

Fall Yard Care



















cuwcd.gov/landscaping

TURFGRASS CARE Northern Utah Cool Season Grasses



WEBER COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE
1181 North Fairgrounds Drive
Ogden, Utah 84404 (801) 399-8200

Turfgrass adds beauty to most landscapes, helps cool the environment, and gives people a place to play, sit and walk barefoot. Maintaining a lawn properly helps keep it beautiful for years to come, and reduces the likelihood of problems. A few simple practices can make lawn care easier and more satisfying.

KEY TO CALENDAR EVENTS

Pre-emergent Herbicide

Control annual weeds (crabgrass, spurge, foxtail, oxalis). Apply a pre-emergent herbicide to problem areas (normally along sidewalks and driveways) or entire yard if infestation is severe. Examples of turf pre-emergent herbicides include Halit, Barricade, Galleria, etc. Pre-emergents are often combined with a fertilizer.

CHECK SPRINKLERS

Check all sprinkler heads to make sure they are giving accurate coverage and functioning properly. Most sprinkler heads should overlap each other. (Head to head coverage)

Watering

Water long enough for water to penetrate six to eight inches deep. Water deeply and infrequently, applying the amount specified in the calendar. Allow the turf and soil to dry between watering.

Fertilizer

Greens up the lawn. Apply a lawn fertilizer that is high in nitrogen (21-0-0, 21-3-6, 20-2-4, 34-0-0, etc.) at a rate of ½ pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. This equals about 5 pounds of 21-0-0 or an equivalent fertilizer, or 3 pounds of 34-0-0 or an equivalent fertilizer/ 1,000 square feet.



Mowing Height

Setting the lawn mower to cut turfgrass taller promotes a stronger root system, and encourages thicker growth which can help eliminate some weed problems.

Aeration

Aerate the lawn using a core aerator. Remove a minimum of a 4-inch plug, and leave them on the lawn to disintegrate, if possible. Aeration improves the penetration of water, herbicide and fertilizer, and helps reduce compaction and thatch.

Broadleaf Herbicide

Control perennial broadleaf weeds (dandelions, morning glory, knotweed, chickweed, oxalis, black medic, etc). Examples of broadleaf weed killers include Weed-B-Gon, Trimec, Lawn Weed Killer, Dandelion Killer, 2,4-D, Confront, Turflon Ester, etc.

CALENDAR

Minimum Care

APRIL 1

- Apply a *pre-emergent* to control annual weeds.
- Apply 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches of *water* per week.
- Set the *mower* to cut the lawn 2 to 2 1/2 inches tall.
- Check the *sprinklers* for accurate coverage and proper function.

Optimum Care

APRIL 1

- Apply a *pre-emergent* to control annual weeds.
- *Aerate* the lawn with a core aerator.
- Apply 1 to 1 1/2 inches of *water/week*. Measure the sprinkler system output to make sure.
- Check the *sprinkler* heads for accurate coverage and proper function.
- Set the *mower* to cut the lawn 2 to 2 1/2 inches high.

Minimum Care

MAY 1

- Apply a *broadleaf herbicide* to control perennial weeds.

JUNE 1

- Re-apply a *pre-emergent* to control annual weeds.

JULY 1

- Apply 2 to 2 1/2 inches of *water/week*.
- Set the *mower* higher to cut the lawn 2 1/2 to 3 inches tall.

SEPTEMBER 1

- Apply 1 to 1 1/2 inches of *water/week*.
- *Aerate* using a core aerator and leave on the lawn.
- Continue to *mow* the lawn 2 to 2 1/2 inches tall.
- Apply a high *nitrogen fertilizer* (slow release products are best). This is the most important fertilizer application of the year.



OCTOBER 15

- *Lower the height of the mower* and cut the lawn 1 1/2 to 2 inches tall.
- *Drain* the irrigation lines.

NOVEMBER 1

- Apply 1 pound of *nitrogen*/1,000 square feet using ammonium sulfate (21-0-0) or urea (46-0-0) before rain or snow, if possible.

Optimum Care

MAY 1

- Apply a *broadleaf herbicide* to control perennial weeds.
- Apply a high *nitrogen fertilizer*. A slow release product is best.

JUNE 1

- Re-apply a *pre-emergent* to control annual weeds.

JULY 1

- Apply 2 to 2 1/2 inches *water/week*.
- Set the *mower* higher to cut the lawn 2 1/2 to 3 inches tall.

SEPTEMBER 1

- Apply 1 to 1 1/2 inches of *water/week*.
- Set the *mower* to cut the lawn 2 to 2 1/2 inches tall.
- *Aerate* the lawn with a core aerator, then over-seed to introduce new grass seed and help thicken the lawn, as needed.
- Apply a slow-release, high *nitrogen fertilizer*. This is the most important fertilizer application of the year.
- Apply a *broadleaf herbicide* to control perennial weeds.

OCTOBER 15

- *Lower the height of the mower* to cut the lawn 1 1/2 to 2 inches tall.
- *Winterize* the sprinkler system by draining the lines and blowing out the system, one station at a time.

NOVEMBER 1

- Apply 1 pound of *nitrogen*/1,000 square feet using ammonium sulfate (21-0-0) or urea (46-0-0) before rain or snow, if possible.



"Extending USU to You."
Utah State University Extension prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status.

Core Aerate (Sept)



Topdress Lawn with Compost (Sept)



Overseed Lawn (Sept)



Fertilize Lawn (Sept)



Fertilize Lawn (Sept)

N = Nitrogen

The most important element
in developing a dense,
healthy lawn

1st

P = Phosphorus

Healthy root development

2nd

K = Potassium

Helps with drought
tolerance

3rd



Fertilize Lawn (Sept)

May 1st

High Nitrogen (I've been using 32-0-4)

September 1st

High Nitrogen (I've been using 32-0-4)

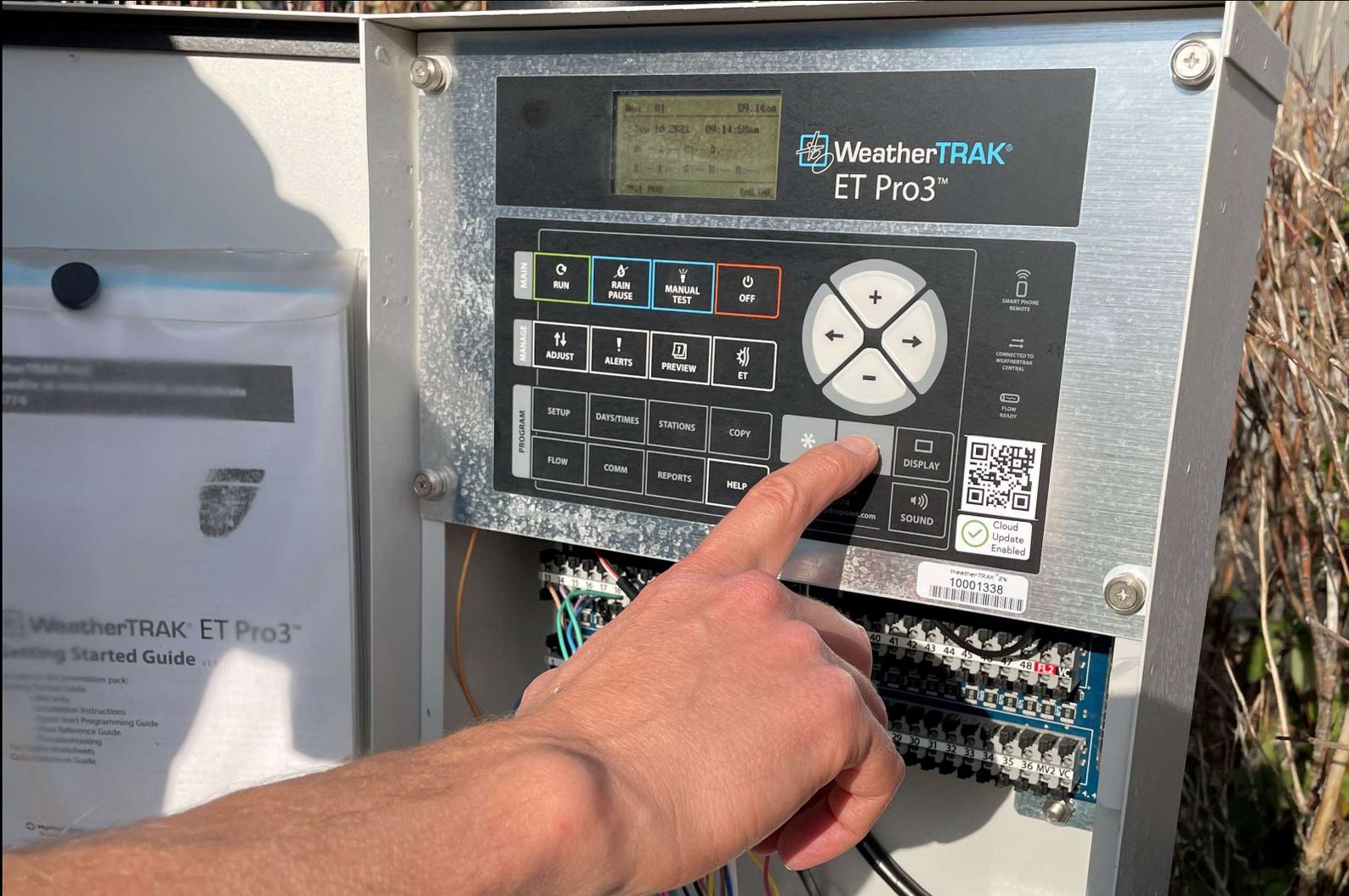
November 1st

Ammonium Sulfate (21-0-0)

Urea (46-0-0)

(I've been using 32-0-10)

Cut Back on Watering (Sept)



Kill Weeds (Sept-Oct)



Divide Perennials (Sept-Oct)



Transplant (Sept-Oct)



Transplant (Sept-Oct)



Transplant (Sept-Oct)



Transplant (Sept-Oct)



Transplant (Sept-Oct)



Transplant (Sept-Oct)



Transplant (Sept-Oct)



Transplant (Sept-Oct)



Plant New Plants (Sept-Oct)



Add Mulch to Beds (Oct)



Lower Mower Blade (Oct)



Remove Annuals (Mid Oct)



Plant Pansies (Mid Oct)



Plant Bulbs (Mid Oct)



Plant Bulbs (Mid Oct)



Plant Bulbs (Mid Oct)



Plant Bulbs (Mid-Oct)



Plant Bulbs (Mid-Oct)



Plant Bulbs (Mid-Oct)



Clean up Vegetable Garden (Late Oct)



Add Compost to Vegetable Garden (Late Oct)



One Last Deep Tree Watering (Late Oct)



Cut Back Perennials (Late Oct-Nov)



Clean up Leaves (Oct-Nov)



Shut Down Sprinklers (Oct-Nov)



Detach Your Hose (Oct-Nov)



Fertilize Lawn (Nov 1)



Fertilize Lawn (Nov 1)

May 1st

High Nitrogen

September 1st

High Nitrogen

November 1st

Ammonium Sulfate (21-0-0)

Urea (46-0-0)

(I've been using 32-0-10)















Cut Back Ornamental Grasses (Nov)



Sharpen Tools (Nov)



Put Tools Away Properly (Nov)



Tree Wrap (Nov-Apr)



Wrap Evergreens (Nov-Apr)



Do Not Prune Trees (Fall)



Plan for Next Year (Fall)

- cuwcd.gov/plants
- ConservationGardenPark.org/plants
- GloverNursery.com
- ProgressivePlants.com
- IseliNursery.com



Sources

https://extension.usu.edu/news_sections/gardening/fall-yard-tasks

https://extension.usu.edu/news_sections/gardening/fall-tasks

https://extension.usu.edu/yardandgarden/ou-files/pub__5239994.pdf



**CENTRAL UTAH WATER
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

Casey Finlinson

801-226-7145

casey@cuwcd.gov

cuwcd.gov