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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



yard/garden  
radio briefs

(612) 373-0710

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Golf Greens

(0:20)

Golf greens may be in poor condition for the next two months while turf is reestablished. University of Minnesota Horticulturist Don White says mild temperatures, high soil moisture and ice contributed to winter kill annual bluegrass on many Minnesota golf greens.

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Soil Test

(0:30)

A simple, inexpensive soil test can help homeowners and gardeners avoid waste and pollution resulting from unnecessary lawn and garden fertilizing. Soil tests conducted by the university's soil testing laboratory are a reliable way of measuring soil fertility and determining plant nutrient requirements.

Homeowners can collect samples themselves, although sampling should not be done until soil is dry enough to walk on. Instructions and sample containers can be obtained from county extension offices or from the university at 373-1060.

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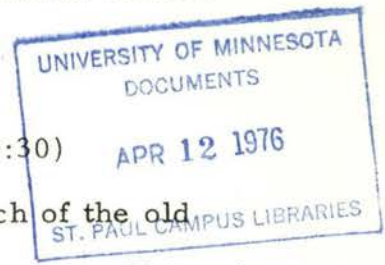
Pesticides

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If you did not do it last fall, plan to clean out much of the old pesticides from past garden seasons. University of Minnesota Extension Entomologist Phil Harein (hair-in) says if it is a liquid preparation, throw it out after two years. Dusts and granules that have not been opened and have been kept in cool dry places are good for up to five years. After that length of time, dispose of them also.

Follow proper procedures in disposing of old, unwanted pesticides. Wrap and tie them together in several layers of newspaper, then deposit them in the garbage. Do NOT flush them down the sewage system.

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