems and cause soil erosion.



Shrews (Shrewmouse)

Shrews are rodents that range in size from 1-5 inches. Six species of shrews exist in Minnesota and are identified as a drab gray or brown colored animal, with longer pointy noses. Shrews don't cause a lot of damage to lawns or interiors.



Squirrels

We all know that they can easily wreak havoc on planters as well as any garden crop or bulbs under the surface. But because of their burrowing tendencies, they can play a role in lawn destruction as well.



Voles

Similar to the mice found in your home. They are known as a field mouse with fur in brown/ grey tones, small round bodies and beady eyes with a long tail. The damage they inflict is generally above ground by gnawing at edibles and ornamentals. Trail marks as the snow melts are sure signs of them.





The most important thing to remember when controlling them, is to catch the infestation as soon as possible. Like rabbits, all rodents can populate quickly and once established, they are difficult to exterminate.

A first step is to apply a Grub Control product to eliminate their food source. Secondly, we have repellent products MoleGo, or MoleMax that can deter them in a non-poisonous way. They use castor-oil based formulas that coat the insects which are their food source and steers them away. We also stock other repellents that are scent based such as Repellex which are seasonal and is absorbed into plants themselves to discourage gnawing that can occur. Other alternatives are garlic-based scent spikes or electronic spikes which emit pitch that forces them elsewhere.

If none of this works, you will need to implement poison methods or below ground trapping. Poison control is generally in pellet form and goes right into tunnels for moles and gophers. There are also edible poison worms which are poked into the turf and then eaten as a baited food source. Smoke bombs can be utilized in tunnels which asphyxiates them. A last alternative are harpoon traps with spikes that impale them in tunnels and are usually motion sensitive to pathways underground. These are certainly safer for household pets that might stumble onto the poisons.

GOT WEEDS? NO PROBLEM.





Problem: Creeping Charlie

Creeping Charlie is a low growing, perennial weed that thrives in moist, shady areas of the lawn. It will take over sunny areas of the lawn if the turf is thin. In the early spring flowers will appear that can range from dark blue to purple. It can propogate from cuttings, so bag lawn mowings.

Solution:

Use **VRK** Weed & Feed, **Werthins** Weed Free Zone on Creeping Charlie.

Problem: Crabgrass

Crabgrass is an annual grass that grows best in the heat of the summer. Since it is an annual, crabgrass will be killed by a fall frost. It is crucial to rid of it before it goes to seed.

Solution:

Apply a pre-emergent herbicide in the spring (April 15 - May 30). Crabgrass germinates from mid-April until the end of July. Use pre-emergent which has a longer lasting 12 week germination inhibitor. **URKO** Crabgrass Preventer, will allow you to effectively prevent crabgrass from ever becoming a problem. If crabgrass is established, use knockdown applications of selective herbicide like **Wentown** Weed Out with Q Crabgrass, or Monterey Quincept and Crab-E-Rad can help control the problem as well.

Problem: Quackgrass

Quackgrass is a perennial weed grass in MN. It's very difficult to eliminate quackgrass in the home lawn, because it is of the same family as lawn grasses.

Solution:

Use a nonselective herbicides containing Glyphosate[®], like **Hiridi** Killzall Weed & Grass Killer, or Monterey Remuda. Since nonselective herbicides can be destructive to desirable plants, the use of a tube-sponge style applicator is recommended.

Problem: Yellow Nutsedge

Yellow nutsedge is a perennial grass-like weed. It has a distinguishable triangular stem and is brighter green in color. Yellow nutsedge typically grows in July and August and is capable of outgrowing fescues and bluegrass. Its roots carry small nut seedlings, which perpetuate its overtaking of natural grasses.

Solution:

Yellow nutsedge and other sedges can be controlled, with International Nutsedge Control, and

Problem: Creeping Bentgrass

Aggressively produces horizontal stems, called stolons, that run along the soil's surface. These allow creeping bentgrass to form dense stands under good growing conditions and out compete other grasses, thus becoming a troublesome weed in a lawn.

Solution:

Creeping Bentgrass can be controlled, with Meso 4SC Select (Tenacity) by Select Source.





Fertilome Weed Free Zone, Weed-Out & Nutsedge Control



Hi-Yield Killzall Meso 4SC Select & Spreader Sticker (Tenacity)







SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF THE MOST COMMON WEED PROBLEMS





Problem: Thistles

Thistle can be a problematic perennial or biennial weed in Minnesota. Depending on the variety of thistle, it can produce seed once a year or once every two years.

Solution:

Thistles can be quickly controlled with selective broadleaf herbicides, like **URK** Weed & Feed, **Weed Weed Free Zone**, **Weed-Out**, Monterey Thistle Down, or **Weed Beater Ultra**.

Problem: Purslane

Purslane is an annual weed that reproduces prolifically by seed. Purslane is found more in areas where the ground has been disturbed, such as flower and vegetable gardens. The leaves and stems are fleshy and succulent and are often tinged slightly red.

Solution:

Purslane can be quickly controlled with selective broadleaf herbicides, like URKS Weed & Feed, Weed Free Zone, Weed-Out or Weed Beater Ultra.

Problem: Dandelions

Dandelions are perennial weeds that have unmistakable yellow aster-like flowers. Dandelions will flower in the spring and fall and should be controlled during these time frames.

Solution:

Dandelions can be quickly controlled with selective broadleaf herbicides, like **URK** Weed & Feed, **Weed Free Zone**, **Weed-Out or Weed** Beater Ultra.



Problem: Buckthorn

Buckthorn is considered a noxious weed because of its invasive capability. Buckthorn twigs are tipped with a short sharp thorn and are easy to identify in the landscape. The leaves are dark green with curved main veins. The berries are black, usually persist into winter and contain several seeds.

Solution:

Because its root systems are so quickly invasive, Buckthorn should be dealt with sooner rather than later. Gertens is a preferred vendor for the Extractigator[™] which is a manual lever tool designed specifically for Buckthorn. Otherwise, because it is a woody stem, it has to be destroyed with a root killer such as **Secure** Brush & Stump Killer. To work effectively it needs to be brushed onto an open fresh cut and absorbed down into the stem. This works well in Fall while the roots are actively growing prior to winter hibernating. It can then be easily yanked out come Spring.

JRK Weed & Feed



Fertilome Weed Free Zone, Weed-Out & Brush & Stump Killer



Bonide Weed Beater Ultra



THERE'S A FUNGUS AMONG US









Problem: Snow Molds in Lawns

After the snow melts, if you see matted grass with cobweb-like fungus, this is snow mold. There are two types of snow mold. Gray snow mold (white to gray) stops growing when the lawn dries out and temperatures exceed 45°. Pink snow mold (white to pink) will continue to grow with temperatures up to 60°.

Solution:

- In the fall, continue to mow your grass until it stops growing.
- Rake all leaves in the fall.
- Apply Infuse Systemic Fungicide, United Transports F-Stop, or Scott's DiseaseEX in the fall and spring as a preventative.

Problem: Powdery Mildew

Powdery mildew is a common disease which creates a dusty white coating on grass blades. This disease generally occurs in the spring and fall and frequently develops in shaded areas with poor air circulation.

Solution:

- Selective pruning of trees to improve light and air circulation.
- Apply a Fungicide such as Infuse Systemic Fungicide, F-Stop or Scott's[®] DiseaseEX.

Problem: Turf Patch Disease

These fungi are found in the soil of your lawn. The disease develops during the rainy season in spring, summer and fall. The green grass blades will change to turn tan/ brown then reddish in color. In your lawn, you will see dead grass in the shape of rings or circular patches. Temperature and moisture can increase diseases. Prevent summer patch by applying fungicide before high temperatures & humidity.

Solution:

- Proper watering.
- Maintain mowing height at 2 1/2 to 3 inches.
- Apply F-Stop, or Scott's® DiseaseEX.

Problem: Leaf Spot Diseases of Lawns

Leaf spot occurs in cool, wet weather (spring - fall) and is easy to identify by its spots. The leaf blades will develop purplish-red to purplish-brown spots with a tan center. The disease attacks the leaves and can spread to the crown of the grass plant. Wide spread damage to lawns happens during a wet spring.

Solution:

- Proper watering.
- Maintain mowing height at 2 1/2 to 3 inches.
- Apply Infuse Systemic Fungicide F-Stop, or Scott's® DiseaseEX

Scott's DiseaseEX



Lawn Fungicide offers a formula to cover a wide range of problem lawn diseases. Fast acting and continues to control lawns diseases for up to 4 weeks.

Fertilome F-Stop

Controls turfgrass diseases in established lawns and in ornamental turfs. Use on lawns, landscapes, golf course greens, tees and fairways.

Bonide Infuse



Prevents and stops major disease. It's powerful systemic protection won't wash off and lasts up to 1 month on certain diseases. Proven to encourage turf rooting.

SEED OR SOD? The pros & cons of each.

Speak with a Gertens lawn & garden expert to discuss your options and decide which is best for you, seed or sod. We have excellent products for both.

- Seeded lawns tend to be healthier than lawns that are sodded.
- Seeded lawns will undergo competition with weeds as they germinate and establish.
- The length of time during which you can lay sod is greater then the length of time you can seed.
- Seeded lawns can be formulated with mixes that are site specific. i.e. sunny, shady, clay, etc.
- Sodded lawns are instant lawns. As soon as the sod is laid, you have green grass. Seeded lawns require time to germinate and establish.
- Sod does not perform well in shady areas. The types of seed used in sod is for sunny areas.
- Sod is more expensive and labor intensive to install then seed.



RECOMMENDED TOOLS

Spreaders Choose from walk behind broadcast spreaders, or handheld spreaders depending on the amount of area you need to cover.

Watering Attachments

We offer multiple options in sprinklers; pulsating, oscillating or irrigation models. Along with these, all can be converted to easy snap connectors. And finally, a wide assortment of timers, manual or digital to make watering an easy task.



NeverKink High strength, lead-free aluminum

right sterigth, lead-free authintum couplings. Leak-proof and crushresistant. Ergo rigid sleeve which eliminates kinking at the faucet. MicroShield antimicrobial protection guards against mold and mildew **Available in 25' 50' 75' and 100' sizes.** Communitions.



Maintainer Rake

Defeat any lawn and garden job in half the time with the maintainer rake. 21" or 9" wide plastic molded frame has end-to-end spring loaded galvanized wire teeth that grab everything in its path.

Lawn & Garden Rakes

Landscape rakes are durable, professional grade and longlasting. Use for yard clean-up and for seeding.

Rotary Cultivator

Prepare the soil. In patches you should loosen the soil. The rotary cultivator tool can help you do this easily. You may need to do a soil test so you know what is needed.



NEW LAWN SEEDING INSTRUCTIONS

Custom design a lawn that fits your yard.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

Greenview Mulch
Maintainer & Landscape Rakes
Sprinkler, Hose, Timer
Seed Spreader
🗌 Garden Weasel
Straw Blankets or EZstraw

Step 1: Site Preparation

This is the most important step to follow in order to enjoy successful germination of your grass seed. Loosen soil and add soil amendments. Rototill soil to a minimum of 6 inches. Loosening the soil breaks up compaction, allowing the grass seedlings to root and the grass to take up nutrients and air, while giving better seed/soil contact. Sandy or heavy clay soils need to be amended. Grass needs good drainage and soil to grow and thrive. Green Loor Lawn Seeding Soil allows the plant to survive stress periods and retain moisture and nutrients longer. Level soil and rake smooth. Remove any clumps, rocks and other debris. A leaf rake will leave groove that allow for better seed/soil contact for germination.

Step 2: Use Starter Fertilizer For Grass Seed

Starter fertilizer will give emerging grass a faster, healthier start. Broadcast starter fertilizer over the soil at recommended rates and rake lightly into soil. Regular types of crabgrass preventer will prevent germination of grass seed. A roller can be used to slightly firm the soil.

Step 3: Broadcast Seed Over Soil

Follow recommended seeding rate for your grass seed mixture. See seed guide to select the right mix for your lawn. Use a hand spreader for small areas and a fertilizer spreader for large areas. For a more uniform seeding, broadcast one-half of the seed in one direction and the other half in a direction perpendicular to the first.

Step 4: Rake Seed Lightly Into Soil

Raking the seed lightly into the soil less than 1/4" deep and rolling with a roller allows better seed and soil contact, ensuring proper germination.

Step 5: Broadcasting Of Pelletized Mulch To Maintain Moisture

This step is optional, however, we recommend mulching the area so the top several inches of soil do not dry out as fast. It will also help keep weeds down, keep birds from eating the seed and help seeds germinate faster.

Step 6: Water Regularly

Water 3-5 times a day for 5-10 minutes following seed application until grass is established. It is important that the seed does not dry out.

Step 7: Stay Off The Grass!

Keep people and pets off seeded areas until your grass is established.

LAWN OVERSEEDING INSTRUCTIONS Reclaim that thin or weak lawn.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

 IRKEGrass Seed
 GreenLoor Lawn Seeding Soil
 Seed Spreader
 Leaf & Thatch Rakes
 Sprinkler, Hose & Timer
 Maintainer Rake
 Aerator
 Garden Weasel
 A Seed Starter + Crabgrass Preventer, IRKE Starter Fertilizer,

Step 1: Mow Lawn Short

or Seed Aide Cover Grow

Mow your grass to a height of 11/2 to 2 inches.

Step 2: Rake Area Thoroughly

Use a leaf rake. Take care not to tear out too much of the existing lawn.

Step 3: Aerate Your Lawn

Aeration improves your lawns appearance, usability and ability to absorb water from irrigation. Lawn aeration increases nutrient uptake and helps to break up compaction, allowing the roots of existing grass to breathe. An aerator that pulls plugs is more effective than one that simply pokes holes. Leave soil cores on top of the lawn to help grass seed germination.

Step 4: Broadcast Starter Lawn Fertilizer

Use one a Seed Starter + Crabgrass Preventer, or **URK** Starter Fertilizer.

Step 5: Broadcast Seed Over Lawn

See grass seed mix list for the perfect blend for your yard. Use overseeding rates listed for grass mix per 1,000 square feet. Use a hand spreader for small areas and a fertilizer spreader for large areas. Rent your overseeder from Gertens Rental. For a more uniform seeding, broadcast one-half of the seed in one direction, and the other half in a direction perpendicular to the first.

Step 6: Rake

A light layer of GreenLoom Lawn Seeding Soil gives a safety blanket to seed, even on existing lawns. Rake lightly with a leaf rake and in bare spots, cover seed less than 1/4" with soil to ensure good seed and soil contact which will increase germination.

Step 7: Water Regularly

Water 3-5 times a day for 5-10 minutes following seed application until grass is established. It is important that the seed does not dry out.

Green Loon®

Bio-Starter Plus

Green Loon[®] Lawn Seeding Soil







Meso 4SC Select (Tenacity) Starter Lawn Food with Weed Prevention





DORMANT LAWN SEEDING

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- IRK@Grass Seed
- Green Loon^{*} Lawn Seeding Soil
- Maintainer Rake
- Seed Aide Cover Grow or Greenview Mulch
- Seed Spreader

Ral	ke
nar	(e

- Straw Blankets or EZStraw
- **JRK** Winterizer

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WINTER HIBERNATION TO GET AN EARLY START ON SPRING.

Dormant seeding is not a variety of grass seed, but simply a method of setting seed in late Fall to germinate with the thaw in the coming Spring. It is a useful way of thickening your lawn before weeds can infiltrate. The trick is in the timing and changes from year to year. You want to wait until late Fall when ground is nearing a freeze and temps are cold enough that your seed will not germinate in the final weeks of the year. The closer to snowfall the better. As spring thaws, the natural moisture and easing soil allows for early grass sprouting.

Step 1: Rake all leaves and debris

Grass seed always needs to come in contact with the ground itself to germinate. If tossed on over leaves it will only rot in the winter composting.

Step 2: JRK Seed Starter

This step is a great guarantee that your current lawn will feed existing roots going into winter hibernation. But it also fortifies your soil so that new planting emerges out of a strong yard with a balanced formula.

Step 3: Broadcast Seed Over Lawn

Dormant seeding works with any variety of our grasses and is not dependent on Sun/ Shade or other growing factors.

Step 4: Rake Gently

Using on of our maintainer rakes with a spring tine, gently work the seed into the top ¼" of the surface along with the Fertilizer so it is protected from both the elements and birds over the long winter.

Step 5: Blanket with a Mulch or Seeding Fabric

Snow will add a cover for the long course but using a mulch pellet or a blanket of bio degradable fabric or Straw will give it an extra layer of protection over those long winter months. Watering is not a necessary step as the Spring thaw will induce germination at its natural time.

NEW BEGINNINGS INSTRUCTIONS A lawn like green velvet!

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Sprayer
 - HI-Jield Kill-Z-All (not the 365 year-long product)

When lawn quality is unacceptable, renovation may be necessary. The following conditions may warrant starting over:

- Excessively compacted soil
- Greater than 50% weeds or bare soil
- Excessive thatch

If you decide to undertake this project, the best time to renovate your lawn is late summer, after the heat of summer.

You can successfully renovate you lawn during other times in the season if you follow these steps:

Step 1: Mow Area To Be Renovated

Mow grass to a height of 11/2 inches.

Step 2: Spray Weeds & Grasses With Non-Selective Weed & Grass Killer

Weed and grass killers need to be applied to an actively growing plant. The best time to kill weeds is when the temperature is above 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Weed and grass killers are absorbed through the plant tissue and then translocated to the roots. This will kill perennial broadleaf and grassy weeds. Wait at least a week to see if all weeds have been killed. If green weeds are still present, spray the weed and grass killer again. Weeds and grasse should be dead before rototilling occurs. If perennial weeds are not killed to the root, rototilling will propagate and increase the number of weeds in the new section of the lawn.

*See a Gertens lawn and garden expert about spray methods and equipment.

* Be mindful that these same chemicals will kill your garden. Beware of perimeter distance and wind spread. Even a small amount of leaves can destroy a healthy plant.

Hi-Yield Killzall

- Non-selective systemic weed
 & grass killer
- Kills roots and all!
- Be careful not to spray desired vegetation



PROFESSIONAL GRADE GRASS SEED SUNNY GRASS SEEDS & BLENDS

SEED

Premium Sunny Mix

The best heat tolerance and rapid establishment of the best bluegrass varieties today. Formulated to tolerate disease, light shade, and moderate wear. Optimal results occur when fertilized 3 to 4 times a year. Adequate irrigation is required throughout the year for top performance. **Suggested uses:** home lawns, new seeding, over-seeding, over-seeding newly sodded lawns, and golf course rough areas. *Now with Tazo for root establishment.*

All Purpose Quick Sunny Mix

Perennial & Annual ryegrass make up 40% of the blend for quick establishment. The creeping red fescue adds light shade tolerance but requires 50% or more sunlight. After establishment, requires low to medium maintenance. Two to three times a year fertilization is recommended for optimal performance. Irrigation is desirable in drought conditions. This mix gives immediate results, but the addition of annual seed may need additional upkeep.

All Blue Blend

The BEST mix for over-seeding lawns that have been sodded. Rapid establishment. Dark green color with superior disease tolerance. Optimal performance requires 4 to 5 times a year fertilization under adequate irrigation. Can be seeded to establish a new lawn, instead of sodding. Very sun-loving and the best heat tolerance. **Suggested use areas:** establishment of new lawns, over-seeding sodded lawns and over-seeding existing lawns for more bluegrass establishment, sod farms, golf course fairways.

Super Salt Tolerant Mix (Boulevard Repair)

JRK

A low maintenance mix for any high pH soils and low maintenance lawns. Boulevard mix has tolerance to lightly shaded areas. Heavier shade areas along boulevard add chewing fescue or creeping red fescue. **Suggested use areas:** street side lawns, sidewalks between a lawn and the street, along the side of driveways on low maintenance lawns, high pH soils, around pine trees in partly shaded areas and low maintenance lawns. *Now with Tazo for root establishment*.

Sun and Shade Mix

Full sun, light to moderate shade. 40% fescues in this mix is an excellent mix for shaded areas. Optimal performance includes 3 to 4 fertilizations per year and seasonal irrigation. 60% Bluegrass and Perennial ryegrass serve the sunny areas. The original ALL PURPOSE seed mix for sun or shade areas. Minnesota grown perennial ryegrass insures persistent results. **Suggested use areas:** home lawns in shade to full sun, golf course roughs, light shade trees, over seeding sod lawns where trees have matured and now provide some shade.

Sandy Soil Mix

The best mix for sandy soil areas with lack of moisture. It is also good for sun and partial shade with low maintenance. Fertilize twice a year. A combination of bluegrass with penetrating roots and fescues to cover the surface.

Fine Fescue Mix

Full sun to full shade. The 3 varieties of fescues in this mix are Chewings, Sheeps and Hard and perform well in cooler regions. Perfect mix for an eco-friendly turf lawn. It germinates and establishes quickly. Fine fescue mix is not recommended for heavily trafficked areas, but does well in standard home landscapes. One of the characteristics of fine fescue for lawns is its tolerance for low mowing, especially Chewings and hard fescues. The grass has low irrigation needs but will require consistent moisture when establishing.

PROFESSIONAL GRADE GRASS SEED SHADY GRASS SEEDS & BLENDS

SEED

4 Fescue Low Grow, No Mow Mix

JRK

Because of its formula of 4 Fescue blend, it is perfectly designed for shady and drought tolerance and expects only minimal mowing per year. The addition of a strand of Ryegrass helps give it a spine and thus can hold shape better between mowing. Perfect for hillsides and transition areas for lawn patches hard to get to. It will not thrive in sun or extreme heat.

Premium Sun and Shade Mix

Full sun, light to moderate shade. 40% fescues in this mix is an excellent mix for shaded areas. Optimal performance includes 3 to 4 fertilizations per year and seasonal irrigation. Under moist or heavy shade use DENSE SHADE MIX or ULTRA DENSE SHADE. The original ALL PURPOSE seed mix for sun or shade areas. Minnesota grown perennial ryegrass insures persistent results. **Suggested use areas:** home lawns in shade to full sun, golf course roughs, light shade trees, over seeding sod lawns where trees have matured and now provide some shade. *Now with Tazo for root establishment*.

Premium Medium Shade Mix

Best mix for moderate shade. Don't fertilize more than four times a year with ample irrigation. Great for areas with moderate tree canopy. Fertilize 3-4 times a year and water as needed.

Premium Dense Shade Mix

The BEST heavy shade tolerant mix available on the market today. JRK Seed Dense Shade Mix will thrive in heavy to modest shade in moist conditions. Under tree use requires a good constant irrigation for success with competing moisture use from nearby trees. Does not need to be fertilized more than 4 times a year, with emphasis on making sure ample irrigation is supplied to area. **Suggested use areas:** part shade to sun areas, under pine trees that are trimmed up to mow under, all shade trees at the heaviest canopy and over seeding problematic shaded areas that all other grasses have problems establishing.

Ultra Dense Shade Mix

Great for extremely dark shady areas. With trivalis strain for those areas where nothing else will grow. Makes a great option for underneath a tree's canopy. Fertilize 2-3 times a year and water as needed.



PROFESSIONAL GRADE GRASS SEED SPECIALTY GRASS SEEDS & BLENDS

SEED

JRK

Cabin Mix

For low to no maintenance lawns with little or no irrigation. Can be used on hillsides or steep slopes for quick soil cover. Continue to supplement with our straw or seed blankets. Not intended for medium or high maintenance lawns. Will tolerate full sun to part shade areas. After establishment requires 1 or 2 per season fertilizations for proper plant health. A great mix for weekend homes or cabins where maintenance is low.

Premium Heavy Traffic

Requires a good maintenance practice. Optimal performance requires 5 times a year fertilization schedule, adequate irrigation, and 1½ to 2 inch mowing heights. Superior wear tolerance and disease resistance. Contains the newest genetics of wear performance in the country. Contains top rated bluegrasses that are heat and wear tolerant. **Suggested use areas:** premium home lawns, walking paths, picnic areas, football fields, soccer fields, baseball fields, dog traffic wear issues, new seeding and over seeding. *Now with Tazo for root establishment*.

Country Lawn Mix

Ideal for sunny to part shade areas. Fertilization 1 to 2 times per year. Irrigation is optional, but seasonal irrigation is desirable under severe drought if available. High tolerance to wear and tear under low maintenance. **Suggested use areas:** home lawns under heavy wear and low maintenance, parks and picnic areas, camping areas, repair of pet damages in lawns, pet traffic areas, walking paths.

Premium Sod Over-Seeder Mix

A mix designed for over seeding sunny lawns where rapid establishment is desired. Low to medium maintenance and can be over seeded any time during the year. Slight shade tolerance, moderate wear resistance. No fescue in this mix means low tolerance for heavy to part shade areas. Has good deep green color with moderate to higher maintenance. Needs constant irrigation for proper establishment from seed until established. One to 3 times a year fertilization schedule. For darker color, fertilize more than two times yearly. **Suggested use areas:** over seeding in sunny lawns, establishment of new lawns, moderate wear areas, newly to established sod lawns, golf course fairways, all home lawns. *Now with Tazo for root establishment*.

Contractor Mix

An ideal blend for before and after construction projects. A high formula of both Annual and Perennial Ryegrasses gives quick cover in part to full sun. This ensures against erosion or wear & tear until a durable and permanent planting solution.

Additional Specialty Grass Seeds & Blends

Honeybee Pollinator Mix Creeping Red Fescue Chewing Fescue Annual & Perennial Ryegrass Highway Mixes – Wet and Dry Deer Plot Mixes Dutch White Clover Red Clover Micro Clover Prairie Grass Mixes



Gertens sod information and instructions

Purchase your fresh sod at Gertens

Gertens features only the freshest blends of Northern Bluegrasses. And we stock them daily during peak season. What this means is purchase your sod only when you are immediately ready to lay it. The rolls do not hold well without water under hot summer temps. Buy early in the day to make sure we have inventory for your project.

Prep your layer of topsoil prior to laying. Then stagger the joints of the rolls like bricks so they align indirectly in a grid. Apply on slightly moist dirt, fill in cracks with topsoil and stake down each piece to hold in place. Use a lawn roller to smooth the surface make root contact into the soil.

Keep saturated with water, moderately moist for the initial period of 2 weeks until it is firmly rooted, then gradually reduce watering. In 2-3 months, it will be an established lawn and can be treated as such. At this point aeration can help smooth out lumps that settled in the process of taking root.



SOIL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gertens Soil Test Kit

Sometimes a good diagnosis of your soil will go miles to help with your lawn issue problems. No amount of tending or care can override poor conditions under the surface. We sell over-the-counter testing options. But for a complete analysis of your ground, consider a custom Gertens Soil Test Kit. Much like DNA testing, you mail samples of your lawn in a pre-paid envelope to a laboratory where it is analyzed by professional scientists. Within



7-10 days you will be given a detailed digital report which is also shared with us at Gertens. With these results, we can supply you with the exact products needed to adjust and sustain your lawn or garden – a solution that is uniquely YOURS!

THINK GLOBALLY. ACT LOCALLY.

Gertens Yard Waste Recycling Service

At Gertens we recognize the concerns that today's homeowners have regarding the sustainability and maintenance of a beautiful lawn. We want to help you achieve a long-term, balanced approach to caring for your yard as well as the environment.

We invite you to bring your lawn clippings, leaves, and yard waste to any of these three locations:



Gertens Landscape Supply Yard located at: 5500 Blaine Avenue Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076 Phone: 651-450-1501

Open year round



Gertens R.E.S. Facility located at: 805 Yankee Doodle Road Eagan, MN 55121 Phone: 651-209-3511

Open seasonally April - November



Gertens R.E.S. Facility located at: 12119 70th Street South Denmark Township, MN 55033 Phone: 651-458-4412 *Enter on 70th Street*

Open seasonally April - November Make any Do-It-Yourself Landscape Project Easier.





5500 Blaine Avenue | Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076 651.239.1369 | gertens.com

Rent hourly, daily or weekly.

FRILING

Visit our landscape project desk for a full list of rental options, or call 651-239-1315.



5500 Blaine Avenue | Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076 P: 651.450.1501 | F: 651.239.1316 | www.gertens.com

