



Hiring a lawn care company?

Here's what you need to know:

- **Request a soil test.**
 - No one can tell you what your lawn needs without one!
- **Fertilize only in the fall, if at all.**
 - Fall is the time of year when grass puts energy into growing its root system.
 - Fertilizing in the spring will lead to more mowing.
 - Fertilizing in the summer is a waste of money because grass isn't growing.
- **Overseed to get rid of weeds.**
 - One of the best ways to get rid of weeds is to grow thick grass.
 - Request that your lawn care company overseed with perennial ryegrass throughout the growing season to outcompete weeds.
- **Revitalize your soil with compost.**
 - Grass needs 6" of quality soil to thrive.
 - Request that your lawn care company topdress your lawn with compost to add nutrients and organic matter to your soil.

Other considerations:

- **Set the mower blades at 3" and leave the grass clippings.**
 - Leaving the clippings on your lawn is a free source of nitrogen, the most common nutrient lawns need to grow.
 - Leaving clippings will lead to less fertilizer use.
- **Water wisely.**
 - If needed, water only once or twice per week with a deep soaking (1-1.5 inches)
- **Spot treat to get rid of pests.**
 - There is never a need to apply weed or bug killer over your entire lawn.
 - Request that your lawn care company use the least toxic product available, and only apply it to the problem area.

**Keep in mind, organic doesn't mean safe!
Use of any weed and bug killers, organic or not,
can be harmful to human or pet health.**