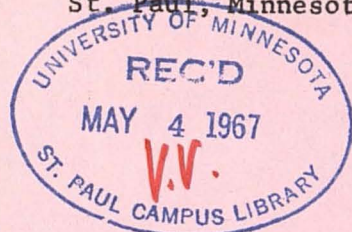


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Yard 'n' Garden

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LAWN MAINTENANCE

Spring lawn care is necessary to provide a green cover in the landscape all season. Good lawn care includes maintaining the fertility, proper mowing and proper watering.

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Every lawn should receive 2 to 4 pounds of nitrogen per year. Two applications are preferred, one in early spring and one between mid-August and mid-September. Apply no more than 2 pounds of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet at any one application. In fertilizing, follow the directions on the bag. Some commercial fertilizer should be watered-in to avoid burning the turf. Fertilize under trees and shrubs two extra times during the spring. Fertilize these places once before shrubs leaf out in the spring and again in the late spring three to four weeks after the first lawn fertilization.

To insure even distribution, each application of fertilizer should be made in a different direction on the lawn.

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The lawn should be mowed as often as required. Mow it when it is no taller than 1 inch above the regular cutting height. If you maintain the lawn at 1½ inches, cut it whenever the grass reaches a height of 2½ inches.

Use a sharp lawn mower for mowing. A dull mower shreds rather than cuts the grass and often the grass turns a brownish color after mowing.

* * * *

Lawns generally require 1 inch of water per week during dry periods. However, bluegrass does go dormant during the dry season. The rule for water is: If you water regularly, apply 1 inch per week; if you do not water regularly, it's best not to water at all.

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