



EARLY SPRING LAWN CARE TIPS

Proper lawn care at the beginning of the growing season is essential for the health, well being and appearance of any lawn. Follow these simple steps for better results.

1. Remove any debris and pieces of sod that have been torn up from the ground, by snowplows and shoveling, and deposited on other parts of the lawn.
2. Rake any sand or gravel from the lawn that has accumulated, by plowing and shoveling, over winter. This will mostly be in the boulevard area and around the edges of the lawn.
3. After the lawn has had a chance to dry from the winter, aggressively rake the entire lawn to stand up the grass blade and remove any dead grass. The amount of matting that has occurred will vary on the amount of snow that was in the area and the height of the grass in the fall when the first snow occurred.
4. A fungus called winter snow mold may have developed. These are round very matted circles that appear to be dead areas of the lawn. Carefully rake these areas to remove any dead grass and to stand up the grass blades in these areas. (To lower the potential for this fungus to develop cut the grass to a length of approximately 2" – 2 ¼" in late fall). The blend of grasses in your sod has an excellent resistance to any diseases, however given the right conditions, they can occur.
5. As soon as the grass has dried enough, cut the grass so as to just remove the brown tip of the blades. This will give the lawn a better appearance early and will promote growth and quicker green up. (Frequent mowing will promote growth and speed up the healing process in damaged areas). SET THE MOWER HEIGHT TO JUST REMOVE THE TIPS OF THE BLADES.
6. Apply a good fertilizer in early spring (around May 1st – 10th) when growth is observed and after the first or second mowing. Use an analysis 25-0-15 or similar. In sandy soils be sure to use a sulfur base fertilizer to maximize the effectiveness of the plant foods in the fertilizer. Be sure to water the lawn after the application of fertilizer.
7. You may notice areas that were damaged by field mice or other rodents. These areas will look like long narrow undulating lines of chewed up grass or sometimes patchy areas that are chewed up clumps of dead grass. These areas can be very small or very extensive. In the small areas, it is best to just leave the lawn fill in on its own. The large areas may require replacement with sod. We can assist you in assessing this damage.



TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND TO KEEP YOUR LAWN HEALTHY, IF YOU ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE APPLICATION OF FERTILIZERS AND HERBICIDES, PLEASE HIRE A PROFESSIONAL.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our office. We will be more than happy to answer your questions and to assist you in any way we can.

For more Lawn Care Information visit our website at: www.LukesSod.com